CONFÉRENCE DES NATIONS UNIES SUR LE COMMERCE ET LE DÉVELOPPEMENT

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

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NOTIFICATION

Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission Eleventh session

Geneva, 11-15 November 2019

The eleventh session of the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission of UNCTAD will be held from 11 to 15 November 2019 and will commence at 10 a.m. in room XIX of the Palais des Nations, Geneva.

The Commission provides the opportunity for member States and investment and development stakeholders to discuss key and emerging issues in the area of investment and enterprise and their implications for sustainable development, as well as policy solutions.

The Trade and Development Board approved the provisional agenda for the Commission on 27 June 2019. The Commission will address as its main themes, "Investment and enterprise for development" and "Structural transformation, Industry 4.0 and inequality: Challenges for science, technology and innovation policy".

On the first day of the Commission, the UNCTAD secretariat will convene a Geneva ambassadors round table for investing in the Sustainable Development Goals, which will take stock of the various initiatives carried out by the platform since the 2018 World Investment Forum. The Commission will then discuss how national and international investment policies can be oriented with a view to creating the conditions for economic growth and prosperity. Policymakers, investment promotion agencies and private sector representatives will be given an opportunity to exchange concrete experiences and views during the second day of the Commission, devoted to the presentation, at the ministerial level, of investment policy reviews. The Commission will review the progress made towards the reform of the international investment regime and the way forward.

Structural transformation is a key process for economic development. The discussion of agenda item 5, Structural transformation, Industry 4.0 and inequality: Challenges for science, technology and innovation policy, will consider how rapid digitalization and automation of industrial processes is changing the conditions under which structural transformation and industrialization can take place and the implications that this has for inclusive development. Experiences in leveraging science, technology and innovation policy to provide directionality to technological change so that sustainable and inclusive forms of industrialization can be shared and the role of international cooperation in addressing the challenges facing developing countries in this regard can be discussed.

The Commission will also consider the reports and discuss the outcomes and recommendations of its Multi-year Expert Meeting on Investment, Innovation and Entrepreneurship for Productive Capacity-building and Sustainable Development, devoted this year to responsible and sustainable business practices and corporate social responsibility and enterprise development. It will also consider the report of the thirty-sixth session of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting.

In addition, the Commission will examine progress made in the implementation of the mandates received by the secretariat, highlighting areas in which synergies have been achieved among the three pillars of the work of UNCTAD.

On the side lines of the eleventh session of the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission, the UNCTAD Investment Promotion Awards will be given to the best-performing agencies in promoting sustainable investment in special economic zones.

Participation

Registration should be completed online. To do so, please use the following link: Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission. 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; email: meetings@unctad.org.

The Commission is open to all member States of UNCTAD. Specialized agencies and intergovernmental bodies wishing to participate in the meeting, investment promotion agencies, science, technology and innovation agencies and non-governmental organizations in the general category and those in the special category who wish to participate as observers are requested to register online using the above link.

Logistics

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 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 requested entrance gates. Furthermore, luggage may not be brought into the buildings unless the Security Service grants special clearance.

Further information and contact details

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Mukhisa Kituyi
Secretary-General of UNCTAD

19 September 2019