

APTA Business Forum (13 November 2014, New Delhi, India)

ESCAP Resolution 70/6 for Cross-border Paperless Trade

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Presentation Structure

- I. Overview
- II. Necessary actions by Member States
- III. Necessary actions by the Secretariat
- IV. Draft Arrangement on Cross-border Paperless Trade
- V. Implications for APTA





Economic and Social Council

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Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Seventieth session

Agenda item 3(b)

Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

70/6. Implementation of the decision of the Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Meeting on a Regional Arrangement for the Facilitation of Cross-border Paperless Trade

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

that the Ad Hoc Interg vernmental Meeting on a Regional or Act a direction of the Ad Hoc Interg vernmental Meeting on a Regional or Act a direction of the Ad Hoc Intergraph of the Ad Hoc Intergrap on Trade and Investment on its third session,

Welcoming the successful outcome of the Meeting,¹

Noting that the work of the interim steering group on cross-border paperless trade facilitation would not duplicate but complement the work being done in relation to the implementation of the World Trade Organization Trade Facilitation Agreement,

- Endorses the recommendation of the Meeting to establish an interim intergovernmental steering group on cross-border paperless trade facilitation:
- Requests the Executive Secretary to support and facilitate the establishment and operation of the interim intergovernmental steering group on cross-border paperless trade facilitation in accordance with the terms of reference contained in section I.B of the report of the Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Meeting on a Regional Arrangement for the Facilitation of Cross-border Paperless Trade;²
- Also requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission annually on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution until the work of the steering group has been completed.

Seventh plenary meeting 8 August 2014

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I. Overview

ESCAP Resolutions on Enabling paperless trade and the cross-border recognition of electronic data and documents

Legal and technical barriers in information exchange (across borders)

Increased implementation of (national) single window and paperless trade systems, but...

Need for cross-border paperless trade



Supply Chain Integration

I. Overview

"Implementation of the decision of the Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Meeting on a Regional Arrangement for the Facilitation of Crossborder Paperless Trade"

- > Adopted at the 70th ESCAP Commission Session: 8 Aug 2014
 - Proposed by: ROK
 - Co-sponsored by: Bangladesh, Pakistan, and Thailand

> Structure

- Preamble: Background and Importance
- Legislative: Necessary actions by member States and the ESCAP Secretariat

In accordance with

The mandates contained in ESCAP Resolution 68/3,
The report of Committee on Trade and Investment on its third session, and
The Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Meeting on a Regional Arrangement
for the Facilitation of Cross-border Paperless Trade (April 2014, UNCC, Bangkok)



II. Necessary actions by Member States

Endorses the recommendation of the Meeting to establish an interim intergovernmental steering group on cross-border paperless trade facilitation

(Details can be obtained from the Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Meeting Report)

Which would be tasked with:

- further improving the draft text of the regional arrangement as a potential intergovernmental agreement
- preparing a draft road map for the implementation of substantive provisions in the draft text
- other functions as agreed by the steering group



III. Necessary actions by the ESCAP Secretariat

- Requests the Executive Secretary:
 - To support and facilitate the establishment and operation of the interim intergovernmental steering group on cross-border paperless trade facilitation in accordance with the terms of reference contained in section I.B of the report of the Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Meeting on a Regional Arrangement for the Facilitation of Cross-border Paperless Trade;
 - Also requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission annually on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution until the work of the Steering Group has been completed.



gement on cross-border paperless trade

the draft arrangement >

/ draft text

'y agreement. Once text is agreed by all ESCAP n Member will have the opportunity to decide to join or when

ork agreement. The primary focus of the draft text of angement is facilitation of cross-border paperless 3-border paperless trade itself

s center on measures facilitating cross-border 3, not on detailed prescription on how to engage in aperless trade. In line with this focus, most provisions avor in nature



