CONFÉRENCE DES NATIONS UNIES SUR COMMERCE ET LE DÉVELOPPEMENT

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

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NOTIFICATION

Working Group on Measuring Electronic Commerce and the Digital Economy

Second meeting 3 and 4 May 2021

The second meeting of the Working Group on Measuring Electronic Commerce and the Digital Economy will be held virtually on 3 and 4 May 2021. The meeting will open at 11 a.m. on Monday, 3 May.

Background and purpose

The Working Group aims to advance cooperation on measuring electronic commerce (ecommerce) and the digital economy and enhance the availability, quality, comparability, usability and relevance of statistics on e-commerce and the digital economy, with a view to supporting evidence-based policymaking, in particular in developing countries. The Intergovernmental Group of Experts on E-commerce and the Digital Economy, at its fourth session in October 2020, agreed on the following topics for the second meeting of the Working Group:

- a) Progress in measuring electronic commerce (e-commerce) and digital economy work by relevant international organizations;
- b) Next steps in the implementation of the revised UNCTAD Manual for the Production of Statistics on the Information Economy;
- c) The use of non-survey sources of data to supplement the traditional measurement of e-commerce and the digital economy.

Further information and documentation for this meeting can be found at <u>Working Group second meeting.</u>

Written contributions

To facilitate deliberations and the exchange of experiences on the topics to be discussed, member States and observers are requested to submit written contributions to UNCTAD by Friday, 2 April 2021.

Contributions by international organizations that share examples of good practices and lessons learned in the production of statistics on e-commerce and the digital economy are welcome, to inform agenda item (a). Contributions related to national and regional needs for technical assistance in the area of measuring e-commerce and the digital economy are welcome, to inform agenda item (b). Contributions on national experiences in the use of non-survey sources of data to supplement the traditional measurement of e-commerce and the digital economy are also welcome.

Participants are encouraged to send their statements to <u>statements@unctad.org</u> 24 hours prior to the session during which interventions will be made.

Participation

This meeting is open to all member States of UNCTAD. Member State representatives wishing to attend the meeting are requested to provide their credentials to UNCTAD by Friday, 2 April 2021. They should have relevant expertise in producing official statistics, such as at government ministries or national statistics offices.

Other participants that may be invited include representatives from international organizations involved in information and communications technology measurement; representatives from expert organizations and research networks in the digital economy; and specialists from civil society, the private sector and academia, as appropriate. Such organizations are requested to inform UNCTAD of the names of their representatives by the same date.

Online registration at Working Group on Measuring E-commerce and the Digital Economy, Second Meeting | UNCTAD is mandatory for all those wishing to attend the meeting. Registration requires uploading 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 in Geneva will suffice. Inquiries regarding registration should be addressed to meetings@unctad.org and or ict4d@unctad.org.

Logistics

The session will be conducted through a remote simultaneous interpretation platform with the six official languages of the United Nations. A link to the formal virtual meeting will be sent to registered participants, at the email address used for registration, one day in advance of the start of the session.

Further information and contact details

Substantive inquiries should be addressed to the Information and Communications Technology Policy Section; tel: 41 22 917 2143; email: ict4d@unctad.org.

> Isabelle Durant Acting Secretary-General of UNCTAD

26 February 2021