CONFÉRENCE DES NATIONS UNIES SUR LE COMMERCE ET LE DÉVELOPPEMENT



UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

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NOTIFICATION

Multi-year Expert Meeting on Enhancing the Enabling Economic Environment at All Levels in Support of Inclusive and Sustainable Development, and the Promotion of Economic Integration and Cooperation Third session

Geneva, 25–26 February 2019

The third session of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Enhancing the Enabling Economic Environment at All Levels in Support of Inclusive and Sustainable Development, and the Promotion of Economic Integration and Cooperation will be held on 25–26 February 2019 in room XXVI of the Palais des Nations, Geneva. It will commence at 10 a.m. on Monday, 25 February.

Background and purpose of the meeting

In line with the terms of reference for the Multi-year Expert Meeting adopted by the Trade and Development Board at its thirty-first special session on 5 April 2017 (TD/B(S-XXXI)/2), the focus of the third session will be on how labour and macroeconomic policies can contribute towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. The issues underscored in paragraphs 16 and 36 of the Nairobi Maafikiano will also be addressed at the meeting.

At the Multi-year Expert Meeting, discussions will concentrate in particular on the topic of how high levels of decent employment can contribute both to mitigating inequality and to boosting aggregate demand and ensuring a stable economic growth path. Another point for discussion will be how macroeconomic and labour policies oriented to full and well-remunerated employment can contribute to the promotion and rebalancing of world trade within a globally coordinated policy strategy.

Nomination and participation

This meeting 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 academia, research institutions, civil society and the private sector, may participate as observers. No limit is set on the number of experts, including from Governments, who may participate in the meeting.

Registration is mandatory for all those wishing to attend, is required in order to be included in the list of participants and should be completed online: Multi-year Expert Meeting on Enhancing the Enabling Economic Environment at All Levels in Support of Inclusive and Sustainable Development, and the Promotion of Economic Integration and Cooperation.

Early registration (by 15 February 2019) is advised in order that timely approval may be received for the issuance of a badge required to access the Palais des Nations. Registration requires the uploading of an official letter of nomination to represent an organization at this meeting. For government representatives, a note verbale or an email from the permanent mission concerned in Geneva will suffice.

All inquiries regarding registration 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@un.org.

Financial assistance

Depending on the availability of funds, UNCTAD may finance the participation of a limited number of officially nominated experts from developing countries. Governments requiring funding are therefore invited to explicitly make a request in that regard in their letters of nomination. The decision as to which experts should receive funding will be based on the following factors: direct involvement and expertise of nominated experts; the principles of equitable geographical and gender representation; and the needs of beneficiaries. Changes of nominations of experts will be considered as new nominations.

Nominations with requests for funding should be received no later than 20 February 2019 and should be accompanied by the following information about each nominee: (a) curriculum vitae; (b) postal and email addresses; (c) telephone and fax numbers; (d) name of a contact person in the relevant permanent mission in Geneva. Once the list of experts to be financed 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, will be circulated as document TD/B/C.I/MEM.8/7. In order to facilitate discussions, the UNCTAD secretariat has prepared a background note entitled "How labour and macroeconomic policies can contribute towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals" (TD/B/C.I/MEM.8/8).

Experts are encouraged to prepare and submit to the meeting brief papers (5-12 pages) related to one or more of the issues contained in the provisional agenda, which will be available on the UNCTAD website. These papers will be made available to the meeting in the form and language in which they are received. They should be sent by 15 February 2019 to the coordinator in the UNCTAD secretariat, whose contact details are 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. Participants are requested to carry a passport or similar national identity card with them. Taxis are not allowed to enter the grounds of the Palais des Nations; visitors will therefore be dropped off at the designated entrance gates. Furthermore, luggage may not be brought into the United Nations compound unless the Security Service grants special clearance.

Further information and contact details

All other enquiries should be addressed to the coordinator in the substantive division, Alex Izurieta, tel.: +41 22 917 46 47, 41 22 917 5014; email: alex.izurieta@un.org.

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Mukhisa Kituyi V Secretary-General of UNCTAD

14 January 2019