

## **Meeting UN/CEFACT Transport with International Transport Organisations**

**Date: 20 September 2011**

**Place: IATA, Geneva**

### **Participants:**

Dominique Vankemmel	NORMAFRET / Ad'Missions and acting Chair
Henk van Maaren	CETIMA and acting Secretary
Andrea Graf	IATA
Frederic Leger	IATA
Robert Keen	FIATA / CLECAT
Fabrice Setta	UIC
Jaume Bagot	IAPH (International Association Ports and Harbours) and Port of Barcelona
Simon Spoormaker	SMDG (Association Shipping Lines and Container Terminals) and Portbase Rotterdam
Francois Vuilleumier	ISO TC154 and 7372 MA
Sue Probert	7372MA Joint Maintenance Agency ISO/CEFACT
Michael Dill	GEFEG
Kerri Ahn	KLNET
Sunho Park	KLNET

### **Objective of the meeting**

Address the strategic impact on the Transport sector of the current reorganization of UN/CEFACT and gather recommendations from the International Transport Organizations on the best way forward for the Transport and Logistics Group.

### **Summary report:**

The meeting thanked IATA for hosting the meeting in their premises at the Geneva airport.

Dominique Vankemmel gave a presentation on the organisation and structure of UN/CEFACT, both before and after the reorganisation, and of its Transport Group (TBG3). Henk van Maaren gave a presentation of the achievements of the UN/CEFACT Transport Group (TBG3) on EDIFACT messages and implementation guidance, and on the present development of a multimodal transport (MMT) focussed structure within the Core Components Library.

Sue Probert gave a presentation on the maintenance of the TDED (Trade Data Elements Directory) and related issues, in particular the alignment of the TDED with the EDIFACT Directory and the Core Components Library.

The meeting discussed the present situation after the reorganisation of UN/CEFACT and in view of the achievements of the Transport Group.

The International Transport Organisations present at the meeting (IATA, UIC, FIATA, IAPH and SMDG) gave their opinion of the present situation and their advise on steps forward.

Comments made were:

- The new CEFACT organisation does not look very clear and transparent to outsiders from a business domain perspective
- The transport (and logistics) domain needs to be clearly recognisable in the CEFACT organisation structure for example by being a PDA on its own, the transport domain should be able to have links with relevant organisations directly (and not through higher CEFACT levels), and the transport sector should be empowered in organising the transport domain and in choosing its management
- The time-to-market in producing standard XML messages needs to be reduced; some organisations have now in the meantime produced their own XML messages; the representatives of the transport organizations consider that there is too much burden to produce documents such as BRS and RSM Also in view of the present economic situation, it is difficult within the transport sector to find resources to contribute to the work within CEFACT. In addition, some organisations are focusing their effort in their internal priority projects ( for example eFreight in IATA)
- The role and position of the coordinator in the new structure is unclear, and there are no candidates from the sector at present
- The maintenance of the existing EDIFACT messages needs to be secured.
- Because of the strong link with Customs, it would be beneficial if the WCO would also use the Core Components Library

It was agreed to inform CEFACT about the concerns expressed above.

HVM - DV