The Creative Economy and Digitalization Forum will be held with remote participation from 29 September to 1 October 2021.

The Forum is jointly organized by UNCTAD and the Government of Barbados. It is held in the lead up to the fifteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, hosted by Barbados, to be held with remote participation from 3 to 7 October 2021 and the theme of which is “From inequality and vulnerability to prosperity for all”.

The theme of the Forum is “Creative industries and trade digitalization”, and it is intended to tackle the big questions facing the creative sector as digital transformation continues to shape its future. The Forum is aimed at advancing support for and understanding of the creative economy as a route for economic diversification and inclusive development. Issues related to historical imbalances and asymmetries in the global creative and technological economies and their current impacts will be examined, along with the rebuilding of the creative sector following the pandemic and the future of work and electronic commerce platforms, as well as, among others, the terms of trade, gaining access to global distribution networks and building digital skills and capacities.

In the context of the Forum, UNCTAD will lead the high-level segment titled “Creative industries through the lens of digitalization: Trends and policy challenges”, which will be held on Wednesday, 29 September from 4.30–6 p.m. (CEST)/10.30 a.m.–12 p.m. (AST).

Registration for the Forum should be completed online at https://indico.un.org/event/1000157/.

A concept note for the high-level segment is attached and more information on the Forum is available at https://unctad.org/meeting/creative-industries-and-trade-digitalization-forum. For enquiries related to registration and logistics, please contact creative.economy@unctad.org. For enquiries related to the work of UNCTAD on the creative economy, please contact Ms. Marisa Henderson, Chief, Creative Economy Section, Division on International Trade and Commodities, email: marisa.henderson@unctad.org.

Rebeca Grynspan
Secretary-General of UNCTAD
28 September 2021