ASIA-PACIFIC
TRADE FACILITATION FORUM 2012
30 - 31 October 2012, Colombo, Sri Lanka

"Enhancing public-private collaboration for trade facilitation, paperless trade and cross-border connectivity"

The Asia-Pacific Trade Facilitation Forum (APTFF) aims to promote trade facilitation as an important component of a comprehensive strategy for national and regional development. The annual Forum provides an open regional platform to exchange information, experiences and practices for trade facilitation in Asia-Pacific, identify priority areas for regional cooperation and integration, and learn about new tools and services which can increase the efficiency of cross-border transactions. The Forum also intends to strengthen regional cooperation and coordination of Aid for Trade and related technical assistance and capacity building in trade facilitation. Building upon the discussions, findings and recommendations from the three previous forums, the APTFF 2012 focuses on enhancing public-private collaboration for trade facilitation and paperless trade. This year's Forum will also feature panel sessions on "E-trade for SME Integration in Regional and Global Value Chains" and "Facilitating Cross-Border Recognition and Exchange of Trade Documents for Regional Connectivity", as well as subregional breakout sessions for public and private stakeholders to formulate concrete recommendations towards trade facilitation in Asia and the Pacific. Being held for the first time in South Asia, the Forum and its side events are expected to provide unique insights into the trade facilitation issues of that subregion.

In cooperation with

Ministry of Industry and Commerce

The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce

UNNExT
United Nations Network of Experts for Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific

UNECE

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WORLD CUSTOMS ORGANIZATION
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Asia-Pacific Trade Facilitation Forum 2012
Galadari Hotel, Colombo, Sri Lanka, 30 - 31 October 2012

Programme

Tuesday, 30 October 2012

08:00 – 08:45   **Registration**

08:45 – 10:10   **Opening Session,** *Grand Ballroom*

- *Ceremonial Arrival of the Chief Guest and Dignitaries*
- *Welcome Address - Mr. Susantha Ratnayake, Chairman, The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce*
- *Opening Remarks - Dr. Ravi Ratnayake, Director, Trade and Investment Division, ESCAP*
- *Opening Remarks - Ms. Rita A. O'Sullivan, Country Director, ADB Sri Lanka*
- *Opening Remarks - H. E. Mr. Abdul Rishad Bathiudeen Minister, Industry and Commerce, Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka*
- *Inaugural Address - H. E. Dr. Sarath Amunugama, Senior Minister, International Monetary Cooperation, Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka*
- *UNNExT Publication launch: "Capacity Building Kit for Single Window Implementation"*
- *Inauguration of the Trade Facilitation Exhibition*

10:10 – 10:40   **Coffee/Tea Break**

10:40 – 12:20   **High-level Panel Discussion: Enhancing Public-Private Collaboration for Trade Facilitation and Paperless Trade,** *Grand Ballroom*

In this session, ministerial and other senior officials from the public and private sectors will discuss the importance of public-private collaboration for reducing the cost of trade and moving towards closer regional integration. The panelists will share their experiences and ideas on how to enhance such collaboration and make concrete progress on trade facilitation and paperless trade, setting the stage for more detailed deliberations and recommendations during subsequent sessions of the Forum.

Moderator: *Dr. Indrajit Coomaraswamy*
Panel Members:
- *H. E. Senator Vasant Bharath, Minister, Trade, Industry and Investment, Trinidad & Tobago*
- *Mr. Lalith Weeratunga, Secretary to H. E. the President, Sri Lanka*
- *Ms. Anne Miroux, Director, Division on Technology and Logistics, UNCTAD*
- *Mr. Kim Seong In, Director General, Multilateral Trade Bureau, MOFAT, Republic of Korea*
- *Mr. Mahbubur Rahman, President, International Chamber of Commerce, Bangladesh*
- *Mr. Ramesh Natarjan, Head of DHL Express, Rest of South Asia, DHL*
- *Mr. T A Khan, Controller of Certifying Authorities, India and Member, UNNExT Advisory Committee*

