



NOTIFICATION

Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission Sixteenth session

31 August–4 September 2026, 10 a.m.–6 p.m.
Room XVI, Palais des Nations, Geneva

DIAE/MISC/2026/3
(26/153gd)

The UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD) secretariat has the honour to invite member States to the sixteenth session of the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission, to be held from 31 August to 4 September 2026. The session will open on Monday, 31 August, at 10 a.m. in room XVI of the Palais des Nations.

Background documents and agenda

The Commission, as a subsidiary body of the Trade and Development Board defined in paragraph 121 of the Bridgetown Covenant, will provide an opportunity for member States to consider the reports of the following meetings:

- Multi-year Expert Meeting on Investment, Innovation and Entrepreneurship for Productive Capacity-building and Sustainable Development
- Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting.

The Commission provides an opportunity for member States and investment and development stakeholders to discuss key and emerging issues in the areas of investment and enterprise, and technology, and their implications for sustainable development, as well as policy solutions.

The provisional agenda of the sixteenth session of the Commission was approved by the Trade and Development Board through a silence procedure that ended on 22 April 2026. The provisional agenda and annotations are contained in document TD/B/C.II/56.

A high-level panel will be convened to discuss how developing countries can design coherent investment strategies that support resilience, competitiveness and sustainable development. Against a backdrop of rising geopolitical tensions, trade-policy uncertainty and growing economic security concerns, discussions will explore different approaches to measure and manage the reshaping of global investment patterns, design industrial policies and leverage regional integration as enabling mechanisms for international investment. The experiences of Bangladesh and Tunisia will be presented and provide useful illustrations of how developing countries are adapting their investment strategies to position themselves more effectively within a rapidly changing global landscape. Their experiences also highlight the importance of reviewing and adapting investment policies, as well as the role of UNCTAD investment policy reviews in supporting these efforts.



In addition, the Commission will examine progress made on promoting and strengthening synergies among the three pillars of work of UNCTAD in the areas covered by the Commission. The Commission will also be briefed by the secretariat on the latest developments in trends and policies in the areas of investment and enterprise and science and technology.

Furthermore, in accordance with paragraph 75 of the Geneva Consensus, “the commissions perform the important function of integrating the substantive inputs from their respective subsidiary expert groups, including the intergovernmental groups of experts, into policy-oriented outcomes for the consideration of these outcomes at a political level by the Trade and Development Board. The outcomes of the commissions should therefore be inputs for a draft resolution for the consideration of the Trade and Development Board.”

Background documents and agenda

This meeting is open to all member States of UNCTAD. Other organizations, including specialized agencies, intergovernmental bodies and non-governmental organizations in the general category, as well as investment promotion agencies, may participate as observers. Online registration, at [Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission, sixteenth session](#), is mandatory for all those wishing to attend the meeting and is required for inclusion in the list of participants. Early registration is advisable so that timely approval may be received for the issuance of a grounds pass to the Palais des Nations. 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 concerned in Geneva will suffice. Further enquiries regarding registration should be sent to the UNCTAD secretariat, Intergovernmental Outreach and Support Service, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10; email: meetings@unctad.org.

Logistics

The session will be held in person in room XVI 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 scan their badges at 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 A 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.

Further information and contact details

For all other enquiries, please contact Ms. Stephania Bonilla, Chief, Office of the Director, Division on Investment and Enterprise, UNCTAD, tel.: 41 22 917 3425, or Mr. Alexander Riveros, Chief, Office of the Director, Division on Technology and Logistics, UNCTAD, tel.: 41 22 917 5808.



Pedro Manuel Morenò
Acting Secretary-General of UN Trade and Development
8 July 2026