## **Secretariat of the Interagency Working Group For introduction of Technology "Single Window – Local Solution"**

N 160 dd 20.03.2014

To: A. P. Yatseniuk, Prime Minister of Ukraine

*Re: the 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Interagency Working Group: Trade facilitation and logistics activities* 

## Dear Arsenii Petrovych,

During recent years as the challenges of world globalization and competence intensification were growing in number the issues of the international trade procedures facilitation and logistics has acquired considerable importance in the context of Ukraine integration in the European and world markets. Working in the tide of the modern economic tendencies the Ukrainian National Committee of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC Ukraine) had initiated the International Seminar on the Issues of Trade Facilitation, which took place in Odessa on 1 June 2011 under the auspices of the UN European Economic Commission (UNECE), Government of Ukraine and the National Institute of Strategic Research.

On the basis of the Seminar outcomes Ya. Kubis, Executive Secretary of UNECE addressed Prime Minister of Ukraine with request to support the initiative of ICC Ukraine concerning the practical implementation in Ukraine of state – private partnership as to introduction of the "Single Window – Local Solution" pilot project in the operations area of the Pivdenna Customs House and Odessa Region Ports.

For the purpose of the Project implementation the Interagency Working Group (IWG) was organized that started its activities in December 2011. The functions of the IWG Secretariat were entrusted to ICC Ukraine as the Project originator. In spite of quite an ambiguous attitude to the IWG activities of the eleven ministries top management involved in such and to the Project as a whole, considerable results were attained pending two years.

Thus, the ports located in the Odessa Region commenced designing the Port Community Information System (PCIS), which enables the participants of the transportation process to build, accumulate, process and transfer the information and documents in the electronic form required for the border, customs and other types of state control. Today PCIS helps to clear monthly 10,000-12,000 containers of imported and transit cargo arrived at the Port of Odessa by sea

Setting up the similar systems at the ports, airports and other large traffic centres allows to the participants of the transportation process at the local, national, regional and international levels to considerably decrease cargo delays on the state border and as a result to avoid additional costs of the goods supply.

Introduction of PCIS at the local level for a start with prospects of using the obtained experience for establishing the national Single Window brings Ukraine closer to the trade development strategy of European Union, which has already adopted a program of cargoes clearance and control network development on the Single Window principles in compliance with the UN international standards and the framework standards of the World Customs Organisation.

Twelve Meetings of the Interagency Working Group were held pending a period that passed after its organization (please, find attached hereto the Minutes dated 04.03.2014 # 12 C). It should be noted that the Meetings have become not only the Project implementation work forum, but also a reliable platform for discussing the urgent issues of economic development. The positive moment is also the adequate respond of the Government of Ukraine to the problems and proposals voiced during the IWG Meetings.

Being aware of the complexity of today's circumstances we remain fully confident in the ability of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine to overcome the up-to-date challenges faced by our state.

Wishing to strengthen economy and build up the transit potential and competence of Ukraine at the international market we **request you to note a number of issues**, which in our opinion are matters of no small consequence for transparency of business operations and successful progress of reforms in the sphere of economy.

Thus, the participants of the 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of IWG unanimously supported the thought of preserving the structures established at the liquidated Ministry of Revenue and Duties of Ukraine: the Contact Centre and the Accredited Centre for Keys Certification of the Information and Inquiry Department of Mindohodiv (ACKC IDD).

The IWG Members, proceeding from the competence of the Information and Inquiry Department in the sphere of services provision to tax payers and in consideration of its unifying role in the information sphere, decided that it would be expedient to retain it as the basic one simultaneously for some central executive authorities and subordinate to the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine as a legal entity. We suppose that such step will ensure stable work on providing consultative services concerning the issues of taxation, customs business, payment of single contribution, etc. and secure the operation of the circulation of electronic documents, which uses the electronic digital signature services provision free of charge.

Besides, the Meeting adopted as the base ones the draft plan and structure of the Trade Facilitation and Logistics National Strategy, which are being developed by the ICC Ukraine and UNECE experts. The said document should serve as a basis for the further work of all interested parties toward the development of this sector of economy and we are positive it deserves separate attention of the Government of Ukraine.

Given the foregoing, we request to give corresponding instructions to Heads of the Ministries and Authorities, which are the Members of IWG, for them to ensure the implementation of the IWG 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting decisions and consider the issues stated herein.

Taking the opportunity we express our readiness for fruitful collaboration on the cause of development of economy of Ukraine.

Please find attached an enclosure on \_\_\_\_\_ pages.

Truly yours,

V. I. Schelkunov, Deputy Head, Interagency Working Group, President, ICC Ukraine, Adviser of Deputy Head of Supreme Rada of Ukraine