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NOTIFICATION

Intergovernmental Group of Experts on E-commerce and the Digital Economy Seventh session Geneva, 6–8 May 2024

The seventh session of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on E-commerce and the Digital Economy will be held from 6 to 8 May 2024. The session will open at 10 a.m. on Monday, 6 May, in room XIX of the Palais des Nations. The provisional agenda for the session is contained in document TD/B/EDE/7/1.

Background and purpose of the meeting

The substantive agenda items for the session are as follows:

- (a) Building digital readiness: From assessments to implementation
- (b) Working group on measuring e-commerce and the digital economy.

Further information and documentation for this session may be found at <https://unctad.org/meeting/intergovernmental-group-experts-e-commerce-and-digital-economy-seventh-session>.

Written contributions

To facilitate deliberations and the informal exchange of experiences and good practices on the topics to be discussed, member States and observers are requested to submit written contributions to the UNCTAD secretariat by Friday, 19 April 2024.

Written contributions that share experiences, good practices and forward-looking suggestions with regard to how to build digital readiness are welcome, to inform the discussion on the first substantive agenda item, based on the following guiding questions approved by the Trade and Development Board in June 2023:

- (a) What are the main challenges for developing countries, to engage in and benefit from e-commerce and the digital economy?
- (b) What are good practices and tools for the effective implementation of policy measures at the national level, to overcome the main challenges? What is the role of national Governments, agencies, United Nations resident coordinator offices and others in this process?
- (c) How can international cooperation help enable greater benefits from e-commerce and digital trade?
- (d) How can international partnerships and coordination for digital cooperation help accelerate progress on building readiness for e-commerce and the digital economy?

Participation

This session 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 and the private sector, may participate as observers.

Online registration at <https://indico.un.org/event/1005128/> is mandatory for all those wishing to attend the meeting and is required in order to be included in the list of participants. 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.

Further inquiries regarding registration should be addressed to meetings@unctad.org.

Logistics

The session will be held with physical participation in room XIX of the Palais des Nations. Those who cannot attend the meeting in person will be able to listen to the live audio stream in the six official languages of the United Nations. The link to listen live will be sent to registered participants, at the email address used for registration, one day in advance of the start of the session.

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. As part of the new system at the United Nations Office at Geneva, participants will receive a digital badge consisting of their photo, a quick response (QR) code and the name and date of the meeting. The digital badge will be sent to each participant by email once they have been accredited by the meeting organizer and should be downloaded to a mobile telephone or other mobile device. Participants may also print the digital badge in order to use the QR code. 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 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.

Contact details

Substantive inquiries should be addressed to the Division on Technology and Logistics, tel: 41 22 917 6235; email: ecde@un.org.



Rebeca Grynspan
Secretary-General of UNCTAD

6 March 2024