



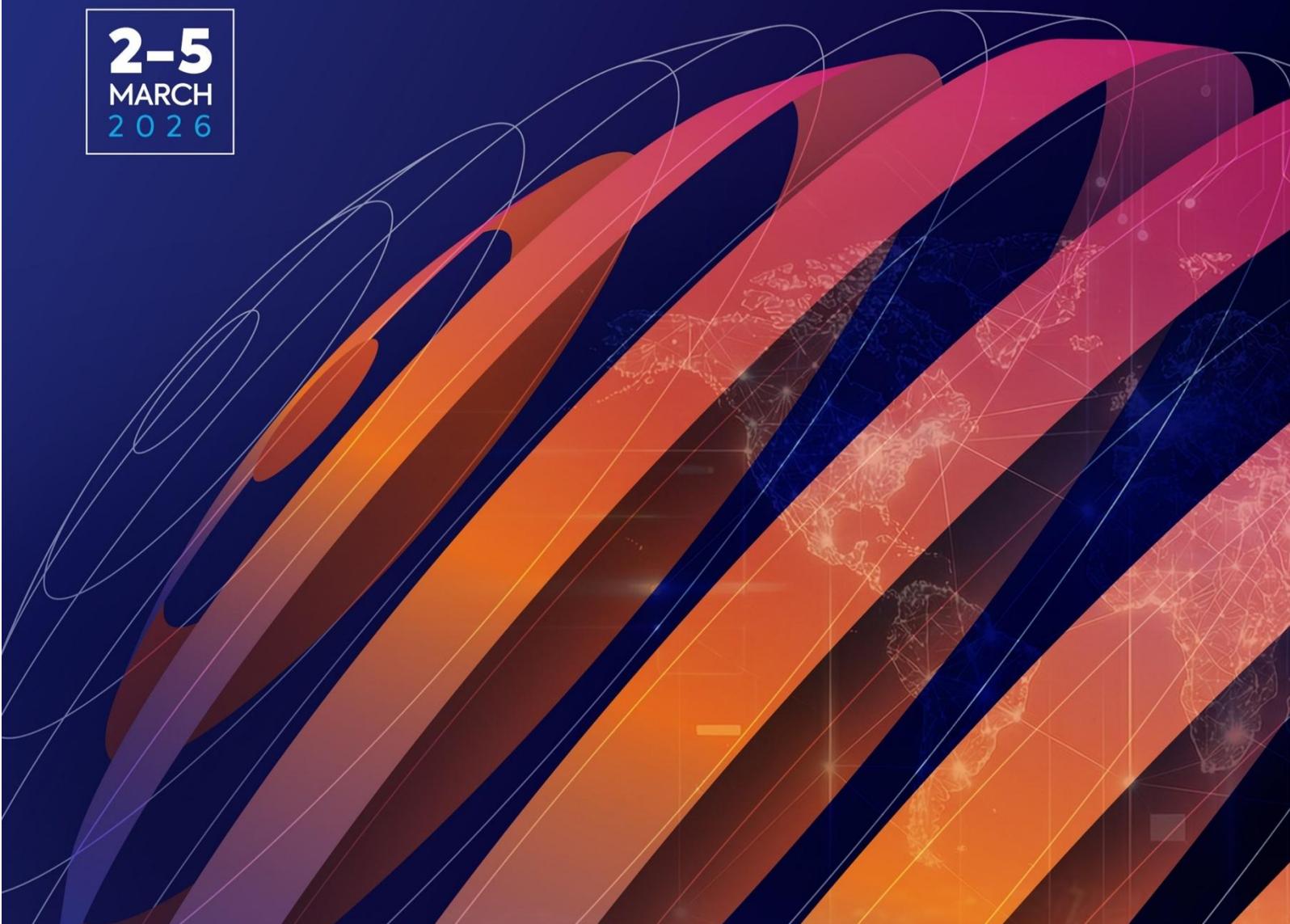
World Association of  
Investment Promotion  
Agencies

