



GDS/MISC/2018/1
(18/58ams)

NOTIFICATION

Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Financing for Development Second session

Geneva, 7 to 9 November 2018

The second session of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Financing for Development will be held from 7 to 9 November 2018 in room XXVI of the Palais des Nations, Geneva. It will start at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, 7 November.

Background and purpose of the meeting

In accordance with the terms of reference for the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Financing for Development adopted by the Trade and Development Board at its thirty-first special session on 5 April 2017 (TD/B(S-XXXI)/2) and with the topic and guiding questions adopted at the first session of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts in November 2017 (TD/B/EFD/1/3), the second session will focus on the action areas of sections E and F of chapter II of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, as follows: debt and debt sustainability and interrelated systemic issues. The guiding questions are as follows:

- (a) How can current debt vulnerabilities in developing countries be mitigated and developing country sovereign debt and financial crises be prevented?
- (b) How can sovereign debt financing, both external and domestic, be leveraged successfully for sustainable development in the future?
- (c) What institutional, policy and regulatory change are required at the international level to ensure that global economic governance structures better support the use of responsible debt financing, by borrowers and lenders, for sustainable development?
- (d) How can existing frameworks and tools be improved to ensure effective, fair and transparent sovereign debt crisis resolutions?

Further information and documentation for this session will be made available at <http://unctad.org/en/pages/MeetingDetails.aspx?meetingid=1679>.

Written contributions

In order to facilitate deliberations and the informal exchange of experiences and best practices on the topic to be discussed, member States and observers are requested to submit written contributions to the UNCTAD secretariat by Friday, 21 September 2018. Written contributions are especially welcome on any of the agreed guiding questions for this topic.

Participation

This session is open to all member States of UNCTAD. Other organizations, including specialized agencies, intergovernmental bodies and non-governmental organizations in the general and special categories, as well as representatives from academia and the private sector, may participate as observers.

Online registration at <https://reg.unog.ch/event/22646/> is mandatory for all those wishing to attend the meeting and is required in order to be included in the list of participants. Early registration is advised in order that timely approval may be received for the issuance of a badge to enter the Palais des Nations. In order to complete the registration process, participants must upload an official letter of nomination to represent an organization at the session. For government representatives, a note verbale or an email from the relevant permanent mission in Geneva will suffice.

Further enquiries regarding registration should be sent to the Intergovernmental Support Service, UNCTAD, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10; fax: 41 22 917 0214; email: meetings@unctad.org.

Financial assistance

Depending on the availability of funding, financial assistance may be granted to a limited number of officially nominated experts from developing countries, to cover the costs of travel to Geneva and a daily subsistence allowance. 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, in particular the least developed countries.

Nominations with requests for financing should be received by Friday, 7 September 2018 from the relevant permanent mission in Geneva and should be accompanied by the following information about each nominee: curriculum vitae; mailing address; telephone and fax numbers; email address; and name of contact person in the relevant permanent mission.

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.

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 Debt and Development Finance Branch, Division on Globalization and Development Strategies; tel.: 41 22 917 5977; email: igeffd@unctad.org.

(signed)

Mukhisa Kituyi
Secretary-General of UNCTAD

26 April 2018