



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

2021/CTI/TF/WKSP1/001

Agenda

Submitted by: Japan



**Utilizing Digital Technology in the Field of
Trade Facilitation Under the Current
COVID-19 Pandemic and Beyond: Best-
Practices Sharing Workshop - Trade
Facilitation Through Trade Platforms
11 May 2021**

Utilizing Digital Technology in the Field of Trade Facilitation under the Current COVID-19 Pandemic and Beyond: Best-Practices Sharing Workshops

~ 1st Workshop (11 May*) – Trade Facilitation through Trade Platforms ~

Businesses spend much time and resources for administrative tasks required for paper-based trade procedures, including preparing, sorting, and shipping of various documents. In recent years, in order to facilitate trade, digital-technology-enabled “trade platforms” have been developed and started digitalizing some trade procedures. They bring tremendous benefits such as reducing the amount of paperwork with overlapping information and improving the transparency of procedures.

In this workshop, which is the first of a series of four, we will focus on trade platforms, introducing the characteristics of different trade platforms currently in operation. The speakers will discuss the future of trade platforms and challenges in ensuring interoperability among them.

15:00-15:15 (15min)	<p>Introduction to the series of workshops (Overarching Goal, Dates, and Four Themes)</p> <p>Opening Remark Mr NIIKURA Takayuki, Director for the APEC office, Trade Policy Bureau, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry - Japan</p>
15:15-15:30 (15min)	<p>Introductory Presentation: Global State of Trade Platforms Mr Chimdi OBIENU, Research Analyst, Washington CORE</p>
15:30-17:00 (90min)	<p>Panel Discussion: Future and Interoperability of Trade Platforms Moderated by Washington CORE</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mr Hirohisa KOJIMA, President and CEO Mr Satoru SOMEYA, Managing Director, Head of CEO's Office TradeWaltz (Japan) <i>“Create the Future of Trade with Blockchain”</i> ● Mr Andrew BALGARNIE, COO TradeWindow (New Zealand) <i>“Streamlining Trade Processes through Interoperable Trade Windows”</i> ● Ms Alicia SAY, Manager, International Business Center Trade-Van (Chinese Taipei) <i>“Cross Border Blockchain for Trade - The Case of Streamlined Import Clearance during COVID-19”</i> ● Mr Tom SPROAT, Senior Director TradeLens (United States) <i>“Using Digital Blockchain to reduce paperwork”</i> <p>* The panelist presentations will be followed by a discussion among panelists, answering moderator and audience questions.</p>
17:00-17:10 (10min)	<p>Summarizing and closing note from the organizer</p>

* **Note: program dates and times are shown in New Zealand Standard Time (UTC+12:00).**