

**UNESCAP Regional Conference/Forum of Freight Forwarders, Multimodal Transport
Operators and Logistics Service Providers**

**20 June 2014
Beijing, China**

Annotated Provisional Programme

0900–0915 hrs. Opening session

0915 –0945 hrs. Session 1: Updating of the latest work by UNESCAP with relevance to freight forwarders, multimodal transport operators and logistics service providers

UNESCAP secretariat will provide a brief on recent work of relevance to the industry in the region, including

- *Latest developments on the Intergovernmental Agreement on Dry Ports;*
- *Guide to the key issues in development of logistics policy;*
- *Study on railway facilitation issues;*
- *Development of logistics information standards and framework for national logistics information service systems; and*
- *The work of the new regional network of technical and legal experts.*

Ms Heini Suominen, Associate Economic Affairs Officer, Transport Facilitation and Logistics Section, Transport Division, ESCAP

0945–1045 hrs. Session 2: The impact of logistics infrastructure and facilitation on the ASEAN Economic Community development

This session will discuss the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) and reflect on its impact on the logistics industry, and the role of the industry in the achievement of the AEC.

Dr. Ruth Banomyong, Associate Professor and Head of Department of International Business, Logistics and Transport, Thammasat Business School, Thailand

1045-1100 hrs. Coffee break

1100–1200 hrs. Session 3: Enhancing operational capacities and capabilities through cloud technologies

This session will provide an overview of the use, benefits and challenges of the implementation of cloud technologies in freight forwarding and shipping for improved efficiency and effectiveness.

Mr. Desmond Tay, Managing Director, vCargo Cloud, Singapore

Lunch

1300-1345 hrs. Session 4: Introduction to the Professional Education and Development Group of International Freight Forwarding, China

This session will introduce the joint education mechanism operated by CIFA and China Advanced Education and Training Centre which aims to integrate corporate culture with professional skills.

Mr. Fang Jian, Director, Training Department, CIFA, China

Associations are also invited to share challenges and successful initiatives for addressing skill shortages in the industry, and recommend actions for the Forum and ESCAP for the reduction of skill gaps.

1345-1515 hrs. Session 5: Dialogue on resolving operational challenges

The purpose of this session is to share experiences on a range of operational issues, to discuss possible solutions and identify actions for the associations and ESCAP to facilitate the resolving of issues.

Particular focus will be on:

- *Container deposits*
- *Block exemption orders for liners*
- *Dubious charges*
- *Coordination and standardization of work of OGAs*

1515 –1530 hrs. Coffee

Meeting of Chief Executives of National Associations of Freight Forwarders, Multimodal Transport Operators and Logistics Service Providers

1530 –1630 hrs. Good practices by national associations

In this session, representatives of the national associations report the key initiatives and efforts the associations have made to enhance the role of the associations to help develop the industry and promote cooperation of members since the UNESCAP Meeting of Chief Executives of National Associations of Freight Forwarders, Multimodal Transport Operators and Logistics Service Providers held in June 2013.

1630-1645 hrs. Other matters

The meeting is open for other matters of interest of the participants under this session.

1645-1700 hrs. Closing remarks

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