12:20 – 13:50   **Lunch Break**   1

13:50 – 14:50	**Exhibitor Presentations**
	■ Intrasoft International
	■ KLNET
	■ Crimson Logic
	■ Iranian National Products and Services Codification Centre
	■ Arctiquator

| 14:50 – 15:20 | **Coffee/Tea Break** |

15:20 – 16:40   Session 1: E-Trade for SME Integration in Regional and Global Value Chains, *Grand Ballroom*

Sustainable and inclusive development of economies in the region depends to a large extent on the existence of a vibrant private sector, in particular small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs). In turn, SME growth often depends on whether these enterprises can successfully integrate into regional and global value chains. This session will discuss how electronic trade facilities and services can facilitate SME value chain integration and access to global markets, as well as the challenges that need to be addressed for SMEs to benefit from the implementation of paperless trade systems.

Chair: *Mr. Mahbubur Rahman, President, International Chamber of Commerce, Bangladesh*

Speakers:
o Enhancing Paperless Trade for SME Exports - *Somnuk Keretho, Director, INOVA, Kasetstart University, Thailand*
o E-trade and Its Impact on SMEs: Case of China and Lessons for Asia Pacific Region - *Wang Jian, Expert of APEC E-Commerce Business Alliance, China International Electronic Commerce Centre*
o E-choupal: ICT for Integrating Farmers into Value Chains in India - *VV Rajasekhar, Senior Vice President, ITC*

| 17.30 – 18.00 | **Transfer from Hotel Galadari to Cinnamon Grand Hotel** |

| 18:15 – 18:40 | Commonwealth Lessons and Experiences on Trade Facilitation – *Commonwealth Secretariat* |

| 18:40 – 20:45 | **Dinner and Cultural Show** |

Wednesday, 31 October 2012

9:00 – 12:00   Session 2: Subregional Breakouts: Progress in Trade Facilitation and Paperless Trade and the Role of Public Private Collaboration

The subregional breakouts sessions will allow for smaller group of participants to share their experience and views on facilitating trade and implementing paperless trade and transit systems, in particular through closer collaboration between public and private sector. Following presentations on good practices and initiatives relevant to each subregion, including selected country presentations, participants in each Breakout session will develop a set of recommendations for national, subregional, and regional level action.

Cluster 1: Central and East Asia, *Ballroom B*	Cluster 2: South-East Asia, *Orchid*	Cluster 3: South Asia, *Ballroom C*
Chair: *Kylychbek Djakypov, Kyrgyzstan* Facilitators: *Jeff Procak, ADB; Markus Pikart, ECE; Tengfei Wang, ESCAP*	Chair: *Jason Lao, Philippines* Facilitators: *Pradeep Srivastava, ADB; Khan Salehin, ESCAP*	Chair: *Amrit Lugun, SAARC* Co-Chairs: *Naindra Upadhaya, Nepal* Facilitators: *Cuong Nguyen, ADB; Dayaratna Silva and Sangwon Lim, ESCAP*

