



Third United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries

31 May 2024

**Preparatory Committee for the third United Nations
Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries**
New York, 13 September 2023 and 5–8 February and 3–5 June 2024

Modalities of the interactive thematic round tables of the third United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries

1. Pursuant to the decision adopted at its organization session on 13 September 2023, the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee was entrusted to finalize the themes and other modalities of the interactive thematic round tables to be held during the Conference, in consultation with Member States and with the support of the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, and relevant United Nations entities.
2. Taking into account the decision adopted at its organizational session, the Bureau has agreed on the following modalities, as outlined in paragraphs xx below.
3. The five interactive thematic round tables will be held in parallel with the plenary meetings, as follows:
 - Day 1, 3 - 6 p.m.
 - Day 2, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. and 3-6 p.m.
 - Day 3, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. and 3-6 p.m.
4. The interactive thematic round tables should be collaborative and multi-stakeholder in nature, with due regard for gender and geographical balance, and will be focused on addressing existing and new and emerging challenges and opportunities for the sustainable development of landlocked developing countries and ways and means to address them, including through the strengthening of collaborative partnerships between landlocked developing countries and transit countries and their development partners, and will further identify priorities for the sustainable development of landlocked developing countries. States participating in the Conference and other participants are encouraged to be represented at the sessions at the highest possible level.
5. The five round tables will focus on the following themes:

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- Round table 1: *Structural transformation, diversification, and science, technology and innovation as drivers of prosperity in landlocked developing countries.*
 - Round table 2: *Seizing the transformative potential of trade, trade facilitation, and regional integration for landlocked developing countries.*
 - Round table 3: *Building sustainable infrastructure, strengthening connectivity, and promoting unfettered transit systems for landlocked developing countries.*
 - Round table 4: *Enhancing adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience and addressing vulnerability to climate change and disasters in landlocked developing countries.*
 - Round table 5: *Provision and mobilization of resources, and strengthened global partnerships for sustainable development in landlocked developing countries.*

6. Each interactive thematic round table should have two Co-Chairs, one from a developing country and one from a developed country, to be appointed by the President of the Conference from among the Heads of State or Government and ministers attending the Conference. The Secretariat will invite expressions of interest of high-level representatives of participating States in serving as Co-Chairs of the round tables in advance of the Conference. The Secretary-General of the Conference will identify one keynote speaker and up to four panellists for each of the round tables.

7. Each of the interactive thematic round tables will begin with statements by the Co-Chairs, followed by a keynote address, presentations by the panellists and an interactive debate among States and stakeholders.

8. At the discretion of the Co-Chairs, priority in the order of speakers in the interactive debate will be given to those speaking at the level of Head of State or Government or at the ministerial level, followed by high-level representatives of other stakeholders. Efforts will be made to ensure that participation at the interactive thematic round tables reflects a balance between speakers from participating States and stakeholders. It is envisaged that up to 25 States and up to 8 other participants could be accommodated to speak during the interactive debate of each round table. In order to provide for maximum participation, interventions should not exceed three minutes. The time limit will be strictly implemented, including, as necessary, through microphone cut-off after a short grace period.

9. Designated seating will be assigned to those participating States and the European Union, intergovernmental organizations and organizations of the United Nations system and stakeholders that are reflected on a pre-established list of speakers to be prepared for each round table, based on advance expressions of interest. Those speakers will be assigned two seats: one delegate seat at the table and one advisory seat behind. Additional seating will be available for other participants. Details on how to express interest in intervening in the round tables will be announced on the e-deleGATE portal and the United Nations Journal in advance of the Conference.

10. A summary of each of the sessions will be presented orally by one of the Co-Chairs at the closing plenary meeting and will be included in the final report of the Conference.