

Summary of
**2nd Expert Group Meeting on Enhancing Regional Connectivity
through Trade and Investment: Towards Regional Arrangements for
the Facilitation of Cross-border Paperless Trade**

○ **Date: 2 - 3 May 2013**

○ **Venue: UNCC, Bangkok, Thailand**

○ **Participants: See Annex 1 for the final list of participants**

1. The Meeting was participated by 12 experts and opened by Mr. Ravi Ratnayake, Director, Trade and Investment Division of ESCAP.
2. The participating experts collectively went through brief review of the revised draft text of regional arrangement and its explanatory note, prepared on the basis of works done at the previous Expert Group Meeting on 13 – 14 March 2013.
3. The Meeting held a mini workshop session on issues of cross-border data exchange to better understand key issues by sharing national experiences of Indonesia, Malaysia, Republic of Korea and Singapore.
 - Mr. Noor presented brief overview of Indonesia Single Window (INSW) with description of experience in cross-border trade data exchange, in particular certificate of origin
 - Ms. Wong presented ASEAN Single Window (ASW) pilot project conducted on exchange of information in Customs export declaration using the ASEAN Customs Declaration Document (ACDD)
 - Mr. Ha presented two cases of cross-border data exchange in the Republic of Korea. One was the electronic Certificate of Origin between Republic of Korea and Taiwan Province of China; the other was the commercial trade data exchange between Hyundai Motors in the Republic of Korea and Mitsubishi trading and Sumitomo trading in Japan for import of steel.
 - Mr. Hogg, on behalf of Mr. Koh, presented issues of cross-border data exchange from implementers' perspective in the categories of technology, standard and business. He also presented electronic certificate of origin between Japan and Singapore.

4. The Meeting broke into three groups (two technical groups and one legal group) and revised the draft text as well as the explanatory note.
5. After completion of group discussion, the Meeting collectively reviewed works of three groups in a comparable manner for effective comparison and coordination of different views among the groups. The compiled works of three groups in a comparable manner is attached in Annex 2.
6. The Meeting requested ESCAP Secretariat to revise draft text and explanatory note based on the discussions and comments made during the collective review.
7. The meeting was closed by Mr. Yann Duval, Chief, Trade Facilitation, Trade and Investment Division of ESCAP with an expression of gratitude to all the participating experts for their active participation, discussion and provision of valuable inputs. He also informed the participants of a plan to organize three subregional meetings, back-to-back with capacity building workshops, for member consultation on the draft text in the month of July 2013.

ANNEX 1: FINAL LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Second Expert Group Meeting on Enhancing Regional Connectivity through Trade and Investment: Towards Regional Arrangements for the Facilitation of Cross-border Paperless Trade

2-3 May 2013

Bangkok, Thailand

LIST OF EXPERTS

Mr. Anatoly Martynov, Director General, Centre for Trade Policy and Law, 107891, Novorizanskaya str., Bld. 10-12, Moscow, Russian Federation, Mobile: +79166526588; home number: +7 495 5937129
Email: asmartynov@gmail.com

Dr. Hong Xue, Professor of Law, Director of Institute for the Internet Policy & Law (I IPL), Beijing
Normal University, Beijing, China
Tel : +86 10 824 25692 Email: hongxueipr@gmail.com (*by skype*)

Mr. Ian Michael Hogg, Manager, Trade Facilitation Centre of Excellence, Crimson Logic Pte Ltd., Singapore
Tel: + 65 6887 7609, Email: ianhogg@crimsonlogic.com

Mr. Jonathan Koh Tat Tsen, Director, Trade Facilitation Centre of Excellence, Crimson Logic Pte Ltd., Singapore Tel: + 65 688 77609 Email: jonathankoh@crimsonlogic.com

Mr. Kun Nhem, Deputy Director General, General Department of Customs and Excise, Phnom Penh, Cambodia
Tel: +855 12 832 030, Email: nhemkun@gmail.com

Mr. Kylychbek Djakypov, Independent consultant, 135, Abdraeva str., Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
Tel: +966 770 055001, Email: djakypov.k@gmail.com

Ms. Mee Wan Wong, Senior Assistant Director, Customs Division, the Royal Malaysian Customs Department and Chair Person, ASEAN Single Window Technical Working Group, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Tel: +60 3 8882 2646, Email: marianne.wong@customs.gov.my

Mr. Muwasiq M. Noor, Senior Vice President, Marketing & Business Development, EDI-I, Indonesia

Tel: (62) 815 9170250, Email: muwasiq@gmail.com

Mr. Shashank Priya, Professor, Centre for W.T.O Studies, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, Room 722-E, IIFT Bhawan, B-21 Qutab Institutional Area, New Delhi-110016, India

