



DITC/TNCD/MISC/2019/1
(19/02ams)

NOTIFICATION

Multi-year Expert Meeting on Trade, Services and Development Seventh session Geneva, 1–2 May 2019

The seventh session of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Trade, Services and Development will be held from 1 to 2 May 2019 in room XXVI of the Palais des Nations, Geneva. The meeting will open at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, 1 May.

Background and purpose of the meeting

Of all the world's economic sectors, services is the one that accounts for the highest level of economic activity, contributing to a growing share of gross domestic product, trade and employment through both direct and indirect effects within all sectors, including agriculture and manufacturing. Services act as inputs to other sectors and create production linkages. In addition, services can help developing countries to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to achieve goals regarding poverty reduction, sustainable economic growth, the reduction of inequalities, the increasing of exports from developing countries and the doubling of those from least developed countries.

The seventh session of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Trade, Services and Development is intended to help developing countries and least developed countries to identify the policies and institutions required to allow countries to enhance their productive capacity through services. The session will consider the role of services in the economy and trade. Both theory and empirical evidence relating to the ways in which services can enhance productive capacity will be examined. National and regional practices and experiences will be shared. International cooperation, including South–South cooperation, and partnerships conducive to enhancing productive capacity through services will also be discussed.

Participation

This meeting is open to all member States of UNCTAD. Other organizations, including specialized agencies, intergovernmental bodies and non-governmental organizations in the general and special categories, as well as academia, research institutions and the private sector, may participate as observers.

Registration should be completed online. To do so, please use the following link: [Multi-year Expert Meeting on Trade, Services and Development](#). Registration is mandatory for all those wishing to attend the meeting and is required for inclusion in the list of participants. Early registration is advisable so that timely approval may be given for the issuance of a badge required for access to the Palais des Nations. Registration requires uploading an official letter of nomination to represent an organization at this meeting. For government representatives, a note verbale or an email from the permanent mission concerned in Geneva will suffice.

Further inquiries regarding registration should be sent to the UNCTAD secretariat, Intergovernmental Support Service, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10; fax: 41 22 917 0214; email: meetings-unctad@un.org.

Financial assistance

Depending on the availability of funding, UNCTAD will finance the participation of a limited number of officially nominated experts from developing countries and countries with economies in transition. Governments requiring funding are invited to explicitly request financing in their letters of nomination. It should be understood that there are very limited funds available at this time. The decision as to which experts should receive funding will be based on the direct involvement and expertise of the experts, the principles of equitable geographical and gender-based representation, and the needs of beneficiaries, in particular the least developed countries. Changes to nominations of experts will be considered as new nominations.

Nominations with requests for financing should be received **no later than 29 March 2019** and should be accompanied by the following information about each nominee: (a) curriculum vitae; (b) postal and email addresses; (c) telephone and fax numbers; (d) name of contact person in the relevant permanent mission in Geneva. Once the list of experts to receive financial assistance has been finalized, all travel arrangements will be made in accordance with United Nations rules and regulations.

Background documents and contributed papers

The provisional agenda for the meeting, together with the secretariat's annotations, will be circulated as document TD/B/C.I/MEM.4/19. In order to facilitate discussions, the UNCTAD secretariat has prepared a background document, which will be circulated as TD/B/C.I/MEM.4/20. All documents will be made available on the UNCTAD website.

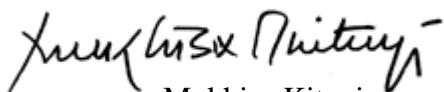
Experts are encouraged to prepare and submit brief papers (5–12 pages) related to the issues contained in the provisional agenda. These papers will be made available at the meeting in the form and language in which they are received. They should be sent in advance to the UNCTAD Division on International Trade and Commodities (see contact provided below).

Logistics

Before entering the Palais des Nations, participants are requested 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 Building E of the Palais. Participants are requested to carry a passport or similar national identity card. Taxis are not allowed to enter the grounds of the Palais des Nations; therefore, visitors will be dropped off at the entrance gates. Furthermore, luggage may not be brought into the buildings unless the Security Service grants special clearance.

Further information and contact details

All other enquiries should be addressed to the UNCTAD Division on International Trade and Commodities, tel: 41 22 917 5691; fax: 41 22 917 0044; email: tncdb@unctad.org.



Mukhisa Kituyi
Secretary-General of UNCTAD

1 March 2019