

**UNECE**

# **White Paper on Integrated Track and Trace for Multimodal Transportation**



**UNITED NATIONS**



**United Nations Economic Commission for Europe**

United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business

# **White Paper on Integrated Track and Trace for Multimodal Transportation**



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## Foreword

This White Paper on Integrated Track and Trace for Multimodal Transportation showcases important milestones that contribute to the digitalization of multimodal transportation.

The timing of the publication is critical as international trade is going through a transition stemming from uncertainties related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite the pandemic and according to the United Nations Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation, UNECE member States reached a 76% average implementation rate of the Trade Facilitation Agreement of the World Trade Organization (WTO-TFA) in 2021. Building on this impressive rate of implementation, the White Paper assists in areas where there is still room for improvement on digital trade facilitation. Trade facilitation and digitalization are closely linked, as both aim at more efficient and rapid transportation processes.

Trade facilitation is a journey and a constantly moving target. This paper is an important contribution to this journey, keeping track of the key indicators for monitoring trade facilitation and guiding us to the creation of the data models and further standards necessary for supporting digitized track and trace for any single or multimodal transportation scenario.

The White Paper provides an essential tool to reach a higher level of trade facilitation implementation by also bridging gaps that exist in the identification schemes for consignment movements and commercial systems. Additional transfers or movements between different Logistics Service Providers (LSPs), transport operators or different modes of transport often reduce the transparency of cargo movements throughout a global supply chain.

A special thank you goes to our UN/CEFACT experts who contributed to this White Paper. With experts active worldwide, UN/CEFACT will continue to provide global, free of charge tools for more efficient and resilient international trade.



Olga Algayerova  
United Nations Under-Secretary-General  
Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

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### **The United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT)**

#### **Simple, Transparent and Effective Processes for Global Commerce**

UN/CEFACT's mission is to improve the ability of business, trade and administrative organizations, from developed, developing and transitional economies, to exchange products and relevant services effectively. Its principal focus is on facilitating national and international transactions, through the simplification and harmonization of processes, procedures and information flows, and so contribute to the growth of global commerce.

Participation in UN/CEFACT is open to experts from United Nations Member States, Intergovernmental Organizations and Non-Governmental Organizations recognised by the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). Through this participation of government and business representatives from around the world, UN/CEFACT has developed a range of trade facilitation and e-business standards, recommendations and tools that are approved within a broad intergovernmental process and implemented globally.

UN/CEFACT is committed to ensuring that the gender dimension is reflected in norms, roles, procedures, and access to resources. Government and trade are encouraged to promote equal opportunities for women and men within the scope of Trade Facilitation activities. UN/CEFACT specifically encourages the collection, analysis, and monitoring of gender disaggregated data in order to better understand and support women's engagement in international trade and transport facilitation.

This White Paper encourages governments, business communities, development partners, international organizations, and other policymakers to follow UN/CEFACT's commitment to ensure inclusiveness for women.

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