



DIAE/MISC/2016/1  
(16/13ams)

## NOTIFICATION

### **Multi-year Expert Meeting on Investment, Innovation and Entrepreneurship for Productive Capacity-building and Sustainable Development, fourth session**

**Geneva, 16–17 March 2016**

The fourth session of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Investment, Innovation and Entrepreneurship for Productive Capacity-building and Sustainable Development will be held from 16 to 17 March 2016 in Room XXVI of the Palais des Nations, Geneva. It will start at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, 16 March.

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

The meeting will discuss policy perspectives of the issues under discussion in the Multi-Year Expert Group on Investment, Innovation and Entrepreneurship for Productive Capacity-Building and Sustainable Development. The meeting will take stock of developments in bilateral, regional, and multilateral investment policy, with a specific focus on the reform efforts related to the regime of international investment agreements. Further, the meeting will consider several lessons on science, technology and innovation policy identified by UNCTAD, particularly in the context of its policy advice and capacity-building work, and it will provide an update on entrepreneurship policies and their relation to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. This will enable a discussion on the UNCTAD Investment Policy Framework for Sustainable Development, the Entrepreneurship Policy Framework and the Science, Technology and Innovation Policy Framework.

The meeting will also serve as a preparatory step towards UNCTAD intergovernmental activities in 2016, in particular those of the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission.

#### **Nominations and participation**

Registration should be completed online. To do so, please use the following link: Multi-year Expert Meeting on Investment, Innovation and Entrepreneurship for Productive Capacity-building and Sustainable Development. Nominations and related communications concerning representation at the meeting should be sent to the following address:

UNCTAD secretariat  
Intergovernmental Support Service  
Palais des Nations  
CH-1211 Geneva 10  
Fax: 41 22 917 0214  
E-mail: [meetings@unctad.org](mailto:meetings@unctad.org).

States members of UNCTAD are requested to nominate experts no later than **2 March 2016**. 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 and non-governmental organizations, private entities and 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 the same date.

### **Financial assistance**

Depending on the availability of funds in the Trust Fund for Financing the Participation of Experts at the time of nomination, funds may be allocated to finance the participation of a limited number of officially nominated experts from developing countries, including least developed countries and countries with economies in transition. Governments requiring funding are therefore invited to explicitly request this in their letters of nomination. It should be understood that funds currently available in the dedicated trust fund are very limited, and nominations will be considered based on that availability. The decision as to which experts should receive financing will be based on the direct involvement and expertise of the nominated experts, on the principle of equitable geographical representation and on the needs of beneficiaries. Any changes of nominees will be considered to be new nominations.

Nominations with requests for funding should be received no later than **22 February 2016** and should be accompanied by the following information about the nominee:

- (a) Curriculum vitae
- (b) Mailing address
- (c) Telephone and fax numbers
- (d) E-mail address
- (e) Name of a contact person in the respective permanent mission in Geneva.

Once the list of experts to be financed has been finalized, all travel arrangements will be made in accordance with United Nations rules and regulations – that is, the use of the least costly fare will be applied.

### **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.4/10. To facilitate the discussion, the UNCTAD secretariat has prepared an issues note entitled "Investment, innovation and entrepreneurship for productive capacity-building and sustainable development" (TD/B/C.II/MEM.4/11).

Experts will be requested to elaborate on, and add to, the key issue areas identified by the secretariat. Experts are also asked to shed light on other areas of concern and future consideration in this regard.

Experts nominated by member States are encouraged to submit by **2 March 2016** brief papers of approximately five pages as contributions to the work of the meeting. Papers, which will draw on national and private sector experience, will be made available at the meeting in the form and 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.

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 coordinators in the substantive divisions listed below:

- For matters related to investment:  
Ms. Elisabeth Tuerk, Chief  
International Investment Agreements Section  
Investments Policy Branch  
Division on Investment and Enterprise  
Tel: 41 22 917 5271  
Fax: 41 22 917 0194  
E-mail: [elisabeth.tuerk@unctad.org](mailto:elisabeth.tuerk@unctad.org)
  
- For matters related to innovation:  
Mr. Angel Gonzalez-Sanz, Chief,  
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- For matters related to entrepreneurship:  
Ms. Fiorina Mugione, Chief  
Entrepreneurship Section  
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(signed)

Mukhisa Kituyi  
Secretary-General of UNCTAD

3 February 2016