o Strengthening Roles and Contributions of the Private Sector in Trade Facilitation – *Capt Lin Zhong, CFCFA*
o Furthering Efforts in Standardization of Trade Related Documents and Processing – *Cristina Lozano, ADB*
o Country Presentations
  ▪ *Cenap Asci, Turkey*
  ▪ *Askar Nuraliev, Tajikistan*
  ▪ *Tsevelsaikhan Sharbandi, Mongolia*
	o Subregional Trade and Its Facilitation in Southeast Asia – *Satoru Hamaguchi, ADB*
	o Facilitating Competition in Logistics Sector: Role of Private and Public Sectors – *Alina Mustra, World Bank*
	o Strengthening Customs and Business Partnership through Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) Programme – *Sang-Hyup Lee, WCO-ROCB*
	o Country Presentations
	  ▪ *Khambay Sithirajvongsa, Lao PDR*
	  ▪ *Aung Khin Myint, Myanmar*
	  ▪ *Sinmahat Kiatjanon, Thailand*
		o Overview of Trade Facilitation and Business Process Analysis in SASEC Countries – *Prabir De, RIS India*
		o SAARC Trade Promotion Network – *O J Krueck, Lead Consultant, GIZ*
		o Benchmark Studies on Trade Facilitation for Bangladesh and Sri Lanka – *Sujeevan Perera, Commonwealth Secretariat*
		o Public-private Collaboration in Single Window Implementation : Lessons and Experiences – *Nick Small, Crown Agents*
		o Country Presentations
		  ▪ *Shyam Dahal, Nepal*
		  ▪ *Neville Gunawardane, Sri Lanka*

12:00 – 13:20   **Lunch Break**

13:20 – 14:50   **Session 3: Facilitating Cross-Border Recognition and Exchange of Trade Documents for Regional Connectivity,** *Grand Ballroom*

Developed and developing countries alike are now increasingly engaged in the development of single windows and other paperless trade systems, often as part of broad based e-government or trade competitiveness initiatives. In that context, an emerging issue is the interoperability of the national systems being developed and, more generally, the need for cross-border exchange and recognition of data and documents to maximize benefits from investment in paperless systems. This session will take stock of existing bilateral and regional initiatives and instruments available in this area.

Chair: *Mr. Tom Butterly, Chief, Global Trade Solutions Section, T&T Division, UNECE*

  o The Way Forward for Regional Cross-Border Paperless Trade – *Yann Duval, Acting Chief, Trade Facilitation Section, Trade and Investment Division, ESCAP*
  o Enhancing Information Exchange in International Supply Chains – *Markus Pikart, Economic Affairs Officer, UNECE*
  o Improving Connectivity through Globally Networked Customs – *Toshihiko Osawa, Technical Officer, WCO Secretariat*

14:50 – 15:10   **Coffee/Tea Break**

15:10 – 16:25 **Session 3 (cont'd): Facilitating Cross-Border Exchange and Recognition of Trade Documents for Regional Connectivity,** *Grand Ballroom*

o Public-Private Partnerships for Cross-Border Paperless Trade: Lessons from Republic of Korea – *Soo-Young Yun, President, KTNET*
o ASEAN Single Window: Lessons for Subregional Cooperation – *Mee Wan Wong, Chair, ASEAN Single Window Technical Working Group*
o Acceptance of Electronic Certificate: Lessons from the African Experience – *Ibrahima Diagne, General Manager, GAINDE2000*

16:25 – 17:10 **Session 4: Summary of Recommendations,** *Grand Ballroom*
Chairpersons of sub-regional clusters will present the recommendations from respective groups
Chair: *Dr. Ravi Ratnayake, Director, Trade and Investment Division, ESCAP*
o Chairperson, Cluster 1, Central and East Asia
o Chairperson, Cluster 2, South-East Asia
o Chairperson, Cluster 3, South Asia

17:10 - 17:30 **Closing Session,** *Grand Ballroom*
o *Dr. Ravi Ratnayake, Director, Trade and Investment Division, ESCAP*
o *Mr. Harin Malwatte, Secretary General, Ceylon Chamber of Commerce*
o *Mr. Anura Siriwardane, Secretary, Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Sri Lanka*

Multimedia Exhibition, *Ballroom Foyer*
The Multimedia Exhibition will take place on 30 - 31 October from 10.00-17.00 hours at the Pre Function Foyer of the Grand Ballroom, Galadari Hotel on the ground floor, adjacent to where the APTFF sessions will be held. Exhibitors will include public and private service providers, development/donor agencies, international organizations and government agencies working on trade facilitation and paperless trade.

Thursday, 1 November 2012

Side and Parallel Events