



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

2021/CTI/WKSP9/007

Session 4.2

Digital Economy Partnership Agreement

Submitted by: Singapore



**Free Trade Area of Asia-Pacific Capacity
Building Workshop on E-Commerce
Elements in Free Trade Agreements and
Regional Trade Agreements
8-9 September 2021**



DEPA

DIGITAL ECONOMY
PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

AGENDA

- **Overview of the Digital Economy Partnership Agreement (DEPA)**
- **Implementing and Joining the DEPA**

Link: <https://www.mti.gov.sg/Improving-Trade/Digital-Economy-Agreements>





Overview of the DEPA

UNDERSTANDING THE DEPA

Addressing New Business/Trade Realities



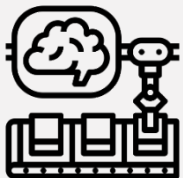
Digitalisation has transformed businesses as well as products and services including how they are traded and delivered.



New technologies transforming trade & supply chains



Data flows underpin the digital economy

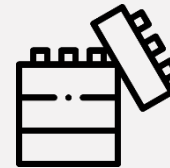


Increased pervasiveness of artificial intelligence (AI) applications

A New Form of International Agreement



International agreements such as our FTAs need to evolve as well to deal with new forms of products and services being traded.



Builds on E-Commerce chapters of existing FTAs



Living agreements



Flexible and modular approach

COLLABORATIVE AND PATHFINDING APPROACH

Tapping on multi-agency expertise & perspectives



- Co-led by:
 - Ministry of Trade & Industry (**MTI**)
 - Ministry of Communications & Info (**MCI**)
 - Infocomm Media Development Authority (**IMDA**)



Collaborating with economies to set benchmark rules & cooperating on pioneering projects



Chile, New Zealand, Singapore

Digital Economy Partnership Agreement



Co-developing with companies at forefront of digitalization



- Understand issues & pain points faced by businesses
- Ensure DEA provisions are relevant & benefit local businesses

TARGET OUTCOMES

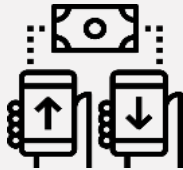
FACILITATE

SEAMLESS END-TO-END
DIGITAL TRADE

E-Invoicing



E-Payments



Paperless Trading



Digital
Identities



ENABLE

OPEN & SECURE DATA
FLOWS

Cross-Border
Data Flows



Personal Data
Protection



Prohibit Data
Localisation



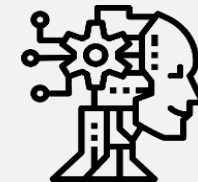
Open Govt Data &
Data Innovation



BUILD

TRUST IN
DIGITAL SYSTEMS

Artificial Intelligence



Cybersecurity &
Source Code



Online Consumer
Protection



BUSINESS BENEFITS

FACILITATE

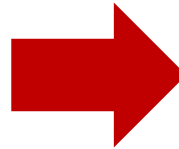
SEAMLESS END-TO-END
DIGITAL TRADE

ENABLE

TRUSTED
DATA FLOWS

BUILD

TRUST IN
DIGITAL SYSTEMS



- Reduced costs for businesses
- Increased efficiency
- Faster payments
- Increased innovation, leading to new digital products and services
- Strengthens consumer trust
- Increased business competitiveness and market penetration

SUPPORTED BY NATIONAL DIGITALISATION INITIATIVES

Businesses can participate to extend benefits to cross border businesses and transactions

FACILITATE

**SEAMLESS END-TO-END
DIGITAL TRADE**



**Nationwide
E-Invoicing
Network**

PAYNOW CORPORATE

ENABLE

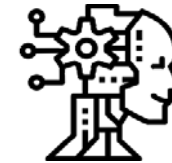
**TRUSTED
DATA FLOWS**



**APEC CBPR
Certification /
Data Protection
Trustmark**

BUILD

**TRUST IN
DIGITAL SYSTEMS**



**AI Model
Governance
Framework**



IMPLEMENTING AND JOINING THE DEPA

ONGOING DEPA COLLABORATIONS AND PROJECTS

- Chile customs has initiated a **National Single Window project at APEC**, which aims to connect national single windows to facilitate the exchange of trade data.
- New Zealand and Singapore will be working on an **International Connectivity System (ICS)** which will include the exchange of e-certificates for animal products such as meat and meat products with New Zealand.
- Both Singapore and New Zealand have also adopted the **Peppol electronic invoicing standard**.



ACCESSION

Procedure

- Interested economies should notify the DEPA depositary, New Zealand, to formally commence discussions on acceding to the DEPA.
- Encourage all interested parties to engage informally with all DEPA parties on their interest in joining the DEPA before submitting a formal request. This is so the interested parties can discuss areas of mutual interest and possible collaborations before moving forward
- The timeline is set out in Art 16.4 of the DEPA.

Key Considerations

- Whether willing and ready to fulfill all the obligations in the DEPA?
- What collaborative projects would you like to explore with the DEPA parties?



THANK YOU