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NOTIFICATION

Expert Meeting on Revisiting Development Strategies for Small Island Developing States in the Post-Pandemic Competitive Landscape Geneva, 24 October 2022

UNCTAD will hold the Expert Meeting on Revisiting Development Strategies for Small Island Developing States in the Post-Pandemic Competitive Landscape, with physical and remote participation, on 24 October 2022. The session will open on Monday, 24 October 2022, at 3 p.m. Geneva time (Central European Time) in room XVII. The provisional agenda for the session, together with the secretariat's annotations thereto, is contained in document TD/B/C.II/EM.6/1.

Background and purpose of the meeting

The coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic represents a global health and economic crisis. Initially understood as an acute shock, from which countries could recover back to a “normal”, pre-pandemic state, the persistence of the virus and its variants, as well as the sanitary measures used to combat them, make increasingly clear that the pandemic will permanently transform the global economy.

The changes to the structure of the global economy, brought about by the pandemic, represent a disproportionate threat to developing countries that have poor integration in global value chains and low technology adoption rates, such as small island developing States. Protracted disruptions to supply chains pose a major risk to the functioning of their economies, which depend on imports of food, energy and intermediate goods. Even prior to the pandemic, most small island developing States struggled to compete in higher-value industries, especially those based on exporting physical goods, due to their limited productive capacity, small size, narrow resource base and geographic isolation. As a result, small island developing States are poorly integrated in global value chains and rely on external aid and borrowing to finance public investments and spending.

In this context and in response to its renewed mandate under the Bridgetown Covenant to assist small island developing States “addressing their specific vulnerabilities, build resilience and promote structural economic transformation and productive capacities”, UNCTAD will hold the Expert Meeting on Revisiting Development Strategies for Small Island Developing States in the Post-Pandemic Competitive Landscape.

To facilitate the discussions, the secretariat has prepared a background document entitled “Revisiting development strategies for small island developing States in the post-pandemic competitive landscape”, as contained in document TD/B/C.II/EM.6/2. Meeting documentation is available on the UNCTAD website.

Registration and logistics

Registration should be completed online and is required in order to be included in the list of participants. To register, please use the following link: [Expert Meeting on Revisiting Development Strategies for Small Island Developing States in the Post-Pandemic Competitive Landscape](#).

For **in-person attendance**, before entering the Palais des Nations, participants are requested to collect their badges from the United Nations Security Service, at **Villa Les Feuillantines**, 13 Avenue de la Paix. The Security Service is open from 8 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Because of the security measures in force, participants are strongly advised to arrive before 1 p.m. to complete entry procedures in good time and proceed to the meeting in Building E of the Palais through the Peace Gate bis. 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 **remote attendance**, all registered participants will receive a Zoom link one day prior to the meeting.

Further information and contact detail

All substantive enquiries on the Expert Meeting on Revisiting Development Strategies for Small Island Developing States in the Post-Pandemic Competitive Landscape should be addressed to Mr. Kris Terauds, tel.: 41 22 917 5931; email: kris.terauds@un.org.



Rebeca Grynspan
Secretary-General of UNCTAD

20 September 2022