



Ninth United Nations Conference to Review All Aspects of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices

7–11 July 2025
Room XVI, Palais des Nations, Geneva

DITC/MISC/2025/7
(25/44gd)

The Ninth United Nations Conference to Review All Aspects of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices is scheduled to be held from 7 to 11 July 2025, in room XVI of the Palais des Nations. The Conference will provide an opportunity for ministers, heads of competition and consumer protection authorities and senior officials of Member States to discuss competition and consumer protection issues at the national, regional and international levels, in accordance with General Assembly resolution [79/195](#). The Conference will mark the forty-fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices and the fortieth anniversary of the adoption of the United Nations guidelines for consumer protection.

Participation and registration

Online registration at [Ninth United Nations Conference to Review All Aspects of the Set](#) is mandatory for all those wishing to attend the meeting and is required in order to be included in the list of participants.

Member States are requested to submit the names of their representatives, alternate representatives and advisers who will participate in the Conference by Friday, 6 June 2025. United Nations bodies and programmes, specialized agencies and other intergovernmental bodies that wish to participate in the Conference as observers are requested to inform the secretariat of the names of their representatives by the same date. All communications concerning registration should be sent to the Intergovernmental Outreach and Support Service, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10; email: meetings@unctad.org and maria.bovey@unctad.org.

Background documents and contributed papers

The Conference website will provide all relevant information on the substantive discussions, documents and logistical aspects of the Conference. The provisional agenda for the Conference, together with the secretariat's annotations thereto, is contained in document TD/RBP/CONF.10/1. The Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer Protection Law and Policy, at its eighth session, and the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy, at its twenty-second session, acted as the preparatory bodies for the Conference. In line with their agreed conclusions, as contained in documents [TD/B/C.I/CPLP/42](#) and [TD/B/C.I/CLP/77](#), the Conference will allow for high-level discussions on the following substantive issues:

1. Report on the implementation of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices, including a brief assessment of 20 years of voluntary peer reviews of competition law and policy.
2. Report on the implementation of the United Nations guidelines for consumer protection and of the work of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer Protection Law and Policy.
3. Latest developments in legal and institutional frameworks: UNCTAD world consumer protection map.
4. Maximizing synergies between competition and consumer protection policies.
5. Competition law and policy and global food value chains.
6. Investigative techniques and digital tools in a modern enforcement world.
7. Protecting and empowering consumers in the circular economy.
8. Safeguarding and empowering consumers in the age of artificial intelligence.
9. Report on the implementation of the guiding policies and procedures under section F of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices.

10. Reports of the informal working groups on:
 - (a) Cross-border cartels;
 - (b) Consumer product safety;
 - (c) Consumer protection in electronic commerce;
 - (d) Consumer protection and gender.
11. Proposals for the implementation of the declaration on cross-border consumer dispute resolution and redress.
12. Review of capacity-building in and technical assistance on consumer protection and competition law and policy.
13. Voluntary peer review of competition law and policy of a Member State.
14. Voluntary peer review of consumer protection law and policy of a Member State.

In accordance with past practice, the Conference is expected to provide guidance to UNCTAD on its future work programme in this area, including technical assistance and capacity-building for developing countries and the least developed countries. In order to facilitate the deliberations and the informal exchange of experiences and best practices on the issues to be discussed, Member States and observers are requested to submit written contributions. These contributions will be made available on the Conference website in the form and language in which they are received. Papers should be submitted by Friday, 6 June 2025 to the contacts provided below.

Logistics

The Conference will be held with physical participation in room XVI of the Palais des Nations. Those who cannot attend the Conference 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 hour before the start of the Conference.

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.

Contact details

Enquiries on substantive preparations for the Conference should be addressed to Teresa Moreira, Head, Competition and Consumer Policies Branch, Division on International Trade and Commodities; emails: teresa.moreira@unctad.org, arnau.izaguerri@un.org, akari.yamamoto@unctad.org and maria.bovey@unctad.org.

Enquiries on logistical preparations for the Conference should be addressed to Lisanne Losier, Deputy Secretary, United Nations Conference to Review All Aspects of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices; email: correspondence@unctad.org.



Rebeca Grynspan
Secretary-General of UN Trade and Development
10 February 2025