

Third session of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts (IGE) on E-commerce and the Digital Economy
3-5 April, 2019

Item 4 (WG on Measuring E-commerce and the Digital Economy)

In 2018, the second session of the IGE adopted the following decisions:

- The Intergovernmental Group of Experts on E-commerce and the Digital Economy, in view of the need for enhancing the availability of official statistics on e-commerce and the digital economy, especially in developing countries, in support of evidence-based policymaking:
 1. Recommends to the Trade and Development Board the establishment of a Working Group on Measuring E-commerce and the Digital Economy, as described in document TD/B/EDE/2/3;
 2. Requests that the UNCTAD secretariat prepare terms of reference for the new Working Group, based on the information contained in document TD/B/EDE/2/3, clarifying that its objective is to contribute to and advance cooperation on measuring e-commerce and the digital economy and that it will avoid duplication with other relevant, ongoing work (see TD/B/EDE/2/4, chapter I, section B).
- The sixty-fifth session of the Trade and Development Board took note of the report on the second session of the IGE and decided to establish the Working Group on Measuring E-commerce and the Digital Economy, in line with the concept note contained in document TD/B/EDE/2/3.110.
- At its third session, the IGE is therefore invited to consider the matters required to operationalize the Working Group on Measuring E-commerce and the Digital Economy, including:
 1. Approval of the requested terms of reference for the new Working Group (a draft non-paper is to be provided by the UNCTAD secretariat in time for the meeting)
 2. Proposal of topics for the first meeting of the Working Group.

The ToRs will be made available shortly to member states as a non-paper.

As regards the topics for the first meeting of the Working Group, the Secretariat would propose the following two: 1) Revision of the *UNCTAD Manual for the Production of Statistics on the Information Economy*; 2) Measuring domestic and cross-border e-commerce.