



Single Window Interoperability

**5th. Latin American and Caribbean Regional Meeting on
International Trade Single Windows**

Mexico City, 30 October to 1 November 2013

Tom Butterly

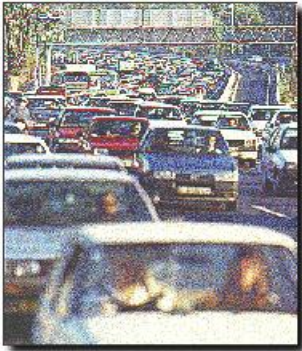
Deputy Director, Trade Division

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)



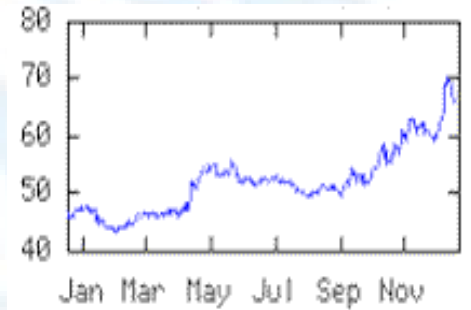
UNECE Work Areas



Transport



Economic cooperation



Statistics



Sustainable energy



Housing



Trade



Environmental policy

UN Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT)

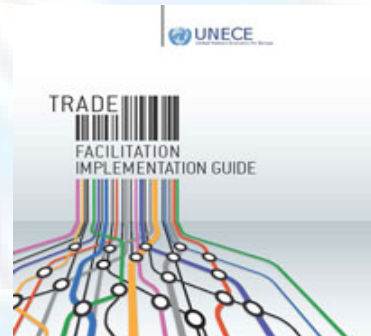
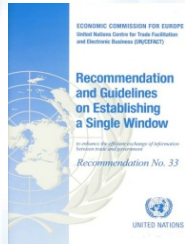
- ❑ Intergovernmental body for developing UN Trade Facilitation Recommendations and Standards
- ❑ Global Remit
- ❑ Over 300 Experts from all 5 Continents
- ❑ Recommendations approved by all UN member States

