



# 2009 PUBLIC SYMPOSIUM

18-19 May, 2009 - Palais des Nations, Geneva

*The global economic crisis  
and development - the way forward*



## Key topics to be debated:

- **The global economic crisis - its causes and its multiple impacts**  
The debate will consider, in particular, the effects on developing countries in the areas of trade, investment, food security and jobs;
- **Assessing existing responses to the crisis at the international, regional and national levels – limitations and best practices**  
In addition to examining the effectiveness of stimulus packages implemented in some countries, the debate will address multilateral efforts to find solutions to the crisis, including the G-20 Summit outcome and regional initiatives;
- **Proposals for the way forward - obstacles and opportunities**  
The debate will include opportunities arising from the upcoming United Nations conference on the world financial crisis and its impact on development, and longer-term issues such as the reform of the international financial architecture and global economic governance.

## About the UNCTAD Public Symposium:

UNCTAD's first **Public Symposium** is intended to provide a platform to 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 what policy changes are needed to avoid such a crisis in the future.

The symposium will include moderated plenaries and focused group discussions to debate key aspects of the crisis.

[www.unctad.org/publicsymposium](http://www.unctad.org/publicsymposium)

*"It is imperative that we understand the crisis in all its dimensions and have the concerted effort of all the different players if we are to ease the effects and protect the innocent bystanders."*

Supachai Panitchpakdi,  
Secretary-General, UNCTAD, March 2008



The symposium is organized in cooperation with the United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service (NGLS) and other partner organizations.

Simultaneous interpretation in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Spanish and Russian will be available during plenary sessions.

### **Venue and duration:**

Room XIX, Palais des Nations, Geneva, 18-19 May 2009 from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

### **Participation:**

The symposium is open to representatives of:

- Civil society
- International organizations
- Member States
- Other United Nations agencies
- Parliamentarians
- Private sector
- Academia
- Media

### **Outcomes:**

- A compendium summarizing the discussions, written contributions and background documents will be issued. Copies of the compendium will be distributed to all participants and to appropriate networks;
- The outcome of the symposium will be made available to other relevant international debates and forums;
- Information on the event and its outcomes will be broadcast through UNCTAD's publicity and outreach channels.



### **Inputs and contributions:**

Participants are encouraged to submit written contributions on the symposium's key topics.

For guidelines on how to contribute please visit:  
[www.unctad.org/publicsymposium](http://www.unctad.org/publicsymposium)

### **For registration and further information:**

Website: [www.unctad.org/publicsymposium](http://www.unctad.org/publicsymposium) or

Email: [publicsymposium@unctad.org](mailto:publicsymposium@unctad.org)

