

High-level Brainstorming on Investment Facilitation and Promotion: Challenges and Actions in Times of Pandemic Crisis

PROGRAMME

UNCTAD is working with partners to analyze the impact of the global pandemic crisis on investment to support stakeholders in investment promotion and facilitation. It is closely monitoring how investment and multinational enterprises (MNEs) operations are being affected, as well as tracking policy responses by governments and investment promotion agencies (IPAs). As part of these efforts, the high-level webinar is looking at the important role that IPAs are playing in servicing their business community and investors.

The webinar will be the first of a series that UNCTAD Investment and Enterprise Division plans to organize on topics related to investment in times of a global pandemic crisis. Specifically, this high-level webinar will focus on the following questions:

- How is the COVID-19 pandemic affecting FDI flows to and MNEs operations in your country?
- What are the challenges for your IPA's or ministry's operations, and what concrete measures are you taking to promote, facilitate and retain FDI?
- What longer term strategies are you planning for in the post-pandemic era?

The meeting will be held in a brainstorming mode under Chatham House Rules, and convene only heads of IPAs from different regions. It intends to identify challenges, opportunities and best practices, and chart the way forward. The outcome of this exchange, together with UNCTAD's research work, will form a practical advisory report for the global IPA community to combat the pandemic crisis.

Background documents:

- [Global Investment Trends Monitor March2020](#)
- [Investment Policy Monitor April2020](#)

15:00-15:10 Welcome and UNCTAD presentation on global FDI prospects in times of pandemic crisis

Mr. James Zhan, Director, Investment and Enterprise Division, UNCTAD

15:10-15:15 Preliminary findings of UNCTAD survey on IPAs' response to COVID-19

Mr. Paul Wessendorp, Chief, Investment Promotion Section, Investment and Enterprise Division, UNCTAD

15:15-15:20 Briefing on G20's response to COVID-19 in the areas of trade and investment

Mr. Ayedh Al Otaibi, Deputy Minister for the Investment Climate, and Head of the Saudi Arabian Delegation for the G20 Trade and Investment work stream

15:20-16:50 Interventions by Investment Promotion Executives

- Mr. Bostjan Skalar, CEO, WAIPA
- Ms. Tessa Jacques, Director General, CFI Haiti & President of CAIPA
- Mr. Fahad Algergawi, CEO, Dubai Investment Development Agency & President of WAIPA
- Mr. Patrik Wermelinger, Head Investment Promotion, Switzerland Global Enterprise
- Mr. Khaled Tash, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Investment, Saudi Arabia
- Ms. Li Shaojun, Secretary General, CCIIP, China
- Mr. Deepak Bagla, Managing Director & CEO, Invest India
- Ms. Mio Kawada, Director-General, Invest Japan Department, JETRO
- Ms. Ola Elkobrosy, Vice CEO, General Authority for Investment and Free Zones, Egypt
- Mr. Moses Ikiara, Managing Director, KenInvest, Kenya
- Mr. Sergio Segovia, President, APEX Brazil
- Mr. Anuj Mathew, Head Investment Promotion, Department of International Trade, UK
- Ms. Elizabeth Schaefer, Director, Select USA, U.S. Department of Commerce
- Ms. Yewande Sadiku, CEO, Nigerian Investment Promotion Commission
- Mr. Jeroen Nijland, Commissioner, Netherlands Foreign Investment Agency
- Mr. Sadick Jaffer, Chief Director, Invest South Africa, Department of Trade and Industry
- Ms. Diane Edwards, President, JAMPRO, Jamaica
- Mr. Temesgen Tilahun, Deputy Commissioner, Ethiopia Investment Commission
- Mr. Ken Poonoosamy, Ag. CEO, Economic Development Board, Mauritius
- Mr. Cristian Rodríguez, Director, InvestChile
- Ms. Kaye Brathwaite, CEO, Invest Barbados
- Mr. Andrew Davis, Head Invest Hong Kong London Office
- Mr. Mazen Soueid, Chairman, Investment Development Authority of Lebanon

16:50-17:10 Dialogue among participants moderated by Mr. James Zhan

17:10-17:15 Concluding remarks by Mr. James Zhan