



DIAE/ISAR/MISC/2022/1
(166/22cc)

NOTIFICATION

Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting Thirty-ninth session Geneva, 1–3 November 2022

The thirty-ninth session of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting will be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, with physical and remote participation, from 1 to 3 November 2022. The session will open at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, 1 November 2022, in room XVII of the Palais des Nations, Geneva.

Since the thirty-eighth session of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts, significant developments have taken place in its main area of work, namely, financial and sustainability reporting by enterprises. Delegates at the thirty-ninth session will review the main developments and the implications for States, particularly from the perspective of the practical implementation of accounting and sustainability reporting standards that are being promulgated at the global level.

In November 2021, the International Financial Reporting Standards Foundation Trustees announced the formation of the International Sustainability Standards Board. Since then, the Board has issued two exposure drafts for public comments. This process will culminate in the issuance of two sustainability reporting standards that will have practical implementation implications in many States. Similar developments have been taking place in the European Union. In anticipation of these developments, UNCTAD has been facilitating consultations on identifying good practices in and approaches to the practical implementation of sustainability reporting requirements. Insights gained from UNCTAD technical assistance activities implemented in the last two years have enriched the consultations. Delegates at the thirty-ninth session will deliberate on recent developments in sustainability reporting and articulate good practices with regard to regulatory, institutional and human capacity development dimensions.

In addition, in the past two decades, international financial reporting standards and international public sector accounting standards have been widely implemented in States. Periodic reviews have been conducted by the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts with a view to facilitating the implementation of the standards by States. Delegates at the thirty-ninth session will review the developments in and the practical implementation of the standards in the last two years and address practical application issues, particularly in the context of developing countries.

In line with the provisional agenda approved by the thirty-eighth session of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts, the substantive agenda items for the thirty-ninth session are as follows:

- (a) Good practices in and approaches to the practical implementation of sustainability reporting requirements.
- (b) Review of practical implementation of international standards of accounting and reporting in the private and public sectors.

Additional topics will be considered under other business.

The UNCTAD secretariat is preparing background papers on the substantive agenda items, to facilitate the deliberations of experts at the session. The annotated provisional agenda and other documentation will be circulated in due course.

The session will be preceded by a workshop on regional partnerships for the promotion of sustainability and Goals-related reporting, to be held on 31 October 2022.

Participation

The session is open to all member States of UNCTAD. Member State representatives and alternate representatives and advisers wishing to attend the session are requested to provide their credentials to UNCTAD by **24 October 2022**. Other organizations, including specialized agencies, intergovernmental bodies and non-governmental organizations in the general and special categories, that wish to participate as observers are requested to inform the UNCTAD secretariat of the names of their representatives by the same date.

Online registration at <https://indico.un.org/event/1000454/> is mandatory for all those wishing to attend the session and is required for inclusion in the list of participants. Nominations and related communications concerning representation at the session should be sent to the Intergovernmental Outreach and Support Service, UNCTAD, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10; email: meetings@unctad.org or isar@unctad.org.

Logistics

The session will be held with physical participation, in room XVII of the Palais des Nations, and remote participation, through a simultaneous interpretation platform in the six official languages of the United Nations. A link to the formal virtual meeting will be sent to registered participants, at the email address used for registration, one day in advance of the start of the session. Participants are strongly encouraged to attend the session in person, to allow them to take part in informal consultations and briefings that may be scheduled outside the allocated slots for remote participation, which are limited in duration.

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

For all enquiries concerning substantive issues, please contact Edvins Reasons, Accounting and Corporate Governance Section, Enterprise Branch, UNCTAD; email: isar@unctad.org.



Rebeca Grynspan
Secretary-General of UNCTAD
22 August 2022