



DITC/MISC/2019/5
(20/02gd)

NOTIFICATION

UNCTAD Illicit Trade Forum

**Room XXVI, Palais des Nations, Geneva
3 and 4 February 2020**

Due to the overwhelmingly positive response by member States and stakeholders to the [Dialogue on Illicit Trade and the Sustainable Development Goals](#), UNCTAD will host the first Illicit Trade Forum in February 2020. The event will be organized in collaboration with the Transnational Alliance to Combat Illicit Trade.

Illicit trade significantly endangers all aspects of the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, creating a triple threat to the financing of development by crowding out legitimate economic activity, depriving Governments of revenue for investment in vital public services and increasing the costs of achieving the Goals by eroding the progress already made. Further, identifying, quantifying and combating illicit trade requires significant investments from member States, along with cooperative efforts from private sector stakeholders.

To address these issues, the two-day forum will hold interactive panel discussions on the following topics:

- The impacts of illicit trade on achieving the Sustainable Development Goals
- Understanding the size and shape of illicit trade
- The role of the private sector in combating illicit trade
- Illicit trade and illicit financial flows

The event will also host discussions on the need for international, cross-sectoral guidelines to inform policy responses on illicit trade, with a presentation of the latest work of the Siracusa International Institute for Criminal Justice and Human Rights.

The forum will encourage an active dialogue involving a wide range of stakeholders, including member States and representatives from intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, academia and the private sector. Delegates will be encouraged to share their experiences, views and best practices.

Participation

Registration should be completed online at [UNCTAD Illicit Trade Forum](#). Communications concerning representation should be sent to Mr. Graham Mott, tel: 41 22 917 4573; email: graham.mott@unctad.org.

The forum is open to all member States of UNCTAD. Those wishing to attend the event are requested to provide the UNCTAD secretariat with the credentials of their representatives and the names of their alternative representatives and advisers by Wednesday, 29 January 2020.

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 that wish to participate as observers are requested to inform the UNCTAD secretariat of the names of their representatives by the same date.

Logistics

Before entering the Palais des Nations, participants are requested to collect their badges from 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. 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 with them. Taxis are not allowed to enter the grounds of the Palais des Nations; visitors should therefore be dropped off at the indicated entrance gates. Furthermore, luggage may not be brought into the buildings unless the Security Service gives special clearance.

For all other enquiries, please contact Mr. Graham Mott, tel: 41 22 917 4573; email: graham.mott@unctad.org.

(signed)

Pamela Coke-Hamilton
Director
Division on International Trade and Commodities
2 December 2019