

The Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade (ARTNeT) is an open regional network of research and academic institutions specializing in international trade policy and facilitation issues. ESCAP, WTO and UNCTAD, as key core network partners, and a number of bilateral developm

Digital Trade Integration in Preferential Trade Agreements

Abstract

The growth of digital trade is dependant upon greater interconnectivity across borders.
Several countries

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List of abbreviations	
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in digital trade

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mandatory cybersecurity²⁶

provide remedies to buyers against unfair or misleading practices⁵² and, thus, instil greater cross-border digital trust.⁵³ Certain organisations such as the OECD have proposed frameworks on online consumer protection.⁵⁴ Governments have also started acknowledging the role of international cooperation on cybersecurity issues in achieving economic integration. ⁵⁵ However, the past few years have also seen the proliferation of domestic cybersecurity standards.

2.5 Institutional Coordination

in PTAs from Janua

promoting non-discriminatory environment for cross-

Box 1: Recommendations and Best Practices in PTAs to Reduce Digital Trade Barriers

3.2

chains. The advantages of such mechanisms are significant reduction of trade costs, increase in speed and efficiency of transactions,

framewor

Some other PTAs contain soft obligations on paperless trading, including recent ones such as the *Comprehensive and Progressive Trans-*

- (a) Last mile deliveries, including on-demand and dynamic routing solutions;
- (b) The use of electric, remote controlled an

6. Recognizing that the Parties may take different legal approaches to protecting personal

CPTPP) ca

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their PTA provisions. While the DEPA provision is a soft provision requiring parties to only
may impose more elaborate or harder obligations of

4.

For instance, the Agreement does not contain a binding framework for cross-border data

5. Conclusion

References

African Union, 2019. African Digital Transformation Strategy and African Union

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