



**United Nations  
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TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD  
Commission on Enterprise, Business Facilitation and Development  
Expert Meeting on ICT and Tourism for Development  
Geneva, 30 November-2 December 2005  
Item 2 of the provisional agenda

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ANNOTATIONS**

**I. Provisional agenda**

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
3. ICT and tourism for development
4. Adoption of the report of the Meeting.

## **II. Annotations to the provisional agenda**

### **Item 1: Election of officers**

1. It is recommended that the Expert Meeting elect a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson-cum-Rapporteur.

### **Item 2: Adoption of the agenda and organization of work**

2. The provisional agenda for the Expert Meeting is reproduced in section I above. The Expert Meeting will have three days to complete its work, from 30 November to 2 December 2005. The provisional schedule of meetings for the three days is attached to this document. A detailed programme will be available one week before the meeting.

#### *Documentation*

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Provisional agenda and annotations

### **Item 3: ICT and Tourism for Development**

3. At its ninth session, the Commission on Enterprise, Business Facilitation and Development decided to convene an Expert Meeting on ICT and Tourism for Development.

4. Tourism is an information-intensive sector and therefore has significantly benefited from ICTs. The distribution of tourism information and products over the Internet is the main area where technological innovation has had the most profound impact on tourism enterprises (producers and distributors). The diffusion of ICTs enables tourism businesses themselves to make tourism products and services directly available to a large number of consumers at relatively low cost, and to interact with them as well as with other tourism producers and distributors. The increasing number of consumers that use the Internet to plan leisure or business trips represents a major incentive for developing countries to organize and develop their tourism offer and its promotion over the Internet.

5. ICTs are the most effective tools for developing countries to market their tourism offer and increase their customer base. By encouraging the development of e-business practices in the local economy, ICTs make it easier for countries to organize their tourism industry and stimulate cooperation among stakeholders. Despite the challenges posed by the adoption and use of ICTs in developing countries, tourism enterprises with well-conceived websites are given an opportunity to access international tourism markets on an equal footing with competitors from developed countries. The use of ICTs for tourism development is expected to produce economic benefits by generating increased revenue for the local economy and contributing to local development.

6. While a growing number of destination management organizations (DMOs) in developing countries have developed an online presence in the last few years, only a small share have so far been able to offer a fully fledged services web portal in the form of a destination management system (DMS). In order to take full advantage of ICTs and improve their competitiveness in tourism markets, destinations in developing countries have to instill

e-business practices effectively among all stakeholders and integrate local tourism providers into DMSs.

7. During the three-day event, experts will learn, through experience sharing and best practices, how to benefit the most from the opportunities offered by ICTs in the tourism industry. They will analyse the process of designing and implementing effective e-tourism strategies and ICT tools from a private and public perspective, based on partnerships among stakeholders in the tourism industry.

8. In order to facilitate discussion, the secretariat is preparing a background note, which will be circulated as document TD/B/COM.3/EM.25/2. The document will be available on the UNCTAD website [www.unctad.org](http://www.unctad.org) under the heading "Meetings".

*Documentation*

TD/B/COM.3/EM.25/2      "ICT and tourism for development: Note by the  
UNCTAD secretariat"

**Item 4:            Adoption of the report of the Meeting**

9. The report of the Expert Meeting will be submitted to the Commission on Enterprise, Business Facilitation and Development at its tenth session in 2006. The Expert Meeting may wish to authorize the Rapporteur to prepare the final report after the conclusion of the Meeting.

## Annex

## PROVISIONAL SCHEDULE OF THE MEETING

<b>Wednesday, 30 November 2005</b>	<b>Thursday, 1 December 2005</b>	<b>Friday, 2 December 2005</b>
<p data-bbox="284 477 517 510"><i>(10 a.m. – 1 p.m.)</i></p> <p data-bbox="347 546 453 580"><b>Plenary</b></p> <p data-bbox="209 616 464 649"><b>Opening statement</b></p> <p data-bbox="209 685 560 719"><b>Item 1:</b> Election of officers</p> <p data-bbox="209 754 528 864"><b>Item 2:</b> Adoption of the agenda and organization of the Meeting</p> <p data-bbox="209 900 475 934"><b>Item 3:</b> Introduction</p> <p data-bbox="331 1001 469 1034"><b>Informals</b></p> <p data-bbox="209 1070 592 1137"><b>Item 3:</b> ICTs and tourism for development</p>	<p data-bbox="699 477 932 510"><i>(10 a.m. – 1 p.m.)</i></p> <p data-bbox="746 546 884 580"><b>Informals</b></p> <p data-bbox="624 616 879 649"><b>Item 3:</b> (continued)</p>	<p data-bbox="1109 477 1342 510"><i>(10 a.m. – 1 p.m.)</i></p> <p data-bbox="1157 546 1294 580"><b>Informals</b></p> <p data-bbox="1034 616 1289 649"><b>Item 3:</b> (continued)</p>
<p data-bbox="288 1218 512 1252"><i>(3 p.m. – 6 p.m.)</i></p> <p data-bbox="331 1288 469 1321"><b>Informals</b></p> <p data-bbox="209 1357 464 1391"><b>Item 3:</b> (continued)</p>	<p data-bbox="703 1218 927 1252"><i>(3 p.m. – 6 p.m.)</i></p> <p data-bbox="746 1288 884 1321"><b>Informals</b></p> <p data-bbox="624 1357 879 1391"><b>Item 3:</b> (continued)</p>	<p data-bbox="1118 1218 1342 1252"><i>(3 p.m. – 6 p.m.)</i></p> <p data-bbox="1161 1288 1299 1321"><b>Informals</b></p> <p data-bbox="1034 1357 1422 1424">Consideration of the outcome of the Meeting</p> <p data-bbox="1114 1460 1342 1494"><b>Plenary (closing)</b></p> <p data-bbox="1034 1529 1342 1597"><b>Item 4:</b> Adoption of the report of the Meeting</p>