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NOTIFICATION

UNCTAD Public Symposium

The global economic crisis and development – the way forward
18–19 May 2009
Geneva, Palais des Nations, Room XIX

The UNCTAD secretariat has the honour to invite member States to UNCTAD's first public symposium, which will debate **“The global economic crisis and development – the way forward”**. The symposium will be held on 18 and 19 May 2009 at the Palais des Nations in Geneva.

The event – organized in collaboration with the United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service and with other partner organizations – is intended to provide a platform for people and organizations whose perspectives have not been heard enough in the debate on the causes and effects of the current global financial turmoil, and to debate what policy changes are needed to avoid such a crisis in the future.

Key topics that will be debated at the symposium are:

- The global economic crisis – its causes and its multiple impacts;
- Assessing existing responses to the crisis at the international, regional and national levels – limitations and best practices; and
- Proposals for the way forward – obstacles and opportunities.

The symposium will include an opening session, moderated plenaries and focused group discussions to debate key aspects of the crisis. The symposium is open to representatives of civil society, member States, international organizations, other United Nations agencies, parliamentarians, the private sector, academia and the media.

The flyer for the symposium is attached. More detailed information on the topics, and the relevant documents, can be obtained from the symposium website at <http://www.unctad.org/publicsymposium>.

Communications concerning representation at the symposium should be sent to the UNCTAD secretariat, Intergovernmental Support Service, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10 (*fax*: +41(0)22 917 0214; *e-mail*: meetings@unctad.org).

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(signed)

Chris MacFarquhar
Secretary of the Trade and Development Board
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