UNECE's Work for SWs

**UNECE
Policy Rec.s
UN/CEFACT**

**UNECE
Standards
UN/CEFACT**

**UNECE /
UNNEXt
Guidelines,
Briefs, Case
Studies**



Capacity Building & Technical assistance



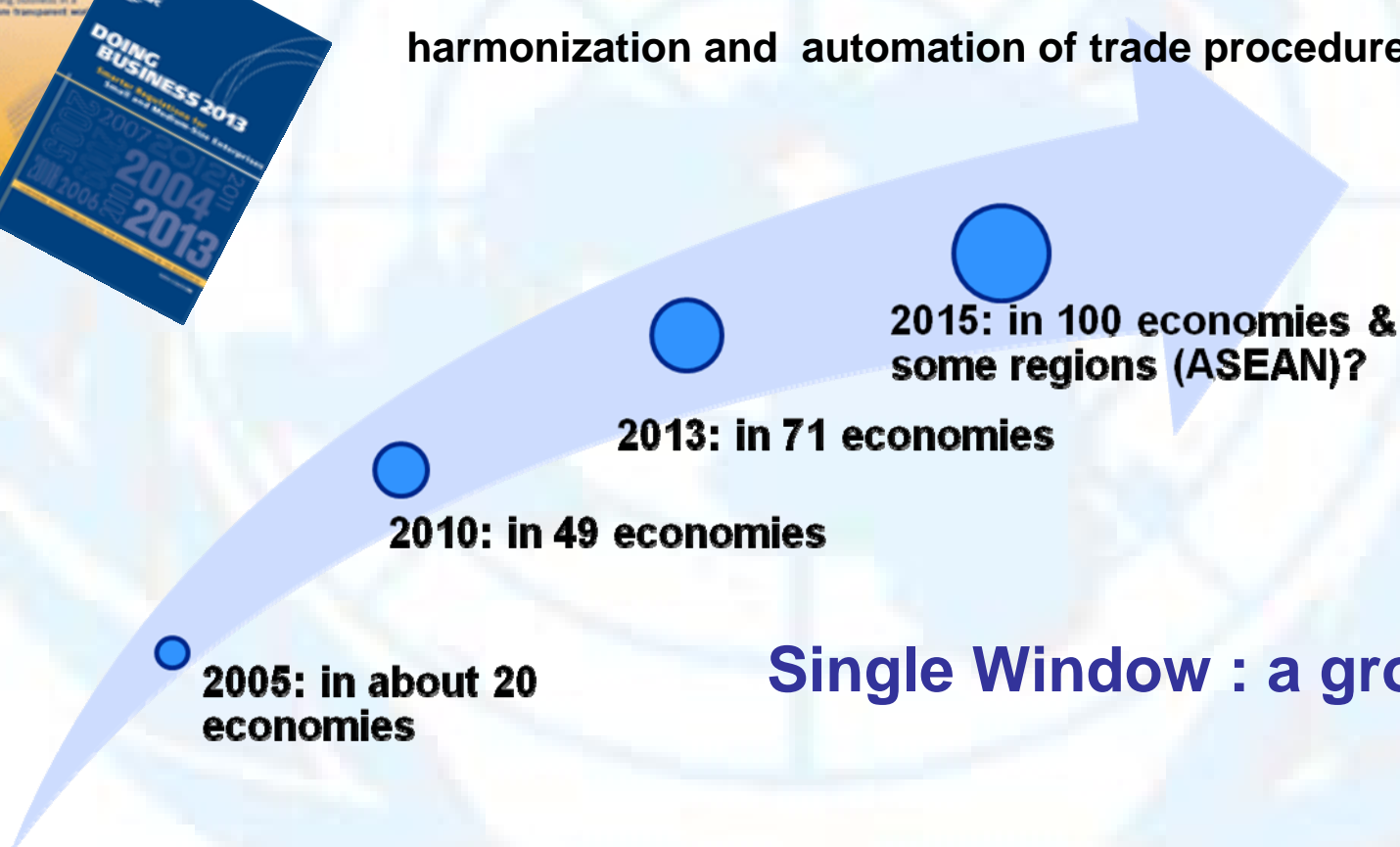
Global Trade Facilitation Conference 2011

Connecting International Trade:
Single Windows and Supply Chains in the next decade

12-13 December 2011, Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland



“ Single Windows (SWs) are important drivers for the simplification, harmonization and automation of trade procedures”



Single Window : a growing trend

After 10 years, some observations

- SW concept has seen an astonishing success – now established in over 71 countries
- SWs have become a strategic national instruments to facilitate trade, enhance collaboration between trade related government agencies, and increase export competitiveness
- More common in developing economies than developed economies

More observations

□ One size does not fit all

- there are many different **Regulatory SW models** & approaches, e.g.

- e-Customs, Customs-oriented Single Window
- Trade (and Cargo) oriented regulatory Single Window - OGAs
- Transport-oriented regulatory Single Window, e.g. EU e-Maritime or Maritime SW

□ Different models (logistics) other than regulatory-oriented SWs

- Port Community Systems (PCSs)
- eFreight
- eCommerce/eTrade, etc.

More observations ...

- Possibility of many “Single” Windows in one country
- Interoperability between SWs a major challenge – both within country and especially between countries

The background of the slide features a large, faded, light blue version of the United Nations logo. It consists of a world map centered on the North Pole, surrounded by a laurel wreath.

And no (or few) SWs in the European Union ???

