



# United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

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**Trade and Development Board**  
**Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission**  
**Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on**  
**International Standards of Accounting and Reporting**  
Thirty-eighth session  
Geneva, 9–12 November 2021  
Item 2 of the provisional agenda  
**Adoption of the agenda and organization of work**

## Provisional agenda and annotations

### I. Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Review of practical implementation, including measurement, of core indicators for entity reporting on the contribution towards the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals.
4. Climate-related financial disclosures in mainstream entity reporting: Good practices and key challenges.
5. Other business.
6. Provisional agenda for the thirty-ninth session.
7. Adoption of the report.

### II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

#### Item 1

##### Election of officers

1. In accordance with established practice, it is suggested that the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting elect a Chair and a Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur.

#### Item 2

##### Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

2. The Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts has four working days available to it (each day from 3 to 5 p.m. Central European Time), with an additional hour reserved each day for bureau meetings and informal consultations, as needed. It is therefore



suggested that the first plenary meeting on Tuesday, 9 November 2021, be devoted to procedural matters (agenda items 1 and 2) and the introduction of agenda item 3. Subsequent meetings will be devoted to a detailed discussion of agenda item 3 and the introduction and a detailed discussion of agenda items 4, 5 and 6. The secretariat will prepare a tentative schedule indicating the issues to be dealt with by the meeting. The tentative schedule will be available on the first day of the session.

*Documentation*

TD/B/C.II/ISAR/96      Provisional agenda and annotations

### **Item 3**

#### **Review of practical implementation, including measurement, of core indicators for entity reporting on the contribution towards the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals**

3. At the thirty-seventh session of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting, member States recognized the important role that the UNCTAD *Guidance on Core Indicators for Entity Reporting on Contribution towards Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals*<sup>1</sup> has been playing as a useful tool to facilitate the convergence of sustainability reporting frameworks by providing early on an initial and simple, common set of universal indicators for entities' baseline reporting on sustainability issues in alignment with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Over the past two years, the guidance on core indicators has been used as a basis for information and training sessions on sustainability reporting with relevant public institutions in dozens of developing economies, and with many hundreds of enterprises.

4. At the thirty-seventh session of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting, the UNCTAD secretariat was requested to convene consultative meetings during the intersessional period, with a view to analysing the main findings of the case studies conducted on pilot testing of the *Guidance on Core Indicators for Entity Reporting on Contribution towards Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals* and proposing any refinements to the thirty-eighth session of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting. Accordingly, the UNCTAD secretariat convened a virtual meeting of the consultative group on the core indicators, which took place on 23 and 24 March 2021, and prepared the background documentation noted below for consideration by the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts. At the thirty-eighth session of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts, the case studies resulting from these pilots will be reviewed, further refinements of the guidance on core indicators will be considered and the way forward for further strengthening its impact on sustainability reporting worldwide will be discussed.

*Documentation*

TD/B/C.II/ISAR/97      Review of practical implementation, including measurement, of core indicators for entity reporting on the contribution towards the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals

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<sup>1</sup> UNCTAD, 2019, *Guidance on Core Indicators for Entity Reporting on Contribution towards Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.19.II.D.11, Geneva).

**Item 4****Climate-related financial disclosures in mainstream entity reporting:  
Good practices and key challenges**

5. At the thirty-seventh session of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting, it was also agreed that the role of climate-related financial disclosures in mainstream entity reporting, and good practices and key challenges, would be discussed at the thirty-eighth session as the second main agenda item. Accordingly, the UNCTAD secretariat has prepared the background documentation indicated below to facilitate deliberations on this topic.

*Documentation*

TD/B/C.II/ISAR/98      Climate-related financial disclosures in mainstream entity reporting: Good practices and key challenges

**Item 5****Other business**

6. Under this agenda item, the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting may wish to discuss topics such as follow-up on issues addressed in earlier sessions of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts, as well as recent application by member States of the Accounting Development Tool developed by UNCTAD and the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts.

**Item 6****Provisional agenda for the thirty-ninth session**

7. Discussions on the provisional agenda for the thirty-ninth session of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting will be guided by the outcomes of deliberations of the thirty-eighth session of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts, as well as those of previous sessions and the fifteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

**Item 7****Adoption of the report**

8. The Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting may wish to adopt agreed conclusions. The Chair may wish to produce a Chair's summary. The final report will be compiled under the authority of the Chair after the conclusion of the session. It will be submitted to the next session of the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission.

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