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Deutsches Institut für  
Entwicklungspolitik



German Development  
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International  
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WORLD  
ECONOMIC  
FORUM

COMMITTED TO  
IMPROVING THE STATE  
OF THE WORLD

## **INVITATION: 7 MAY 2020, 3<sup>rd</sup> VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE COMMENTARY GROUP ON A MULTILATERAL FRAMEWORK ON INVESTMENT FACILITATION FOR DEVELOPMENT**

Dear Colleague,

Please find below the agenda for the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Commentary Group, to take place virtually on **7 May 2020, from 9:00am to 10:30am Eastern Daylight Saving Time (EDT), 15:00 to 16:30 Central European Time (CET), 21:00 to 22:30 China Standard Time (CST).**

As a reminder, the Commentary Group's mandate is to provide input on the content of the framework being developed at the WTO to facilitate cross-border investment and increase its development impact.

As background documents, please find the following attached:

- a) The updated inventory of investment facilitation measures
- b) A summary of the Streamlined Text of the WTO Structured Discussions on Investment Facilitation for Development
- c) The submission by the European Commission to the WTO on investment facilitation for development

**The 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting will focus on issues related to the implementation of a multilateral framework on investment facilitation for development** and, specifically, will be geared to the technical assistance and capacity-building needs of developing countries regarding the implementation of various FDI facilitation measures. The discussion will be interactive. But we will have an introductory presentation of a maximum of 10 minutes, followed by short interventions (3-5 minutes) by selected members of the Commentary Group, before other members will have an opportunity to intervene. Some of the issues that will be addressed are:

- If there were need assessments of the capacity of IPAs to implement various investment facilitation measures (see, e.g., the inventory of investment facilitation measures), what are the 3-5 most important areas in which technical assistance would be required?
- How can technical assistance and capacity building address such challenges of implementation?
- What are provisions to be included in a multilateral framework on investment facilitation for development to guide technical assistance and capacity building towards addressing implementation challenges?

As in the case of earlier meetings, a summary of the discussions will be made available to the Structured Discussions.

**Moderator:** Karl P. Sauvant, Resident Senior Fellow, Columbia University/CCSI

**Presentation:** Khalil Hamdani, Visiting Professor, Lahore School of Economics, and former Director of UNCTAD Investment Division

**Discussion starters:**

- Douglas van den Berghe, Vice President, Advisory, Conway Inc.
- José Chinjamba, Administrator, Angolan Agency for Private Investment and Promotion of Exports
- Yofi Grant, CEO, Ghana Investment Promotion Centre
- Sophal Suon, Director, Investment Promotion and Public Affairs, Council for the Development of Cambodia
- Hanna Tatarchenko Welgacz, Investment Officer, APEX-Brazil
- Philippe Yvergniaux, Director, International Cooperation, Business France

**Concluding remarks:** Matthew Stephenson, Policy and Community Lead, International Trade and Investment, World Economic Forum

To join the meeting, kindly click on the link below shortly before 15:00 am CET on 7 May and follow the instructions. If you are not able to connect online, you could connect using the dial-up options provided at the end of this email.

## Join Zoom Meeting

If you face any difficulties, please do not hesitate to contact Mohamad Fakhreddin ([mfakhreddin@intracen.org](mailto:mfakhreddin@intracen.org)).

With best regards,

Karl P. Sauvant

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cc Rajesh Aggarwal (ITC), Axel Berger (DIE), Sean Doherty (WEF), Mohamad Fakhreddin (ITC), Quan Zhao (ITC)