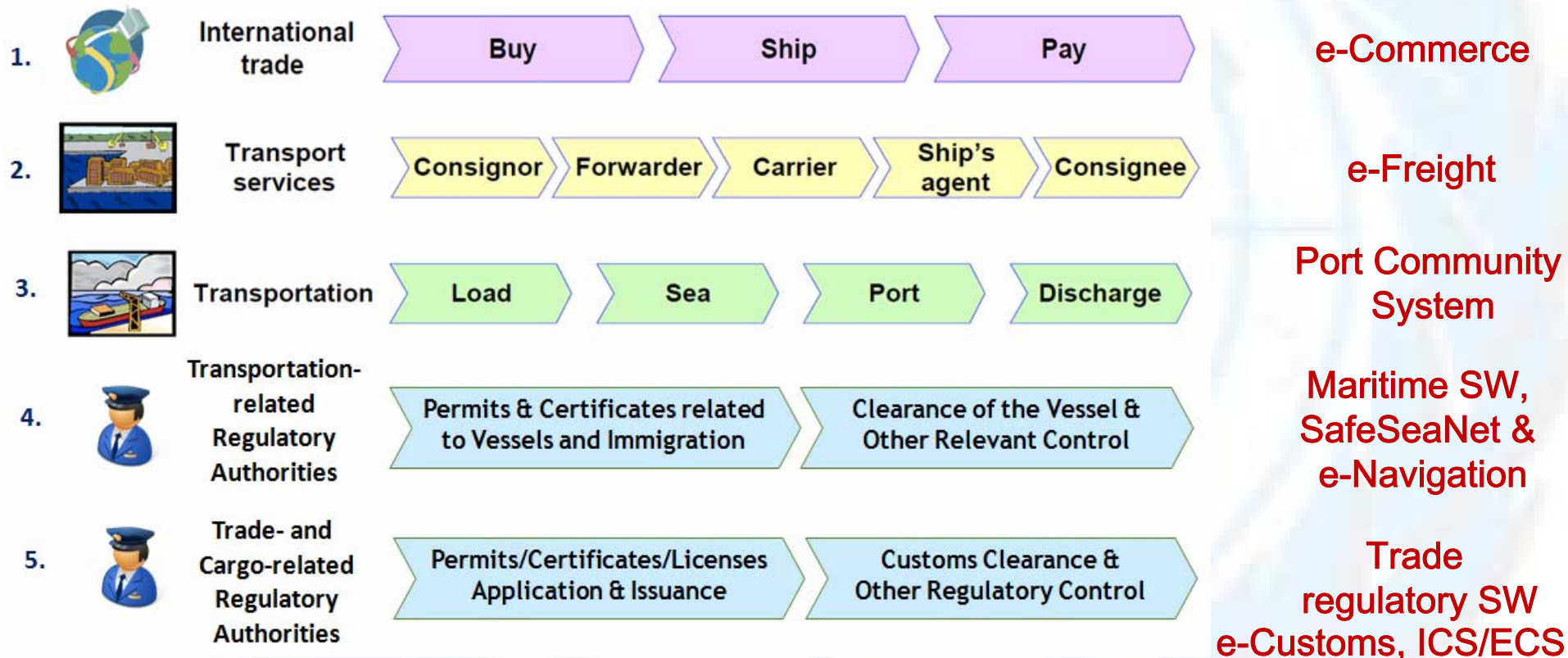
Global Trends in Interoperability

- ❑ In Europe: Emergence of Inter-Organization Information Systems (IOS)
- ❑ **IOS: A system for collaboration and information exchange among independent stakeholders in international trade**
- ❑ Example: Port Community Systems, eCustoms, eFreight, electronic transit systems, eCommerce systems
- ❑ A Single Window is also an example of an IOIS

Global Trends in Interoperability

- ❑ Trade in advanced economies now uses many, highly specialised collaborative information systems
- ❑ IOS have become crucial for efficient cross border trade

Different Inter-Organization Information Systems (IOISs)

