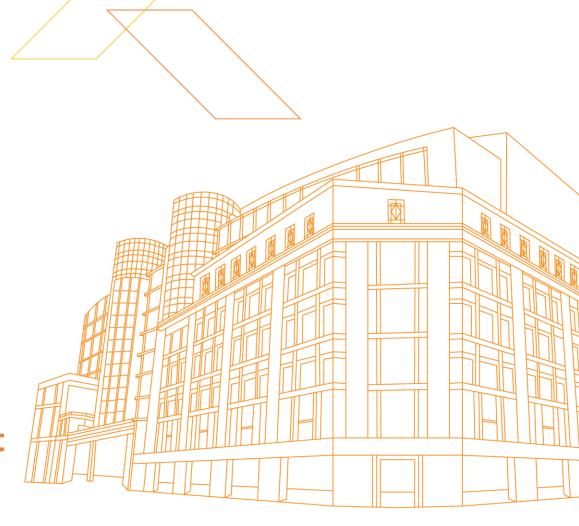


Digital Economy Partnership Agreement (DEPA)











# **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 multiagency 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 DEPA
   provisions are
   relevant & benefit
   local businesses



## **Target outcomes**

### **FACILITATE**

SEAMLESS END-TO-END DIGITAL TRADE

### **ENABLE**

OPEN & SECURE DATA FLOWS

### **BUILD**

TRUST IN DIGITAL SYSTEMS

**E-Invoicing** 



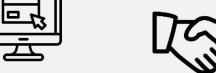
**Paperless** 

trading

**E-Payments** 



Domestic electronic transactions framework



Cross-border data flows



Location of computing facilities



Open govt data & Data innovation

Personal data



Artificial intelligence



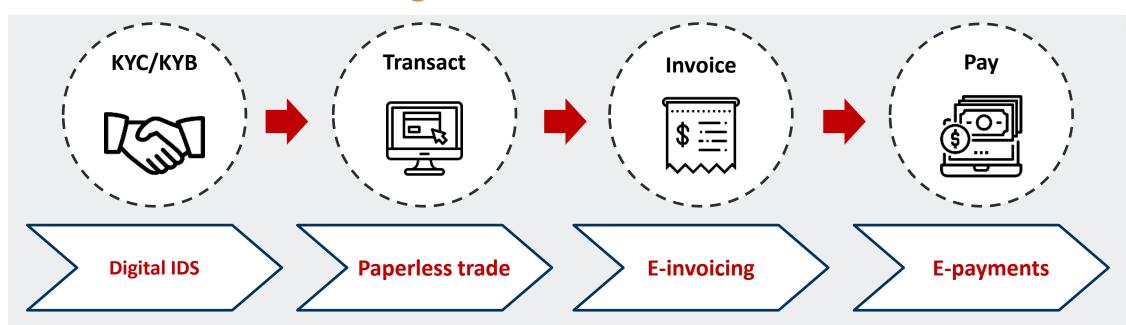
Cybersecurity



Online consumer protection



## 1. Facilitate End-to-end Digital Trade



Work towards mutual recognition of Digital ID systems

National Single Window Connection

Leveraging DLT to facilitate digitalising trade documents

Encourage adoption of interoperable E-invoicing systems (following PEPPOL)

Facilitate interoperability of e-payment systems

Level playing field for all e-payment players





### 2. Enable Trusted Data Flows

#### **Cross-border data flows**



Ensure transfer of data is not prohibited for legitimate business purposes, including for financial services

### **Personal data protection**



Interoperable personal data protection regimes based on mutually agreed/common data protection principles



Free flow of data underpinning the digital economy

### **Data localisation**



Prohibit the required use & location of data servers in a country/territory, including for financial services



Enable digital business models (e.g Cloud)

#### **Data innovation**



Explore the use of data regulatory sandboxes

Cross-border data sharing & joint analytics projects



Unlocking value & powering innovation



## 3. Build trust in digital systems



### **Artificial intelligence**

Promote adoption of ethics and governance frameworks that support trusted, safe and responsible use of Al technologies, and are internationally aligned (considering explanability, transparency, fairness, and human-centred values).



### **Cybersecurity**

- Promote capability building for entities responsible for computer security.
- Cooperate to identify and mitigate malicious intrusions



### **Online consumer protection**

Adopt laws to prohibit fraudulent, misleading or deceptive conduct that causes harm to consumers.

Cooperate on activities related to cross-border electronic commerce in order to enhance consumer welfare.





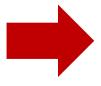
## **Business benefits**

### **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





## **Ongoing DEPA Projects and Initiatives**

- Building on the rules established in DEPA that help facilitate secure cross-border trade, digital collaborations amongst DEPA parties are important to realise the benefits of DEAs to businesses in a concrete way.
  - Chile 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 is 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.
  - New Zealand and Singapore have also adopted the Peppol electronic invoicing standard, which allows businesses in both countries to transact with overseas partners seamlessly, facilitating shorter invoice processing times, faster payments, and cost savings.
  - Singapore and New Zealand also agreed to cooperate on cybersecurity issues, including capability building for officials and workforce development.





## Thank you.



Link: <a href="https://www.mti.gov.sg/Trade/Digital-Economy-Agreements/The-Digital-Economy-Partnership-Agreement">https://www.mti.gov.sg/Trade/Digital-Economy-Agreements/The-Digital-Economy-Partnership-Agreement</a>