# GLOBAL LEADERSHIP AND INNOVATION IN INVESTMENT PROMOTION 2026

**MIE 2 Geneva**

with substantive collaboration with UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

**2-5**  
MARCH  
2026





## Draft Program Agenda

**DAY 1**

**MONDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> MARCH 2026**

Time	Session Number	Topic & Details
09:00 – 09:30	Session 1	<b>Welcome &amp; Introductions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mr. Ismail Ersahin, Executive Director &amp; CEO, WAIPA</li><li>• Ms. Nan Li Collins, Director, Division on Investment and Enterprise, UN Trade and Development</li></ul>
09:30 – 09:40	Session 2	<b>Program Overview – Objectives &amp; Structure</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mr. Dushyant Thakor, Deputy Executive Director, WAIPA</li></ul>
09:40 – 10:10	Session 3	<b>Keynote Address: <i>Investment Promotion in the Era of Complexity: Finance, Sustainability &amp; SDGs</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ms. Nan Li Collins, Director, Division on Investment and Enterprise, UN Trade and Development</li></ul>
10:10 – 10:40		<b>Coffee Break</b>
10:40 – 11:10	Session 4	<b>Keynote Address: <i>IPA Strategies in the Changing World Order</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dr. James Zhan, Chair, Executive Board of World Investment Conference, WAIPA</li></ul>
11:10 – 11:40	Session 5	<b>Discussions with leading IPA representatives</b>
11:40 – 12:10	Session 6	<b>Formulating IPA Strategy: Practical Tools &amp; Priorities for 2026</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mr. Dushyant Thakor, Deputy Executive Director, WAIPA</li></ul>



<b>12:10 – 12:25</b>	<b>Session 7</b>	<b>Group Exercise Briefing — WAIPA Team</b>
<b>12:25 – 13:30</b>	—	<b>Lunch Break</b>
<b>13:30 – 14:00</b>	—	<b>Transfer to Palais des Nations</b>
<b>Policy &amp; Technical Dialogue at UN Trade and Development</b>		
<b>14:00 – 14:25</b>	<b>Session 8</b>	<b>Understanding FDI Statistics &amp; Trends</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Dr. Astrit Sulstarova, Chief, Trends &amp; Data Section, UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD)</b></li></ul>
<b>14:25 – 14:50</b>	<b>Session 9</b>	<b>Reforming International Investment Agreements for Sustainable Development</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Dr. Vincent Beyer, Expert in Legal Affairs, International Investment Agreements Section, Division on Investment and Enterprise, UNCTAD</b></li></ul>
<b>14:50 – 15:15</b>	<b>Session 10</b>	<b>Interaction with the UNCTAD team</b>
<b>15:15 – 15:30</b>		<b>Facility Walkthrough &amp; Group Photograph – Palais des Nations</b>
<b>15:30</b>	—	<b>Transfer to MIE2</b>
<b>Networking &amp; High Tea with the Geneva Business Community</b>		
<b>16:30 – 18:00</b>	<b>Session 11</b>	<b>High Tea &amp; Networking</b> <b>Remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Select Geneva Business Community</b></li><li>• <b>Select IPA participants</b></li></ul>



**DAY 2**

**TUESDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> MARCH 2026**

Time	Session Number	Topic & Details
09:00 – 09:30	Session 12	<b>Investor Targeting &amp; Investment Promotion Campaigns</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Dushyant Thakor, Deputy Executive Director, WAIPA</li> </ul>
09:30 – 10:15	Session 13	<b>Developing policies and ecosystems to attract Global Capability centres</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Nitin Pangam, CEO MaeFlower Consulting</li> </ul>
10:15 – 10:45	—	<b>Coffee Break</b>
10:45 – 11:45	Session 14	<b>Group Work Session</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>30 min group discussions</li> <li>30 min interactive group reflections (5×5 min)</li> </ul>
11:45 – 12:45	Session 15	<b>Digital FDI &amp; Targeting AI &amp; ICT Investments</b>
12:45 – 13:45	—	<b>Lunch Break</b>
13:45 – 14:15	—	<b>Transfer to ILO</b>
<b>Investment &amp; Jobs Dialogue at the International Labour Organization (ILO)</b>		
14:15 – 15:00	Session 16	<b>FDI for More and Better Jobs</b>
15:00 – 15:15	Session 17	<b>Community of Practice Platform for IPAs</b>
15:15 – 15:45	Session 18	<b>Interactive Discussion + Q&amp;A</b>
15:45 – 16:00		<b>Facility Walkthrough &amp; Group Photograph</b>
16:00 – 16:30	—	<b>Transfer to MIE2</b>