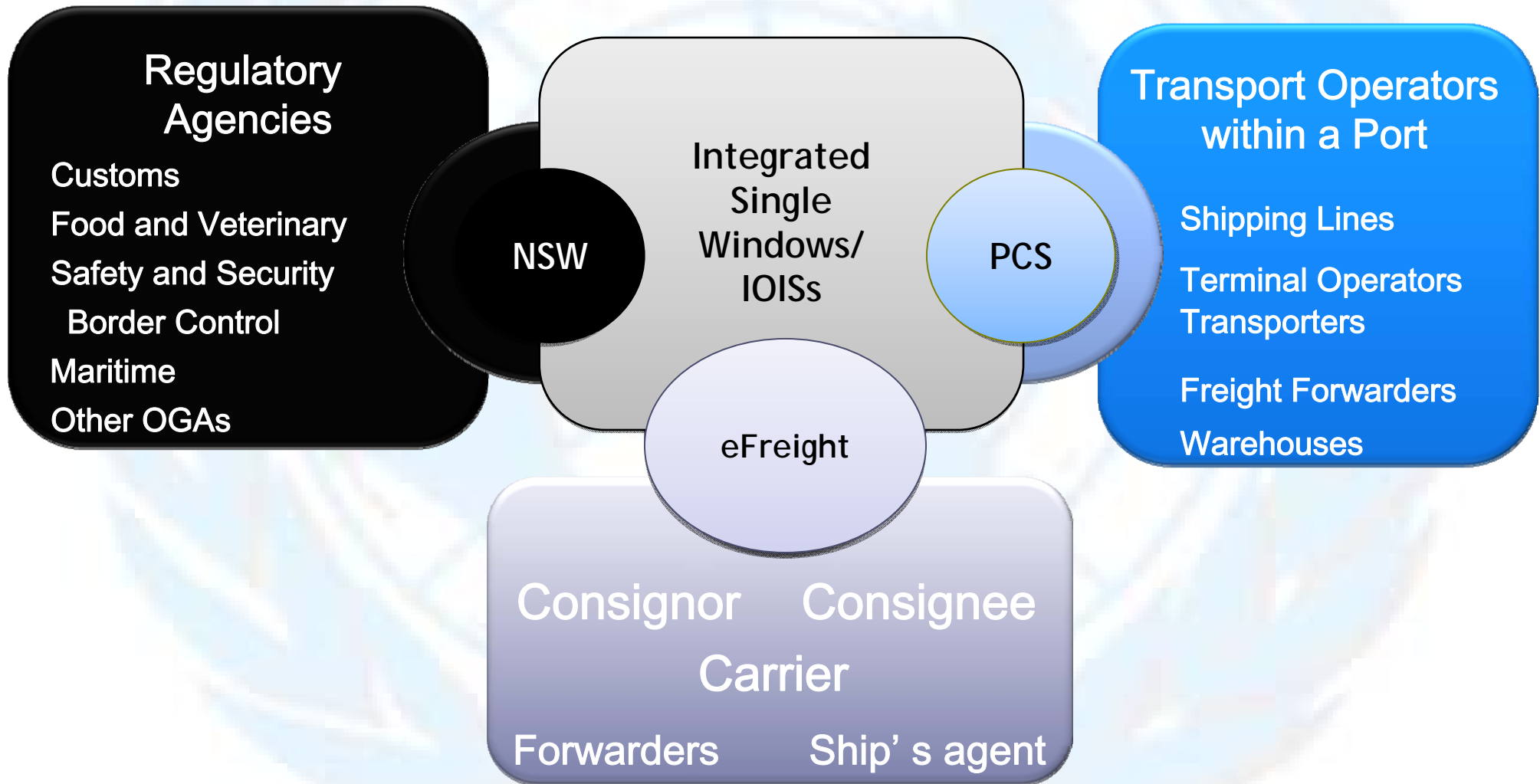


Joining the pieces

Interoperability among those different Inter-Organization Information Systems (IOISs) has huge potential benefits, especially those involved with overlapping information among different IOISs along the international Supply Chain.

The UN is exploring where Single Windows can exploit this approach for interoperability

