



DITC/TSCE/MISC/2024/12  
(24/119gd)

## NOTIFICATION

### Multi-year Expert Meeting on Trade, Services and Development Eleventh session

Geneva, 10–12 July 2024

The eleventh session of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Trade, Services and Development, focused on “Trade in Creative Services”, will be held from 10 to 12 July 2024. The session will open at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, 10 July, in room XVII of the Palais des Nations, Geneva.

#### Background and purpose of the meeting

Member States, at the fifteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, stated that UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD) should “continue the work on analysing creative industries and providing insight into the global creative economy” and “support and promote activities and initiatives in developing countries through the improvement in trade in services” (TD/541/Add.2). The overall focus of sessions of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Trade, Services and Development is on harnessing trade in services for economic diversification. The substantive topic for the eleventh session was approved by the Trade and Development Board, on 30 January 2024, at its seventy-fourth executive session.

This session of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Trade, Services and Development will focus on the importance of trade in creative services for economic diversification. It will provide an opportunity, through a series of panel discussions, for experts to exchange views and examine best practices and emerging trends that support economic diversification. Findings from the discussions will contribute to the implementation of the activities, initiatives and work of UN Trade and Development. The report of the meeting will be submitted to the Trade and Development Commission.

As at the ninth and tenth sessions of the Multi-year Expert Meeting, a follow-up meeting of an informal working group, which met four times in June 2023–April 2024, will be held on the margins of the eleventh session, to discuss data for services trade and development policies.

#### Participation

Member States are invited to nominate experts from the public and/or private sectors. Nominated experts are encouraged to participate in all sessions of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Trade, Services and Development to ensure continuity. Each State is encouraged to nominate up to five experts to participate.

This session is open to all member States of UN Trade and Development. Other organizations, including specialized agencies, intergovernmental bodies and non-governmental organizations in the general and special categories, as well as academia, research institutions and the private sector, may participate as observers.

Online registration, at [Multi-year Expert Meeting on Trade, Services and Development, eleventh session](#), is mandatory for all those wishing to attend the meeting and is required for inclusion in the list of participants. Early registration is advisable so that timely approval may be received for the issuance of a ground pass to the Palais des Nations. 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 concerned in Geneva will suffice.

Further inquiries regarding registration should be sent to the UN Trade and Development secretariat, Intergovernmental Outreach and Support Service, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10; email: [meetings@unctad.org](mailto:meetings@unctad.org) and/or [TSCE@un.org](mailto:TSCE@un.org).

## **Financial assistance**

Depending on the availability of funding, financial assistance through the Trust Fund for Financing the Participation of Experts may be granted to a limited number of officially nominated experts from developing countries. Governments requiring funding are invited to explicitly request financing in their letters of nomination. The decision as to which 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 representation and on the needs of beneficiaries. Changes in nominations will be considered new nominations. Nominations with requests for funding should be received no later than **16 June 2024** and should be accompanied by the following information about each nominee: curriculum vitae; mailing and email address; telephone number; and name of contact person in the relevant permanent mission in Geneva. Once the list of experts who will receive financial assistance has been finalized, all travel arrangements will be made in accordance with United Nations rules and regulations.

## **Background documents and written contributions**

The annotated provisional agenda (TD/B/C.I/MEM.4/31) and the background note prepared by the UN Trade and Development secretariat, entitled "Trade in creative services" (TD/B/C.I/MEM.4/32), will be made available on the website of UN Trade and Development.

Experts are encouraged to submit brief papers (maximum 12 pages) on the topics of the meeting, including examples of good practices of trade in creative services. The papers will be made available at the meeting in the form and language in which they are received. Papers should be submitted by **21 June 2024** to the UN Trade and Development secretariat, email: [TSCE@un.org](mailto:TSCE@un.org).

## **Logistics**

The session will be held with physical participation in room XVII of the Palais des Nations. Those who cannot attend the meeting in person will be able to listen to the live audio stream in the six official languages of the United Nations. The link to listen live will be sent to registered participants, at the email address used for registration, one day in advance of the start of the session.

Before entering the Palais des Nations, participants are requested to scan their badges at the United Nations Security Service, Pregny Gate entrance, 14 avenue de la Paix, 1202 Geneva. As part of the new system at the United Nations Office at Geneva, participants will receive a digital badge consisting of their photo, a quick response (QR) code and the name and date of the meeting. The digital badge will be sent to each participant by email once they have been accredited by the meeting organizer and should be downloaded to a mobile telephone or other mobile device. Participants may also print the digital badge in order to use the QR code. 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 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**

All other enquiries should be addressed to the Division on International Trade and Commodities, tel: 41 22 917 5691; email: [TSCE@un.org](mailto:TSCE@un.org).



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5 June 2024