



DIAE/ED/Misc/2013/1  
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## NOTIFICATION

### **Multi-year Expert Meeting on Investment, Innovation and Entrepreneurship for Productive Capacity-Building and Sustainable Development Geneva, 28–30 January 2013**

The Multi-year Expert Meeting on Investment, Innovation and Entrepreneurship for Productive Capacity-Building and Sustainable Development will be held from 28 to 30 January 2013, in room XXVI of the Palais des Nations, Geneva. It will start at 10 a.m. on Monday, 28 January 2013.

#### **Background and purpose of the meeting**

The first session of this multi-year expert meeting is aimed at identifying policies and best practices that can be used in designing policy recommendations to further intensify the mutual relationship between regional integration and foreign direct investment (FDI) for sustainable development.

Regional and interregional economic integration efforts are an important feature of today's economic landscape. These efforts could lead to increased FDI by opening up sectors for investment and aligning policies for the treatment of foreign investors – via the direct and indirect effects of trade and investment liberalization and market integration; via the harmonization of general policy frameworks, including those for investment, in participating countries; and via direct cooperation on investment projects at the regional level.

The meeting will focus on the experience of long-established and successful regional groups in order to shed light on the relationship between regional integration and FDI inflows, and on what can be done to augment this relationship. In particular, experts will discuss (a) issues related to the role of regional integration as a determinant of FDI; (b) the primary importance of economic and policy fundamentals in promoting investment for sustainable development and inclusive growth. The meeting will bring together experts from the different regional and interregional groups to discuss best practices in this regard.

#### **Participation**

UNCTAD member States are requested to nominate experts no later than **14 January 2013**. The nominees, who will participate in the meeting in their personal capacities, are expected to have proven expertise in the subject, and may be selected from governmental or non-governmental organizations, or from private entities or academia. The meeting may be of particular interest to investment-development stakeholders. International and regional organizations are also invited to nominate their participants.

Specialized agencies and intergovernmental bodies wishing to participate in the meeting, as well as non-governmental organizations in the general category and those in the special category wishing to participate as observers, are requested to inform the UNCTAD secretariat of the names of their representatives by **14 January 2013**.



## Background documents and contributed papers

The provisional agenda for the meeting, together with the secretariat's annotations thereto, is being circulated as document TD/B/C.II/MEM.4/1. In order to facilitate the discussion, the UNCTAD secretariat has prepared an issues note, which is being circulated as document TD/B/C.II/MEM.4/2.

These documents and further information are available on the UNCTAD website ([www.unctad.org](http://www.unctad.org)) under the heading "Meetings".

In addition, all experts are encouraged to prepare and submit brief papers related to one or several of the issues contained in the provisional agenda for the meeting, and/or brief papers relating to their country's regional integration initiatives and their impact on promoting investment for sustainable development. These papers will be made available to the meeting in the form and the language in which they are received.

## Logistics

The meeting will take place at the United Nations Office at Geneva, Palais des Nations. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in the six official languages of the United Nations.

Upon arrival, participants are requested, before entering the Palais des Nations, to collect their badges at the United Nations Security Service, Pregny Gate entrance, 14 Avenue de la Paix. The Security Service is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Because of the security measures in force, participants are strongly advised to **arrive before 9 a.m.** in order to complete entry procedures in good time and proceed to the meeting in the E-Building (Bâtiment E) of the Palais. Participants are requested to carry a **passport** or similar national identity card with them. Taxis are not allowed to enter the grounds of the Palais des Nations and visitors will therefore be dropped off at the entrance gates. Furthermore, **luggage may not be brought into the buildings unless the United Nations Security Service gives special clearance.**

## Further information and contact details

Nominations and related communications concerning representation at the meeting should be sent to the UNCTAD secretariat, Intergovernmental Support Service, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, fax: +41 (0)22 917 0214; e-mail: [meetings@unctad.org](mailto:meetings@unctad.org).

All other enquiries should be addressed to the coordinators in the substantive divisions, namely Mr. Hafiz Mirza, Chief, Investment Issues Section ([hafiz.mirza@unctad.org](mailto:hafiz.mirza@unctad.org), tel: +41 (0)22 917 1420, fax: +41 (0)22 917 0194), Ms. Noelia Garcia Nebra, Economic Affairs Officer ([noelia.garcia.nebra@unctad.org](mailto:noelia.garcia.nebra@unctad.org), tel: +41 (0)22 917 5051, fax: +41 (0)22 917 0194) or Ms. Nathalie Eulaerts, Secretary ([nathalie.eulaerts@unctad.org](mailto:nathalie.eulaerts@unctad.org), tel: +41 (0)22 917 5507, fax: +41 (0)22 917 0194).

(signed)

Supachai Panitchpakdi  
Secretary-General of UNCTAD

4 January 2013