Interoperability Scenarios between IOISs



PCS : Port Community System

NSW : National Single Windows

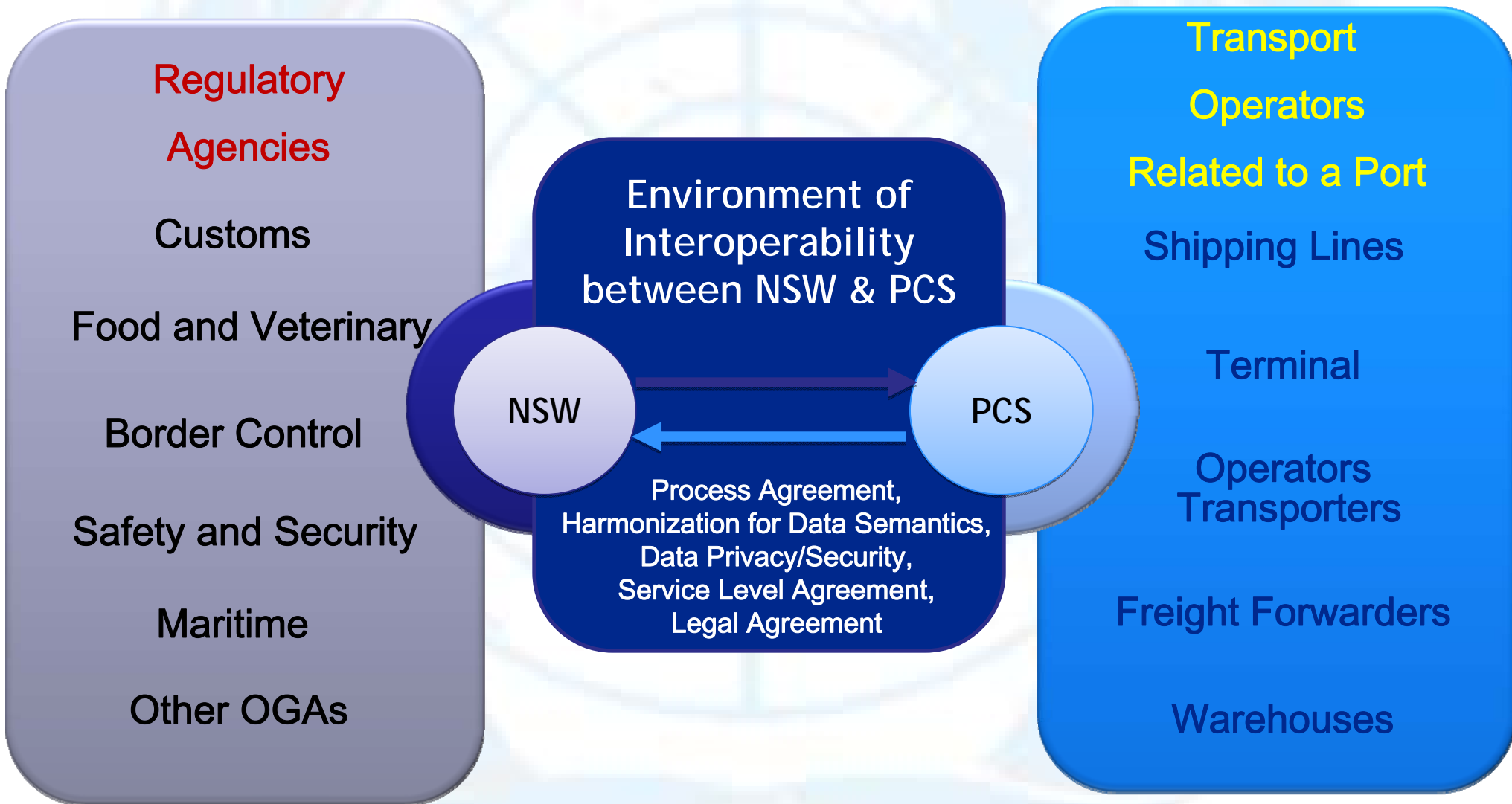
Steps Towards an Integrated SWs Strategy

- **A Vision of Interoperability among “Single Windows”** - connectivity between different Inter-Organization Information Systems (IOISs) along the international Supply Chain: interdependency and synergies based on international standards and best practice
- **An information-sharing strategy** among IOISs in the supply chain to manage the challenges of the future (security, environment, sustainability)
- Service level agreements
- Common Standards
- Legal framework

Steps Towards an Integrated SWs Strategy

- accessibility for SMEs and developing countries
- increased security, efficiency and environment protection through better sharing and reuse of information
- Consideration of how the “single entry point” concept can be facilitated in a multi “Single Windows/IOISs” environment

Collaboration Scenario between IOIS



UNECE-UN/CEFACT's Work on Single Window Interoperability

- ❑ UN/CEFACT currently working on UNECE Recommendation 36: Single Window Interoperability
- ❑ Also developing (in collaboration with UNCITRAL) a revision of Recommendation 14 (Authentication of Trade Documents by Means Other than Signature)
- ❑ UN/CEFACT Core Libraries and Semantic Interoperability
- ❑ Possible development of Recommendations for interoperability between data exchange systems in Domestic and CB trade ??



UNECE-UN/CEFACT work on Single Window Interoperability

- Paper on SW Interoperability (Joint UN RCs)
- Possible UN/CEFACT Symposium on SW Interoperability in late 2014
- You are most welcome to participate in these initiatives

Follow-up

All UNECE and UN/CEFACT Recommendations, codes, standards and publications are available on our website at:

- www.unece.org/
- www.unece.org/trade
- www.unece.org/cefact/

- E-mail: tom.butterly@unece.org