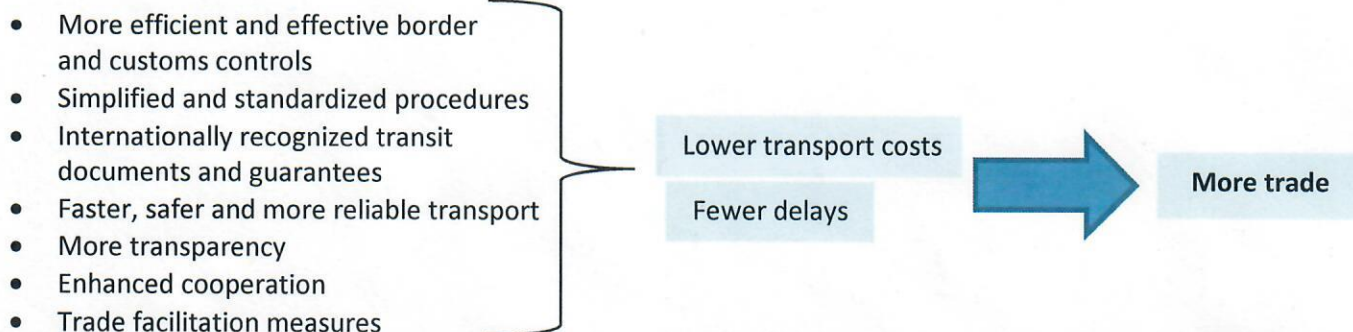


## Benefits of a harmonized international regulatory framework on trade and transport



### Key Trade and Transport Conventions

- WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement
- Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods Under Cover of TIR Carnets (The TIR Convention) (1975)
- International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods (1982)
- Customs Convention on Containers (1972)
- International Convention on the Simplification and Harmonization of Customs Procedures (The Revised Kyoto Convention) (1999)
- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Commercial Road Vehicles (1956)
- United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (1982)

### Steps for a State to become a party to international conventions

- Sign the convention: Newly adopted conventions are open for signature for a set period of time following its adoption
- Undertake the domestic process of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession to the convention in accordance with national legal procedures and modification, if need be, of national laws, regulations and administrative instructions in line with the provisions of the Convention
- Deposit the instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession with the Treaty Section of the Office for Legal Affairs of the UN in New York, which discharges the depositary functions of the Secretary-General
  - The instrument must be signed by the Head of State, Head of Government or Minister for Foreign Affairs
  - The original may be sent to the Treaty Section by mail or courier
  - The Treaty Section accepts a signed copy of the instrument, provided that the original is sent to the Section as soon as possible thereafter
- With the entry into force of the convention, enjoy the rights of the convention and become bound by the obligations relating to its implementation

A special occasion for ceremonies for the signing of multilateral treaties deposited with the Secretary-General, or for the deposit of the instruments relating to such treaties (ratification, acceptance, approval, accession, etc.) will be the **2016 Treaty Event**, to be held from 19 to 23 September 2016 at the margins of the general debate of the 71st UN General Assembly. Several conventions will be highlighted for accession, including the International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods, the Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets, the Customs Convention on Containers, the Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Commercial Road Vehicles and the Multilateral Agreement on the International Think Tank for LLDCs (LLDCs only), among others. **Member States are urged to take advantage of this opportunity to ratify, accept, approve or accede to these and/or other international conventions.**

For more information on the status of United Nations treaties: <https://treaties.un.org>

For definition of terms: [https://treaties.un.org/Pages/Overview.aspx?path=overview/glossary/page1\\_en.xml](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/Overview.aspx?path=overview/glossary/page1_en.xml)

For more on UN ECE Transport Conventions: <http://www.unece.org/trans/conventn/legalinst.html>