



Dear WAIPA members,

We have the pleasure to officially inform you that the **25th WAIPA World Investment Conference** and the General Assembly will be held in a **hybrid, respectively virtual** form from **20 to 21 October 2021**.

Due to the continued unprecedented situation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and the [decision of UNCTAD to hold their WIF completely virtual from 18 to 22 October 2021](#), the WAIPA Secretariat with the support of the WAIPA Presidency Dubai FDI, has decided to organize WAIPA General Assembly (institutional part and the elections) on 20 October in a hybrid form at Dubai Exhibition Center, UAE, alongside Expo 2020 Dubai while the World Investment Conference on 21 October will take place fully virtual within the UNCTAD World Investment Forum as well as activities planned with other partners throughout the week.

#### 20th October 2021 – Day 1

In the morning of 20 October, the Steering Committee meeting will be held, both with physical and virtual presence of the board members. Since numerous Investment Promotion Agencies already confirmed their presence at Expo 2020 Dubai, we will be honoured to welcome all officers that will be able to travel to Dubai for the institutional day of the conference. For the ones who will not be able to travel, the option to join both days virtually will be provided.

The afternoon of the first day will be reserved for Official Opening of WAIPA World Investment Conference, the General Assembly and the WAIPA elections, where the new Steering Committee for the 2021-2023 term will be elected. All details regarding the process of the elections, such as the presentations and the speeches of the candidates and the voting procedure will be shared with you closer to the date of the General Assembly.

We would like to hereby gently remind you that as per the WAIPA Statutes, Ch. II, Article V, only members which are due with their membership fees will be able to cast a vote.

#### 21st October 2021 – Day 2

The 21 October will be then dedicated for discussions under the theme “Regeneration of IPAs in a new decade” the crucial importance of investment promotion agencies (IPAs) during and after the pandemic that impacted lives and economies globally and will be held fully virtual within the UNCTAD WIF online platform.

The 7th UNCTAD WIF will focus on “Investing in sustainable recovery”, addressing today’s key challenge facing the global investment-development community. It will feature about 100 high-profile events and networking opportunities, including the 25th WAIPA World Investment Conference.

The updates with the preliminary programme and registration on the WIC will be posted on the [WAIPA website](#) and the <https://worldinvestmentconference.org/> in the upcoming days.

We are excited to welcome you to Dubai and looking forward to meet you in person at our flagship event finally hopefully after a very long COVID break.

Sincerely,

WAIPA Permanent Secretariat