



DTL/DTL/MISC/2023/17
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NOTIFICATION

Global Supply Chain Forum

Bridgetown, 21–24 May 2024

The UNCTAD secretariat presents its compliments to member States and has the honour to advise that the first meeting of the Global Supply Chain Forum, jointly organized by UNCTAD and the Government of Barbados, will be held in Bridgetown from 21 to 24 May 2024.

The Forum responds to the need emphasized by Prime Minister Mia Amor Mottley at the fifteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to address the multiple disruptions to global supply chains due to recent crises and the significant impacts on developing countries. The Forum also responds to the Bridgetown Initiative on the urgent and decisive action required for an unprecedented combination of crises.

Discussions at the Forum are aimed at addressing this “polycrisis” of multifaceted challenges, such as the pandemic, geopolitical events, climate-related disruptions, the increased volatility of maritime freight rates and transport costs, financial uncertainties, the energy transition and concerns about food security. In navigating these complex circumstances, it is imperative to promote knowledge and experience-sharing and the dissemination of best practices among member States, governmental bodies and the private sector. The aim of the Forum is to address transport and supply chain obstacles, understand their impacts on sustainable trade and development and chart a course for lasting sustainability. In addition, the Forum is aimed at building cooperation and synergies among stakeholders in the supply chain ecosystem.

The theme of the Forum is “Transport and logistics challenges and opportunities relevant to small island developing States”. Bearing in mind the particular requirements of small island developing States, a range of thematic areas will be addressed at the Forum, including sustainable and resilient transportation and logistics, climate change mitigation and adaptation, trade facilitation, coordination, transport connectivity and access to the global marketplace, shipping rates and transport costs, the financing of transport, trade facilitation and logistics, technology, innovation and digitalization, food security and energy security.

Updates on the Global Supply Chain Forum and registration are available at <https://unctad.org/conference/global-supply-chain-forum-2024>.

For further information regarding high-level participation at the Global Supply Chain Forum, please contact gscf@unctad.org.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rebeca Grynspan".

Rebeca Grynspan
Secretary-General of UNCTAD

10 November 2023