



# NOTIFICATION

## Commission on Science and Technology for Development Twenty-ninth session

20–24 April 2026, 10 a.m.– 6 p.m.  
Assembly Hall, Palais des Nations, Geneva

DTL/MISC/2026/2  
(26/12GD)

The twenty-ninth session of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development will be held in Geneva from 20 to 24 April 2026, in the Assembly Hall of the Palais des Nations.

The Commission will address the following priority theme: Science, technology and innovation in the age of artificial intelligence. The Commission will also review progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels; hear reports on technical cooperation activities in science, technology and innovation; and hear the progress report of the multi-stakeholder working group on data governance at all levels. Participants will include representatives of Governments, international organizations, civil society and the private sector.

The first day will begin with an opening ceremony, followed by a ministerial round table on “The role of science, technology and innovation in transformative, equitable, innovative and coordinated actions for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals, for a sustainable future for all”. The round table is aimed at contributing to the 2026 theme of the Economic and Social Council and the high-level political forum on sustainable development.

On 20 April, the Commission will hold a high-level panel on “Science, technology and innovation in the age of artificial intelligence”. On 21 April, the Commission will hold a high-level session to review progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels. The Commission will also hear reports on technical cooperation activities in science, technology and innovation and hear the progress report of the multi-stakeholder working group on data governance at all levels.

### Nominations and participation

Registration should be completed online at [CSTD 29th Session](#). To facilitate the approval of registrations, permanent missions are requested to confirm via note verbale or email the lists of their delegates. Please inform the secretariat before 6 April 2026 of the composition of the delegation and the name of the focal point for the session, so that the necessary arrangements for their participation can be made. Nominations and related communications concerning representation at the session should be sent to the Science, Technology and Innovation for Development Section, Division on Technology and Logistics, UNCTAD; email: [cstd@un.org](mailto:cstd@un.org).

International organizations and member States of UNCTAD that are not members of the Commission may attend the session as observers. Non-governmental organizations wishing to attend the session as observers should hold consultative status with the Economic and Social Council or accreditation with the World Summit on the Information Society.



## Financial assistance

Depending on the availability of funding, airline tickets may be provided to representatives endorsed by States [members of the Commission](#). The secretariat of the Commission will inform the permanent missions of States members of the Commission whether funding is available. The meeting is open to representatives of States not members of the Commission, and the cost of their attendance will be borne by their respective Governments.

## Logistics

The session will be held in the Assembly Hall of the Palais des Nations, with interpretation in the six official languages of the United Nations.

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 A 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

A list of the members of the Commission is available at [CSTD membership](#). For more information on the Commission, please visit [Commission on Science and Technology for Development | UNCTAD](#).

Questions about the preparations for the twenty-ninth session of the Commission should be addressed to Mr. Angel Gonzalez-Sanz, Head, Technology, Innovation and Knowledge Development Branch, Division on Technology and Logistics, and Ms. Liping Zhang, Chief, Science, Technology and Innovation for Development Section, Division on Technology and Logistics; tel.: 41 22 917 5701; email: [cstd@un.org](mailto:cstd@un.org).



Rebeca Grynspar  
Secretary-General of UN Trade and Development

21 January 2026