



DITC/MISC/2022/12
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NOTIFICATION

Trade and Development Commission Thirteenth session

Geneva, 21–25 November 2022

The UNCTAD secretariat has the honour to invite member States to the thirteenth session of the Trade and Development Commission scheduled to be held with physical and remote participation from 21 to 25 November 2022. The session will open on Monday, 21 November, at 10 a.m. The provisional agenda for the session, together with the secretariat's annotations thereto, is contained in document TD/B/C.I/52.

Background documents and agenda

The Commission, as a subsidiary body of the Trade and Development Board, and as defined in the Bridgetown Covenant (para.121), will consider the outcomes of expert meetings and synergies between the three pillars and the work of the subprogrammes of UNCTAD and conduct policy dialogue on one or two selected issues.

The Commission will provide an opportunity to consider the reports of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Commodities and Development; the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Trade, Services and Development; the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Enhancing the Enabling Economic Environment at All Levels in Support of Inclusive and Sustainable Development, and the Promotion of Economic Integration and Cooperation; the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Transport, Trade Logistics and Trade Facilitation; the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy; and the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer Protection Law and Policy.

The topics of the substantive items on the agenda are the role of trade in a development-led global energy transition; and the geography of trade and supply chain reconfiguration: implications for trade, global value chains and maritime transport. The Commission will discuss the main requirements and features of a global energy transition, and the ways in which developing countries can shape the transition so that it maximizes their development gains. The Commission will host a panel comprising the heads of the trade bodies of the regional commissions of the United Nations to discuss the issues raised in the note prepared by the secretariat, along with other pressing issues from across the multilateral trading system.

The Commission will discuss the impacts of the ongoing maritime logistics crisis on the geography of international trade. The geography of trade has fundamentally changed in the past decades, reflecting wide-ranging factors. These trends, however, may be changing, and businesses and policymakers need to reconsider some basic assumptions about ever-improving trade logistics services. The Commission will also consider an update of activities and recent achievements in trade facilitation, including under the Automated System for Customs Data (ASYCUDA) Programme.

The Commission will also consider progress made in promoting and strengthening synergies among the three pillars of work of UNCTAD in the areas covered by the Commission and discuss the current state of trade, multilateral cooperation and sustainable development.

Participation and registration

The Commission is open to all member States of UNCTAD. Specialized agencies, intergovernmental bodies and non-governmental organizations (general and special category) are also eligible to participate as observers.

Online registration, at [Trade and Development Commission](#), is mandatory for all those wishing to attend the session and is required in order to be included in the list of participants.

Any enquiries concerning 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 with physical participation, in room XVII of the Palais des Nations, and remote participation, through a simultaneous interpretation platform in the six official languages of the United Nations. A link to the formal virtual meeting will be sent to registered participants, at the email address used for registration, one day in advance of the start of the session.

For in-person attendance, before entering the Palais des Nations, participants are requested to collect their badges from the United Nations Security Service, at Villa Les Feuillantines, 13 avenue de la Paix. The Security Service is open from 8 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Because of the security measures in force, participants are strongly advised to arrive before 9 a.m. to complete entry procedures in good time and proceed to the meeting in Building E of the Palais through the Peace Gate bis. 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 substantive enquiries, please contact, on issues related to trade, Mr. Carlos Razo (tel.: 41 22 917 7584; email: carlos.razo@unctad.org) and, on issues related to transport, trade logistics and capacity-building, Mr. Remi Lang (tel.: 41 22 917 4431; email: remi.lang@unctad.org).


Rebeca Grynspan
Secretary-General of UNCTAD
17 October 2022