



United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

Distr.: General
2 September 2019

Original: English

Trade and Development Board
Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission
Eleventh session
Geneva, 11–15 November 2019
Item 2 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Provisional agenda and annotations

I. Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Reports of expert meetings:
 - (a) Report of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Investment, Innovation and Entrepreneurship for Productive Capacity-building and Sustainable Development;
 - (b) Report of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting.
4. Investment and enterprise for development:
 - (a) Geneva ambassadors round table for investing in the Sustainable Development Goals;
 - (b) Harnessing the investment framework for sustainable development.
5. Structural transformation, Industry 4.0 and inequality: Science, technology and innovation policy challenges.
6. Progress report on promoting and strengthening synergies among the three pillars.
7. Other business.
8. Adoption of the report of the Commission to the Trade and Development Board.



II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

1. The eleventh session of the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission will be held from 11 to 15 November 2019.

2. At its eleventh session, the Commission will discuss the substantive agenda items of investment and enterprise for development; and structural transformation, Industry 4.0 and inequality: science, technology and innovation policy challenges. The Commission will consider the report of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Investment, Innovation and Entrepreneurship for Productive Capacity-Building and Sustainable Development and the report of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting. Furthermore, the Commission will examine relevant activities implemented by the secretariat that have promoted and strengthened synergies among the three pillars of work of UNCTAD.

Item 1

Election of officers

3. In accordance with rule 18 of the rules of procedure of the main Commissions of the Trade and Development Board, the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission shall elect a Chair, five Vice-Chairs and a Rapporteur from among the representatives of its members. Moreover, rule 19 of the rules of procedure states that the Bureau of the Commission shall consist of seven members (i.e. four members from lists A and C combined, two members from list B and one member from list D, referred to in the annex to General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX) as amended).

4. Accordingly, following the cycle of rotation, the Bureau for the eleventh session of the Commission will be as follows: a Chair from list C; a Rapporteur from list D; three Vice-Chairs from lists A and C combined; and two Vice-Chairs from list B.

Item 2

Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

5. The provisional agenda of the eleventh session of the Commission was approved by the Trade and Development Board at its sixty-sixth session, on 27 June 2019. A programme of work will be circulated prior to the meeting.

Documentation

TD/B/C.II/41

Provisional agenda and annotations

Item 3

Reports of the expert meetings

(a) **Report of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Investment, Innovation and Entrepreneurship for Productive Capacity-building and Sustainable Development**

6. Under this agenda item, the Commission will consider the report of the seventh session of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Investment, Innovation and Entrepreneurship for Productive Capacity-building and Sustainable Development

Documentation

TD/B/C.II/MEM.4/21

Report of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Investment, Innovation and Entrepreneurship for Productive Capacity-building and Sustainable Development on its seventh session

(b) **Report of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting**

7. Under this agenda item, the Commission will consider the report of the thirty-sixth session of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting.

Documentation

TD/B/C.II/ISAR/91 Report of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting on its thirty-sixth session

**Item 4
Investment and enterprise for development**

(a) **Geneva ambassadors round table for investing in the Sustainable Development Goals**

8. In line with the recommendations of the seventh session of the Commission, permanent representatives, senior officials from Geneva-based international organizations, leading private-sector executives and representatives of civil society will discuss key and emerging issues in the area of investing in the Sustainable Development Goals. The second annual Geneva ambassadors round table for investing in the Sustainable Development Goals will also take stock of the various initiatives carried out by the platform since the World Investment Forum in 2018.

(b) **Harnessing the investment framework for sustainable development**

9. Faced with new global investment and development challenges, policymakers need to devise public policies, and adapt and strengthen existing investment policy frameworks, that can advance sustainable development. This requires the reorientation of national and international investment policies to ensure they promote inclusive growth and a pro-poor agenda and answer to sustainable development objectives. Under this agenda item, the Commission will explore options for harnessing the investment framework for sustainable development.

10. At the national level and in line with the established practice of the Commission, its work will continue with the consideration of the investment policy reviews of Armenia and Chad, which will provide a further opportunity to gather experiences and identify best practice policies in attracting investment for sustainable development.

11. At the international level, the fact that reform of international investment agreements has entered the mainstream of international investment policymaking, entails taking stock of this reform to chart the way forward. For its consideration of this item, the Commission will have a note prepared by the secretariat that takes stock of the most recent developments in the international investment regime, in particular the pros and cons of the 10 policy options for phase 2 of international investment agreement reform, which relate to the modernization of the existing stock of old-generation treaties. The Commission will review the progress made towards the reform of the international investment regime and the way forward.

Documentation

Forthcoming *Investment Policy Review: Armenia*

UNCTAD/DIAE/PCB/2019/1 *Investment Policy Review: Chad*

TD/B/C.II/42 Recent developments in the international investment regime: Taking stock of phase 2 reform actions

Item 5
Structural transformation, Industry 4.0 and inequality: Science, technology and innovation policy challenges

12. Structural transformation is a central process in economic development. Without the enhancement of their productive capacity and a shift of resources to higher productivity sectors, countries will not be able to deliver on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Industry 4.0, driven by frontier technologies such as artificial intelligence and robotics, may change the rules of the game for countries currently starting on a path of industrialization. Technological change could increase the technological gap and inequality between countries. It may also make transitions in labour markets more difficult to manage for workers and under social policies, which may increase inequality within countries. Science, technology and innovation policy can provide directionality to technological change to assist economic diversification and more widespread technology diffusion, and thereby reduce inequality. Under this agenda item, the Commission may consider policies that support Industry 4.0 (i.e. targeting infrastructure, capabilities, technology transfer and technology assessment) and the challenges in designing and implementing science, technology and innovation policy, taking into consideration the possible effects on inequality (regional science, technology and innovation policy, gender-inclusive and youth-oriented policies, social protection, education, etc.). For its consideration of this item, the Commission will have a note prepared by the secretariat on this topic.

Documentation

TD/B/C.II/43 Structural transformation, Industry 4.0 and inequality:
Science, technology and innovation policy challenges

Item 6
Progress report on promoting and strengthening synergies among the three pillars

13. Under this agenda item, the secretariat will report on progress made in promoting and strengthening synergies among the three pillars of UNCTAD work in the areas covered by the Commission.

Item 6
Other business

14. As per past practice, the Commission will be briefed by the secretariat on the latest developments in trends and policies in the area of investment and enterprise for development.

Item 7
Adoption of the report of the Commission to the Trade and Development Board

15. The report of the eleventh session of the Commission will be submitted to the Trade and Development Board.