**DAY 3**

**WEDNESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2026**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Session Number</b>	<b>Topic &amp; Details</b>
<b>08:30 – 10:00</b>	—	<b>Transfer to Lausanne</b>
<b>10:00 – 11:00</b>	<b>Session 19</b>	<b>Advanced R&amp;D Facility of a Multinational Company (Vaud Region)</b> <b>Innovation ecosystems, R&amp;D location strategy &amp; technology-led investment</b>
<b>11:00 – 11:15</b>	—	<b>Transfer to Innovaud</b>
<b>11:15 – 12:15</b>	<b>Session 20</b>	<b>Visit 2: Innovaud*</b> <b>Innovation &amp; startup ecosystem attraction strategies</b>
<b>12:15 – 14:15</b>	—	<b>Transfers and lunch at Lausanne Old Town</b>
<b>14:15 – 15:45</b>	<b>Session 21</b>	<b>Visit 3: EPFL Innovation Park</b> <b>University–industry collaboration &amp; sectoral innovation clusters</b>
<b>15:45 – 16:30</b>	<b>Session 22</b>	<b>Visit 4: Olympic Museum</b> <b>Networking &amp; cultural experience</b>
<b>16:30 – 18:00</b>	—	<b>Return to Geneva</b> <b>(The transport will return to MIE2)</b>
<b>18:00</b>	—	<b>End of Day 3</b>

(\*) to be confirmed



**DAY 4**

**THURSDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2026**

Time	Session Number	Topic & Details
09:00 – 09:30	Session 23	<b>Sustainability &amp; Climate Investments 101</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Dushyant Thakor, Deputy Executive Director, WAIPA</li> </ul>
09:30 – 10:15	Session 24	<b>IISD Functional Approach to National Investment Laws (Focus: Incentives, facilitation, monitoring &amp; oversight functions relevant to IPAs)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dr. Josef Ostraňský, Senior Policy Advisor, IISD</li> </ul>
10:15 – 10:45	Session 25	<b>Traversing the investment lifecycle: Case studies from IPAs across the world in facilitation, aftercare &amp; advocacy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Dushyant Thakor, Deputy Executive Director, WAIPA</li> </ul>
10:45 – 11:15	—	Coffee Break
11:15 – 11:45	Session 26	<b>Group Dialogue: Insights and Action Priorities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Moderator: Mr. Andreas Hora, Deputy Executive Director, WAIPA</li> </ul>
11:45 – 12:30	Session 27	<b>Certificate Handover, Closing Remarks &amp; Group Picture</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WAIPA and UN Trade &amp; Development</li> </ul>
12:30 – 13:30	—	Lunch Break
13:30 – 14:00	—	Transfer to WTO
<b>Trade &amp; Investment Dialogue at WTO: EIF 3.0 and Investment Facilitation for Development</b>		
14:00 – 14:45	Session 28	<b>WTO Dialogue: EIF 3.0 – Enabling Trade-Led Development</b>



<b>14:45 – 15:30</b>	<b>Session 29</b>	<b>Investment Facilitation for Development (IFD) Agreement – Strengthening IPA Support Systems</b>
<b>15:30 – 15:45</b>		<b>Facility Walkthrough &amp; Group Photograph</b>
<b>16:00</b>	—	<b>End of Program</b> <b>(The transport will return to MIE2)</b>