Tel: (91 11) 26135420, fax: (91 11) 26512152, Email: shashankpriya@hotmail.com, spriya@nic.in

Dr. Somnuk Keretho, Director, Institute for Information Technology Innovation, Faculty of Engineering, Kasetsart University, Bangkok, Thailand

Tel: +66 2 942 8555 ext. 1138, email: sk@ku-inova.org, sk@ku.ac.th

Mr. Sung Heun Ha, Senior Manager, Global Business and Cooperation Team, Korea Trade Network (KTNET), Seoul, Republic of Korea

Email: sungheun.ha@gmail.com

UNITED NATIONS BODY

United Nations Commission on International
Trade Law (UNCITRAL)

Mr. Luca G. Castellani
Head
UNCITRAL Regional Centre for Asia
and the Pacific
Incheon, Republic of Korea
Tel.: +82 32 458 6622 (direct line)
Fax: +82 32 458 6699
Email: luca.castellani@uncitral.org

ESCAP SECRETARIAT

Mr. Ravi Ratnayake	Director, Trade and Investment Division
Mr. Yann Duval	Chief, Trade Facilitation Unit Trade and Investment Division
Mr. Sangwon Lim	Economic Affairs Officer Trade Facilitation Unit Trade and Investment Division
Mr. Tengfei Wang	Economic Affairs Officer Trade Facilitation Unit Trade and Investment Division
Mr. Jun Ho Shin	Expert on Regional Trade and monetary Cooperation Trade and Investment Division

ANNEX 2: WORKS OF THREE GROUPS ON THE DRAFT TEXT

Comparative Texts of Three Group Works

Revised Draft Text of Arrangement/Agreement on Facilitation of Cross-border(International) paperless Trade for the Asia Pacific Region

Tech 1	Tech 2	Legal
<p><i>The ESCAP Members who are parties to this Arrangement/Agreement</i></p> <p>(hereinafter referred to as "Contracting Parties"),</p> <p>Conscious of the importance of trade as an engine of growth and development and of the need to increase the cost-effectiveness and efficiency of international trade transactions to maintain and enhance competitiveness of the region;</p>	<p><i>The ESCAP Members who are parties to this Arrangement/Agreement</i></p> <p>(hereinafter referred to as "Contracting Parties"),</p> <p>Conscious of the importance of trade as an engine of growth and development and of the need to increase the cost-effectiveness and efficiency of international trade transactions to maintain and enhance competitiveness of the region;</p>	<p><i>The ESCAP Members who are parties to this Arrangement/Agreement</i></p> <p>(hereinafter referred to as "the Parties"),</p> <p>Conscious of the importance of trade as an engine of growth and development and of the need to increase the cost-effectiveness and efficiency of international trade transactions to maintain and enhance competitiveness of the region;</p>

<p>Recognizing that paperless trade enhances the expansion of trade opportunities and makes international trade transactions more efficient and transparent while improving regulatory compliance, particularly if trade related data and documents in electronic form are exchanged across borders;</p> <p>Noting that the trade and supply-chain security initiatives under</p>	<p>Recognizing that paperless trade enhances the expansion of trade opportunities and makes international trade transactions more efficient and transparent;</p> <p>Also recognizing the importance of avoiding barriers to use and development of paperless trade, the need to promote uniformity in the application of international standards and interoperability of paperless trade systems;</p> <p>Noting that the trade and supply-chain security initiatives under implementation in major</p>	<p>Recognizing that paperless trade enhances the expansion of trade opportunities and makes international trade transactions more efficient and transparent;</p> <p>Also recognizing the importance of avoiding barriers to use and development of paperless trade, the need to promote uniformity in the application of international standards and interoperability of paperless trade systems;</p> <p>Noting that the trade and supply-chain security initiatives under implementation in major</p>
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<p>implementation in major export markets will make it increasingly necessary for all actors in the international supply chain to exchange data and documents electronically;</p> <p>Considering the fact that many countries of the Asia-Pacific region are currently engaged in implementing national electronic Single Window systems to expedite processing of trade-related data and documents;</p>	<p>export markets will make it increasingly necessary for all actors in the international supply chain to exchange data and documents electronically;</p> <p>Considering the fact that many countries of the Asia-Pacific region are currently engaged in implementing national electronic Single Window systems to expedite processing of trade-related data and documents;</p> <p>Also considering the</p>	<p>export markets will make it increasingly necessary for all actors in the international supply chain to exchange data and documents electronically;</p> <p>Considering the fact that many countries of the Asia-Pacific region are currently engaged in implementing national electronic Single Window systems to expedite processing of trade-related data and documents;</p> <p>Also considering the</p>
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