



UNITED NATIONS

ESCAP

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Private-Public Dialogue on Trade Facilitation: Summary and Recommendations

ESCAP/GTI

Private Public Dialogue on Trade Facilitation

23 October 2012

Seoul, Republic of Korea

Message from Keynote Address

- Trade Facilitation is difficult to achieve due to mindsets → used dialogue to better understanding the needs and priorities of the private sector.
- Public-Private Partnership (PPP) may seem easy and automatic, but is a time-consuming process and should start from understanding each other → true partnership.
- In order to contribute to economic growth/reform, Trade Facilitation requires some framework → inclusive, time-sensitive and sustainable manner.

Session 1 Summary

- North-East Asia Subregion currently plays a leading role in World economy. Facilitating intraregional trade through trade agreements (some are on the way) and trade facilitation can further accelerate growth, contribute to sustainable development and to unwinding of global imbalances.
- Russian Federation's recent accession to WTO can accelerate subregional trade growth, though there are major uncertainties.
- GTI is implementing various studies, capacity-building training and joint projects to facilitate realization of Subregion's potential for further growth.

Session 2 Summary

- Countries in the Subregion are actively implementing various Trade Facilitation (TF) initiatives individually and collectively, such as Customs modernization of Mongolia, AEO programme of ROK, e-Cert of China and NEALNET.
- All of them proactively adopt ICT and paperless trade as trade facilitation tools.
- Those TF initiatives also try to integrate requirements and concerns of private sectors in the implementation process.
- All these TF initiatives can be scaled up in the Subregion and beyond through cross-border cooperation.

Session 3 Summary

- The Subregion needs to improve and harmonize logistics and transport infrastructure and networks to meet growing trade (e.g. seamless multimodality, relative weakness of road transport network)
- National TF initiatives need to integrate needs and priorities of private sector, in particular SMEs, in their service design and provision (experience of ROK's uTradeHub).
- Industries in the Subregion, for example Mongolian cashmere industry, need TF support in quality control for competitiveness.
- Private Sectors expect business-friendly policy, standardization and (financial) support from public sectors in the process of improving business, technology development and innovation

Gaps and Challenges identified in the Dialogue

- ✓ **Lack of capacity of stakeholders**
- ✓ **Public awareness**
- ✓ **Lack of trust and misunderstanding between public and private sectors: They should view each other as partners**
- ✓ **Different data and regulatory requirements from different governments in cross-border trading, thus causing burden to private sector service providers**
- ✓ **The always-lingering trade off between supporting business and protecting the public interest (security, health hazards, etc.)**

communication and information sharing
state and public sectors, in particular public
air cross-border TF initiatives
and duplicate regulatory control

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https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_7378

