



## NOTIFICATION

---

### **Ad Hoc Expert Meeting on Trade, Investment, Climate and Sustainable Development**

Friday, 31 January 2025, 10 a.m.–1 p.m.  
Room XXV, Palais des Nations, Geneva

DITC/MISC/2024/20  
(24/236gd)

An Ad Hoc Expert Meeting on Trade, Investment, Climate and Sustainable Development will be held in Geneva on 31 January 2025, in room XXV of the Palais des Nations. The meeting will start at 10 a.m.

#### **Background and objectives**

The Paris Agreement requires each Party to prepare, communicate and maintain successive nationally determined contributions every five years, aiming for the highest possible ambitions in order to meet the goals in the Agreement and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Nationally determined contributions embody efforts by each country to reduce national emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change. The first global stocktake under the Paris Agreement, concluded in December 2023, noted the significant progress made, albeit largely insufficient, and the need for comprehensive transformations across all sectors, essential to lower emissions, strengthen resilience and mobilize resources in a just and sustainable way in order to accelerate and amplify efforts to meet the agreed goals. As countries prepare the third round of nationally determined contributions before the thirtieth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 30) to UNFCCC in 2025, they are encouraged to realign global emissions with climate goals, including ambitious, economy-wide emissions reduction targets across all sectors and greenhouse gases, considering each country's unique circumstances and shared but differentiated responsibilities based on individual capabilities.

Trade and investment are key means by which to accelerate the implementation of climate-related goals, contributing to a just transition and offering sustainable development and trade opportunities. Trade can enhance access to the energy-efficient goods and technologies needed for climate change mitigation and adaptation. Sustainable trade practices can open new markets, create decent jobs and drive innovation. Investment supports the deployment of renewable energy. However, UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD) research shows that only over a quarter of the nationally determined contributions of developing countries include detailed investment planning and fully utilize trade-related measures. The stakes are particularly high for developing countries where environmental degradation and climate change exacerbate poverty and undermine development gains.

Against this background, UN Trade and Development will introduce draft guidelines for consultation by policymakers in mainstreaming trade and investment policies in order to advance national climate and sustainable development plans, including nationally determined contributions, and take advantage of new business and trade opportunities. The guidelines form part of the UN Trade and Development contribution to the Baku Initiative for Climate Finance, Investment and Trade Dialogue, under the Presidency of COP 29.



The programme for the meeting and relevant documentation is available at <https://unctad.org/meeting/ad-hoc-expert-meeting-trade-climate-and-sustainable-development>.

## 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 is mandatory for all those wishing to attend the meeting. Please register for the meeting at <https://indico.un.org/event/1015385/>.

Further inquiries regarding registration should be sent to the UN Trade and Development secretariat, Intergovernmental Outreach and Support Service, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10; email: [meetings@unctad.org](mailto:meetings@unctad.org).

## Logistics

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

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. Participants are also requested to carry a passport or similar national identity card with them. Before entering the Palais des Nations, participants are requested to scan their badges at the United Nations Security Service, Pregny Gate entrance, 14 Avenue de la Paix, 1202 Geneva. 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. 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.

## Further information and contact details

All other enquiries should be addressed to Ms Chantal Line Carpentier, Head, Trade, Environment, Climate Change and Sustainable Development Branch, UN Trade and Development, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10; tel.: 41 22 917 56 09; email: [carpentier@un.org](mailto:carpentier@un.org).

(signed)

Luz Maria de la Mora  
Director  
Division on International Trade and Commodities  
12 December 2024