

# National Trade Facilitation Roadmap of the Kyrgyz Republic 2021-2025





**United Nations Economic Commission for Europe**

**National Trade Facilitation Roadmap  
of the Kyrgyz Republic  
2021–2025**



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## FOREWORD

Today, harnessing the potential of trade facilitation is more critical than ever. Over the past decades, the gradual reduction of tariffs has brought the role of trade facilitation to the fore. More recently, the trade disruptions caused by the COVID-19 crisis have put a spotlight on the importance of trade facilitation measures. Trade facilitation helps to move goods faster and more safely—and this includes life-saving goods, such as drugs, medical equipment, and food.

The Kyrgyz Republic is at crossroads in its efforts towards economic development and the pursuit of the 2030 Agenda. The country's landlocked nature has exacerbated the negative impact of COVID-19 on the economy. To “build back better”, the Kyrgyz Republic needs a robust strategy; one that embodies greater digitalization and sustainability at its core. Fully implementing the World Trade Organization's (WTO) Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) is a priority in this regard; however, without a comprehensive strategic document, disparate measures pursued by individual actors will be less effective.

Therefore, I am glad that the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), in collaboration with the Ministry of Economy and Finance (MoEF) of the Kyrgyz Republic, has developed the National Trade Facilitation Roadmap 2021-2025. This Roadmap provides a framework to overhaul the country's trade facilitation reforms. It represents a strategic vision, developed jointly, and shared by the numerous national stakeholders whose engagement is vital in making trade facilitation a success.

The priorities and goals identified in the Roadmap include improving the legal and regulatory framework, enhancing digitalization, building the capacity of local stakeholders, and promoting sustainable trade facilitation measures. These priorities underpin the vision to which the stakeholders aspire.

UNECE has been a long-standing partner of the Kyrgyz Republic and I am delighted that this Roadmap presents yet another milestone in our cooperation. I commend the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic for the support and engagement offered throughout the development of this strategic document. As the Government moves towards implementation of the Roadmap, the wide range of normative tools offered by the UNECE, notably those developed by the United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT), are at its disposal.

I am confident that the Kyrgyz Republic is well placed to harness the benefits of international trade—and trade facilitation—for a sustainable, resilient, and inclusive recovery, and a circular economy transition. At UNECE, we stand ready to support the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic in this onward journey.



Olga Algayerova

Executive Secretary

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe



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The report was produced under the direct supervision of Salehin Khan, Trade Facilitation Section, Economic Cooperation and Trade Division, UNECE and Aidar Samykbaev, Ministry of Economy and Finance, Kyrgyz Republic. The preparation of the report benefitted from substantive input from Alla Shlykova, Trade Facilitation Section, UNECE and the overall guidance of Elisabeth Tuerk, Director, Economic Cooperation and Trade Division.

The first draft, prepared by Aidai Baidzhigitova, was approved by the National Trade Facilitation Council on 25 December 2020. At various stages of the report, contributions and comments were received from Aleksei Bondarenko, Pierre Bonthonneau, Maria Ceccarelli, Julian Fraga, Sangwon Lim, Markus Pikart, and Maria Teresa Pisani.

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