
Trade and Development Board
Working Group on Measuring E-Commerce and the Digital Economy
Fifth meeting
Geneva, 11 – 12 December 2024
Item 2 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Provisional agenda and annotations

I. Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
3. Progress in measuring e-commerce and the digital economy by relevant international organizations
4. Measuring the value of e-commerce
5. Non-survey-based measurement of e-commerce and the digital economy
6. Developing capacities for measuring e-commerce and the digital economy
7. Topics for future consideration by the Working Group
8. Adoption of the Chair's summary

II. Annotations

Item 1 **Election of officers**

1. The Working Group on Measuring E-commerce and the Digital Economy (WG-ECDE) will elect a Chair and a Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur.

Item 2 **Adoption of the agenda and organization of work**

2. The Working Group will be invited to adopt the provisional agenda contained in chapter I above.
3. The opening plenary meeting of the WG will start at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, 11 December 2024, and will briefly deal with procedural matters (items 1 and 2 of the provisional agenda) and an introduction by the Secretariat. The closing plenary meeting, on Thursday, 12 December 2024, will discuss proposed topics for future meetings and the Chair's draft summary. The intervening sessions will be devoted to substantive

items 3, 4, 5 and 6 of the provisional agenda, which were agreed by the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on E-Commerce and the Digital Economy, at its seventh session in May 2024. In view of the short duration of the meeting, the Chair and Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur will be authorized to finalize the summary after the closure of the meeting.

Documentation

Non-paper Provisional agenda and annotations

Item 3

Progress in measuring e-commerce and the digital economy by relevant international organizations

4. This item will include briefings on the efforts of various organizations in measuring digital trade and digital platform work, surveys of ICT usage by businesses by regional bodies, as well as the latest progress in the work of the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development.

Documentation

Non-paper Current issues in measuring e-commerce and the digital economy

Item 4

Measuring the value of e-commerce

5. This session will set out progress in the area of e-commerce measurement with a focus on the work of the Task Group on measuring e-commerce value (TG-eCOM). Experts are welcome to intervene in the discussion and share their national experiences in measuring the value of e-commerce.

Documentation

Non-paper Update on the work of the Task Group on Measuring E-Commerce Value (TG-eCOM)

Publication [Measuring the value of e-commerce](#)

(UNCTAD/DTL/ECDE/2023/3)

Publication [Business e-commerce sales and the role of online platforms](#)

(UNCTAD/DTL/ECDE/2024/3)

Item 5

Non-survey-based measurement of e-commerce and the digital economy

6. Official statistics may leverage non-survey sources of data to supplement the analysis of the digital economy and e-commerce and inform policy decisions.

7. Delegates are encouraged to share experiences with the use of non-survey sources of data (administrative data, big data, electronic payments data, etc.) to supplement the traditional measurement of e-commerce and the digital economy, highlighting advantages and challenges in this context. Part of the discussion could examine the use of digital supply-use tables by developing economies, which was first discussed during the third meeting of the WG-ECDE when addressing the definition of the digital economy for statistical purposes.

Documentation

Non-paper Current issues in measuring e-commerce and the digital economy

Publication [Applying Digital Supply-Use Tables in developing economies](#)

Item 6

Developing capacities for measuring the digital economy

8. This item has been included to give members the opportunity to showcase their efforts to develop capacities to measure the digital economy using business surveys or other sources. It will also include a discussion of technical assistance and capacity-building support offered by international organizations in the area of digital economy measurement. Participants are encouraged to take the floor to highlight their needs for technical assistance and statistical capacity building.

Item 7

Topics for future consideration by the Working Group

9. Delegates are invited to make suggestions for topics that could be explored at the sixth meeting of the WG in 2025 (tentatively scheduled on 4-5 December).

10. A potential topic for future consideration is a review of the core indicators on ICT use in business and on the ICT sector as set out in the [UNCTAD Manual for the Production of Statistics on the Digital Economy 2020](#), and which have been adopted by the [Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development](#) and endorsed by the UN Statistical Commission. Such a review would ensure the core indicators continue to provide the insights needed to understand and manage the development of the digital economy.

Item 8

Adoption of the Chair's summary

11. The WG will be invited to adopt the Chair's summary, which will be reported to the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on E-Commerce and the Digital Economy at its eighth session (12-14 May 2025). The summary will include the proposal of topics for future consideration by the sixth meeting of the WG in 2025 (tentatively 4-5 December).

Written contributions by national and international organizations sharing examples of good practices and lessons learned in the production of statistics on e-commerce and the digital economy are welcome to inform agenda items 3, 4, 5 and 6. Contributions should be sent as soon as possible to Scarlett Fondeur (scarlett.fondeurgil@un.org), Economic Affairs Officer, E-commerce and Digital Economy Branch, Division of Technology and Logistics, or to emeasurement@unctad.org.