

Trade and Development Board
Working Group on Measuring
E-Commerce and the Digital Economy
Fourth meeting
Geneva, 30 November – 1 December 2023
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. Building 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 (WG) on Measuring E-commerce and the Digital Economy will elect a Chair and a Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur.

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

2. The Working Group may wish 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 Thursday, 30 November 2023, 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 Friday, 1 December 2023, 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. 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. The Intergovernmental Group of Experts on E-Commerce and the Digital Economy, at its sixth session in May 2023, agreed that the WG should review the latest progress in measuring e-commerce and the digital economy, including the work by relevant international organizations. This session will also introduce the IMF-OECD-UNCTAD-WTO Handbook on Measuring Digital Trade.

Documentation

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

Publication [Handbook on Measuring Digital Trade](#)

Item 4

Measuring the value of e-commerce

5. This session will set out progress in the area of e-commerce measurement, including key messages from the UNCTAD report on Measuring the value of e-commerce and the establishment of the Task Group on measuring e-commerce value (TG-eCOM) as proposed at the third meeting of the WG. Several TG-eCOM participants will share findings on e-commerce measurement, followed by interactive discussion.

Documentation

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

Publication (UNCTAD/DTL/ECDE/2023/3) [Measuring the value of e-commerce](#)

Item 5

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

7. The Intergovernmental Group of Experts on E-Commerce and the Digital Economy, at its sixth session in May 2023, agreed that the WG should also continue discussing non-survey sources of data to measure e-commerce and the digital economy. Official statistics may leverage non-survey sources of data to supplement the analysis of the digital economy and e-commerce and inform policy decisions.

8. Delegates are encouraged to share experiences with the use of non-survey sources of data to supplement the traditional measurement of e-commerce and the digital economy, highlighting advantages and challenges in this context. Part of the discussion will further examine the use of digital supply-use tables by developing economies, which was first considered during the third WG meeting when addressing the definition of the digital economy for statistical purposes.

Documentation

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

Non-paper Compiling Digital Supply-Use Tables in developing economies

Item 6**Building capacities for measuring the digital economy**

9. This item has been included to allow members to showcase their efforts to develop capacities to measure the digital economy using business surveys or administrative data. 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 may wish to highlight and discuss their needs for technical assistance.

Item 7**Topics for future consideration by the Working Group**

10. Delegates are invited to make suggestions for topics that could be explored at the fifth meeting of the WG in late 2024.

Item 8**Adoption of the Chair's summary**

11. The WG will adopt the Chair's summary, which will be reported to the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on E-Commerce and the Digital Economy at its seventh session (6-8 May 2024). The summary will include the proposal of topics for future consideration by the fifth meeting of the WG in 2024.

Experts are requested to submit any contributions to the UNCTAD secretariat as soon as possible. Contributions by international organizations that share 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 4, 5 and 6. Contributions may be sent 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.