
Trade and Development Board
Working Group on Measuring E-Commerce and the Digital Economy
Sixth meeting
Geneva, 4 – 5 December 2025
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. Updating the core indicators on information and communications technology (ICT) use by businesses and on the ICT sector
6. Developing capacities in 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 Thursday, 4 December 2025, 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, 5 December 2025, 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 eighth session in May 2025. 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 various aspects of the digital economy, digital trade, and ICT usage by businesses, as well as an update on 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), including updates on the draft Guidelines and Recommendations on Measuring E-commerce Value prepared by the TG-eCOM throughout 2025. These will be published in 2026.

The session will also highlight the *2025 OECD definition of e-commerce and guidelines for interpretation*, which results from a review undertaken in 2024-5. The review benefitted from a joint workshop of the TG-eCOM and OECD Working Party on Digital Economics, Measurement and Analysis (WPDEMA) held in November 2024.

Additionally, the session will showcase a new international database of e-commerce value statistics collated by UN Trade and Development.

Experts are welcome to intervene in the discussion, including their input on the Guidelines and Recommendations, and to share national experiences in measuring the value of e-commerce.

Documentation

A working draft of the Guidelines and Recommendations is available to members of the TG-eCOM. *The completed draft will be shared with the Working Group in 2026.* In the meantime, Working Group participants who wish to have access to the working draft are invited to contact emeasurement@unctad.org.

The 2025 OECD definition of e-commerce and guidelines for interpretation is available at: <https://doi.org/10.1787/2254f1de-en>.

Item 5

Updating the core indicators on ICT use by businesses and on the ICT sector

6. The latest version of the core list of indicators on ICT use by businesses and on the ICT sector (see background document below) is the basis of the UNCTAD Manual for the Production of Statistics on the Digital Economy (2020) and related capacity building. The rapid digitalization over the last decade has

affected the relevance of some of those indicators, raised the importance of considering possible new indicators that could be considered key to measuring the digital economy, and prompted the need to review and update the core list.

7. Delegates are encouraged to provide views on the current proposal for review, either on the full list or on individual indicators, including suggestions for new additions. Delegates are also encouraged to share experiences in collecting individual indicators and lessons learned regarding the implementation of the data collection and/or the usefulness of such indicators. Written contributions are welcome. Attention should be given to parallel developments with regard to core indicators related to other areas covered by the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development.

8. This meeting of the WG will launch the review of the core indicators and a consultation will be ongoing until the next meeting in 2026, when the final revised core list of indicators on the digital economy will be presented to the Working Group, considering the inputs from national producers of official statistics, regional statistical bodies, and partner international organizations. The reviewed core list of indicators will be submitted to the UN Statistical Commission through the reporting by the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development.

Documentation

Non-paper Review of core indicators on ICT use by businesses, ICT sector, and other aspects of the digital economy

Item 6

Developing capacities for measuring the digital economy

9. 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 on 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

10. Delegates are invited to make suggestions for topics that could be explored at the seventh meeting of the WG in 2026 (tentatively scheduled for 3-4 December 2026).

11. Future agenda items may include the review of the core indicators on ICT use in business and on the ICT sector, with a view to reporting on the revised indicators to the UN Statistical Commission.

Item 8

Adoption of the Chair's summary

12. 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 ninth session in 2026 (planned for 11-13 May 2026). The summary will include the proposal of topics for future consideration by the seventh meeting of the WG in 2026.

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.