

NOTES OF THE LEGAL REFORM ADVISORY BOARD MEETING #8

For reference only; not for publication.

Date 14 December 2024, Thursday
Time 14:30-16:00 GMT / 21:30-23:00 SGT
Place Video Conference Call

Present	DSI Legal Reform Advisory Board Members Oliver Wieck (Co-chair)* Carmen Ortiz (ADB) Scott Stevenson (BAFT) Ahma Milot (EBRD) Gabriella de F. Dorlhiac (ICC Brazil) Sivaram Superamanian (ASEAN Secretariat) Emmanuelle Butaud-Stubbs (ICC France) Vashti Maharaj (The Commonwealth) Sean Edwards (ITFA) Trudi Hartzenberg (TRALAC) Chris Southworth (ICC UK) Qi Chen (ICC China for YU Jianlong) Ahmadou Kane (ITFC) Chantal Ononaiwu (CARICOM) Joy Albright (AEIB) Satya Sahu (World Bank) Luca Castellani (UNCITRAL) Igna Mortana (IPCSA)	ICC DSI Management Pamela MAR (Managing Director, DSI) Hannah Nguyen (Director of Digital Ecosystems, DSI) Tianmi Stilphen (Lead, Regulatory Affairs, DSI) Observe Gerard Hartsink (IAB)
Absent	Wamkele Mene (AfCFTA) Murat Sultanov (IFC) Tod Burwell (BAFT) Sue Probert (UN/CEFACT) Trudi Hartzenberg (TRALAC) Yann Duval (UN ESCAP) Yesica González (ICC México)	

NO. TOPICS

1	Welcome Address Co-Chair Oliver Wieck welcomed the participants to the meeting and outlined his vision for his new role. He emphasized the importance of the business cases to government and companies. He lastly applauded the close cooperation between the various ICC NCs; Oliver introduced Ms. Gabriella Dorlhiac to the Board, the Sec Gen of ICC Brazil ; Oliver moved to approve the minutes for meeting 7. No objections were made. The Minutes were approved.
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2	<p>2026 Progress Dashboard Update</p> <p>DSI Regulatory Affairs Lead Tianmi Stilphen recapped four KPIs (countries committed, countries aligned, and monitoring framework) and gave an update on the new capacity-building programs that were launched and adding momentum in related ecosystems.</p> <p>Deliverables Q1 2024: 1-hour e-learning MLETR module as a part of the Certificate in Digital Trade Strategy in collaboration with ICC Academy. Emmanuelle informed ICC France will produce a similar product for French-speaking countries.</p>
3	<p>IPCSA Presentation</p> <p>Inga provided the Board with a thorough walk-through on PCS's impact on the port/logistics ecosystem as well as the new initiative on sustainability to enable standardization of information flow in their community.</p>
4	<p>DSI Recent MLETR Advocacy and Capacity-building Effort</p> <p>Tianmi showed a demo of the new MLETR Tracker hosted on the Cross-border Paperless Trade Database, established in collaboration with UNCITRAL, which enables several new features: searchable, region isolation, and real-time tracking.</p> <p>Emmanuelle Butaud-Stubbs (ICC France) shared that the ICC NC Project Fund was awarded to ICC France for its project on the digitalization of trade finance. The Transferrable Titles Bill will be passed by Parliament before Feb 2024 followed by a decree, which will define what constitutes a reliable document and the definition of "integrity". <u>2024 Goal</u>: trade corridor with Germany, Morocco, UK, and Singapore; strengthening institutional representation in trade finance and workforce training in France, and beyond (EU).</p> <p>Sivaram Superamanian (ASEAN Sec) announced that DEFA negotiations were launched in Sep 2023. Covering 9 recommendations, and 45 clauses, one of which encourages all 10 members to adopt MLETR (approx Q2 2024).</p> <p>Carmen Ortiz (ADB) -ADB continues to work with other MDBs to scale the ADB capacity-building model, but overall momentum is low due to the lack of funding. Georgia project has moved onto the next phase with Revenue Services to compose the diagnostic review. In the EU, ADB is in the process of onboarding legal specialists to navigate the interoperability of new laws in the EU and the MLETR.</p> <p>Chris Southworth (ICC United Kingdom)- <i>Seizing the Moment</i>, case studies compilation is published. The current progress is further than originally imagined; priorities continue to be scaling legal reform.</p> <p>Vashti Maharaj (Commonwealth)- CW lands the Effective Legal Frameworks for Building a Digital Economy with the establishment of a WG on Legal Reform and Digitalization. Leveraging on the Commonwealth advantage to speed up legal reform, approaching capacity building from the regional perspective.</p> <p>(ICC China)- Official release of four thematic reports on trade digitalization as well as a survey on the current application status and development suggestions for eBLs and warehouse receipts.</p> <p>Scott Stevenson (BAFT)- 11 states have passed the new UCC amendment. Significant progress has been made by partnering with the NY Bar Association to facilitate dialogue.</p>

Oliver Wieck (ICC Germany) – Aims to adopt the German implementing regulation on the use of e-docs in Q1 2024. Pilots have been initiated w/ Enigio and German corporates from the industry and retail sector. Also looking at introducing a “National Quality Seal” that creates security and trust b/t the parties involved in a transaction.

Milot Ahma (EBRD)- announced the kick-off of a business case in Turkiye. EBRD is emulating what the ADB has done with the Certificate on Digital Trade Strategy for staff members to gain insights on the digital trade ecosystem and trade finance.

OHADA Survey- out of the 11 countries surveyed, only 4 have adopted some framework on digitalization, but not as far as MLETR alignment.

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General Update from DSI (Industry Advisory Board)

- **Hannah** shared that the 2nd batch of Digitalization Standardization has been launched in UAE, focusing on 14 docs (title, finance, payment, and logistics. Aiming 3rd batch (regulatory and compliance-related) to be launched in Q1 2024.
- FIT Alliance published a new chapter on Complete Guide on eBL (Container shipping).
- Swift just launched a pilot program with 4 partners and 2 banks to demonstrate interoperability.

December 2023

Oliver Wieck
Co-Chair, LRAB

Pamela Mar
Managing Director, DSI