



DTL/TLB/MISC/2017/4
(17/119ams)

NOTIFICATION

Multi-year Expert Meeting on Transport, Trade Logistics and Trade Facilitation Fifth session Geneva, 23–24 October 2017

The fifth session of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Transport, Trade Logistics and Trade Facilitation will be held on 23 and 24 October 2017 in room XXVI of the Palais des Nations in Geneva, Switzerland, and will commence at 10 a.m. on Monday, 23 October.

Background and purpose of the meeting

In 2015, the world community adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 targets. The 2030 Agenda is of unprecedented scale and ambition; integrated and indivisible, it aims to balance the three dimensions of sustainable development, provide a shared vision and shape collective action in support of an economically viable, socially inclusive and environmentally friendly development path. The world community is now focusing attention on the implementation and operationalization of the Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda. Transport and trade facilitation – the core areas of trade logistics – encompass activities with strategic importance for globalized trade, supply chains and world economic interconnectedness.

Against this background, the fifth session of the multi-year expert meeting will discuss selected issues at the interface of trade logistics and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The aim is to discuss ways in which countries and relevant stakeholders can join efforts to implement sustainable and resilient transport and trade facilitation solutions in support of the 2030 Agenda.

Nomination and participation

Online registration is mandatory for all those wishing to attend the session, through the following link: [Multi-year Expert Meeting on Transport, Trade Logistics and Trade Facilitation](#). Nominations and communications concerning representation should be sent to the UNCTAD secretariat, Intergovernmental Support Service, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10; fax: 41 22 917 0214; email: meetings@unctad.org and tlb@unctad.org.

Member States of UNCTAD are requested to nominate experts in the areas of transport, infrastructure and services, including sustainable freight transport, environmental issues, corporate social responsibility and finance, and related information and communications technologies, no later than 9 October 2017. Experts, who will participate in the meeting in their personal capacities, are expected to have proven expertise in the subject areas and may be selected from governmental and non-governmental organizations, the private sector or academia. Specialized agencies and intergovernmental bodies wishing to participate in the meeting, and non-governmental organizations in the general category and those in the special category wishing to participate as observers, are requested to inform the secretariat of the names of their representatives by 9 October 2017.

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 specifically request financing in their letters of nomination. The decision as to which of the 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 the experts nominated will be considered new nominations.

Nominations with requests for financing should be received by 30 September 2017 and should be accompanied by the following information about each nominee: curriculum vitae; postal and email addresses; telephone and fax numbers; and name of contact person in the relevant permanent mission in Geneva. Once the list of experts to receive financial assistance has been finalized, all travel arrangements will be made in accordance with United Nations rules and regulations.

Background documents and contributed papers

The provisional agenda for the meeting, together with the secretariat's annotations thereto, will be circulated as document TD/B/C.I/MEM.7/13. In order to facilitate discussions, the secretariat has prepared a background document entitled "Trade logistics and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", which will be circulated as TD/B/C.I/MEM.7/14.

Experts are encouraged to prepare and submit brief papers (5–12 pages) related to their studies, findings and/or national experiences. These papers will be made available at the meeting in the form and language in which they are received. Papers should be submitted by 28 September 2017 to the contact provided below.

Logistics

Before entering the Palais des Nations, participants are requested to collect their badges at the United Nations Security Service, Pregny Gate entrance, 14 avenue de la Paix. 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. Taxis are not allowed to enter the grounds of the Palais des Nations; therefore, visitors will be dropped off at the entrance gates. Furthermore, luggage may not be brought into the buildings unless the Security Service grants special clearance.

Further information and contact details

All enquiries concerning substantive issues should be addressed to the coordinator in the substantive division, Mr. Jan Hoffmann; fax: 41 22 917 0050; email: tlb@unctad.org.

(signed)

Mukhisa Kituyi
Secretary-General of UNCTAD

8 September 2017