



DTL/STICT/MISC/2019/1
(19/07gd)

NOTIFICATION

Intergovernmental Group of Experts on E-commerce and the Digital Economy Third session Geneva, 3–5 April 2019

The third session of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on E-commerce and the Digital Economy will be held from 3 to 5 April 2019 in room XVIII of the Palais des Nations. The meeting will open at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, 3 April.

Background and purpose of the meeting

Based on the topic approved by the Trade and Development Board at its sixty-fifth session and the decision to establish a Working Group on Measuring E-commerce and the Digital Economy, the substantive agenda items for the third session are as follows:

- (a) The value and role of data in electronic commerce (e-commerce) and the digital economy and its implications for inclusive trade and development;
- (b) Working Group on Measuring E-commerce and the Digital Economy.

Further information and documentation for this session can be found at: [IGE Third session](#).

The session will take place during UNCTAD E-commerce Week 2019, which will have the overall theme of “From Digitalization to Development”. Further information may be found at: [E-commerce Week 2019](#).

Written contributions

In order to facilitate deliberations and the informal exchange of experiences and best practices on the topics to be discussed, member States and observers are requested to submit written contributions to the UNCTAD secretariat by Friday, 1 March 2019.

Participation

This session 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 and the private sector, may participate as observers.

Online registration is mandatory for all those wishing to attend the meeting and is required in order to be included in the list of participants. All participants whose registration is approved will be granted entry to the Palais des Nations for the week of 1 to 5 April 2019, to allow participation in other sessions of UNCTAD E-commerce Week.

Please register on the following website for UNCTAD E-commerce Week and indicate on the registration form your interest in participating in the third session of the [Intergovernmental Group of Experts on E-commerce and the Digital Economy](#). 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 in Geneva will suffice.

Further inquiries regarding registration should be addressed to meetings-unctad@un.org.

Financial assistance

Depending on the availability of funding, financial assistance may be granted to a limited number of officially nominated government experts from developing countries, to cover the cost of travel to Geneva, as well as a daily subsistence allowance. The decision as to which of the nominated experts should receive financing will be based on the direct involvement and expertise of the experts, on the principle of equitable geographical and gender-based representation and on the needs of beneficiaries, in particular the least developed countries.

Requests for such funding should be made by 15 February 2019 by the permanent mission as part of the official nomination of the expert representative(s) to attend the session and should be accompanied by the following information about each nominee: (a) curriculum vitae; (b) postal and email addresses; (c) telephone and fax numbers; and (d) name of a contact person at the relevant permanent mission in Geneva.

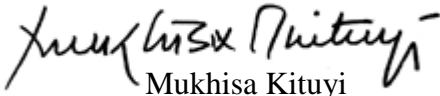
Once the list of experts to receive financial assistance has been finalized, all travel arrangements will be made in accordance with United Nations rules and regulations.

Logistics

Before entering the Palais des Nations, participants are requested to collect their badges from 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. 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 with them. Taxis are not allowed to enter the grounds of the Palais des Nations; visitors should therefore be dropped off at the indicated entrance gates. Furthermore, luggage may not be brought into the buildings unless the Security Service gives special clearance.

Further information and contact details

Substantive inquiries should be addressed to the Information and Communications Technology Policy Section of the UNCTAD Division on Technology and Logistics: tel., 41 22 917 2413; email, ict4d@unctad.org.


Mukhisa Kituyi
Secretary-General of UNCTAD

18 January 2019