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Trade and Development Board
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Multi-year Expert Meeting on Trade, Services and Development
Tenth session
Geneva, 10–12 July 2023
Item 2 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Provisional agenda and annotations

I. Provisional agenda

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2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
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4. Adoption of the report of the meeting.



II. Annotations

Item 1

Election of officers

1. It is recommended that the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Trade, Services and Development elect a Chair and a Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur.

Item 2

Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

2. The substantive topic for the tenth session of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Trade, Services and Development was approved on 15 February 2023 by the Trade and Development Board at its seventy-third executive session.

Documentation

TD/B/C.I/MEM.4/28 Provisional agenda and annotations

Item 3

The role of trade and services for enhancing science, technology and innovation to promote a fair transition to sustainable energy

3. The Multi-year Expert Meeting on Trade, Services and Development, at its tenth session, will focus on the contribution of trade in services in the area of science, technology and innovation and on technology transfer in support of the transition to sustainable energy. It is one of the Multi-year Expert Meeting sessions that will address the role of trade in services in economic diversification, in accordance with the four transformations highlighted in the Bridgetown Covenant, including that of “transforming economies through diversification” (TD/541/Add.2).

4. This session will provide an opportunity for experts to exchange views on and good practices in how policy coherence can be pursued with regard to policies on trade in services, science, technology and innovation, energy and the environment. In addition, the role of regional and international cooperation in leveraging trade in services in support of sustainable energy and economic diversification will be examined. Findings from the discussions will contribute to supporting and promoting “activities and initiatives in developing countries through the improvement in trade in services” (TD/541/Add.2, paragraph 127 (ff)).¹

5. To facilitate discussion, the UNCTAD secretariat has prepared a background note entitled “The role of trade and services for enhancing science, technology and innovation to promote a fair transition to sustainable energy” (TD/B/C.I/MEM.4/29). In addition, experts are encouraged to prepare case studies on the topic under discussion.

6. Member States are invited to nominate experts from the public and/or private sectors. Nominated experts are encouraged to participate in all sessions of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Trade, Services and Development, to ensure continuity. Each State is encouraged to nominate up to five experts to participate.

Documentation

TD/B/C.I/MEM.4/29 The role of trade and services for enhancing science, technology and innovation to promote a fair transition to sustainable energy

¹ A follow-up meeting of an informal working group formed in 2022 will be held on the margins of the tenth session; the objective is to discuss data needs and gaps, funding and support for developing countries.

Item 4
Adoption of the report of the meeting

7. The report of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Trade, Services and Development will be submitted to the Trade and Development Commission at its next session. Participants at the expert meeting may wish to authorize the Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur, under the authority of the Chair, to prepare the final report after the conclusion of the meeting.

Inputs from experts

Experts nominated by member States are encouraged to submit brief papers (approximately 5–12 pages) as contributions to the work of the meeting. The papers will be made available at the meeting in the form and language in which they are received. A survey will be sent to Geneva-based permanent missions, to guide the preparation of case studies.

Papers should be submitted to the UNCTAD secretariat in advance of the meeting, addressed to tsce@un.org.
