



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 2ND MARCH 2026

Time	Session Number	Topic & Details
09:00 – 09:30	Session 1	Welcome & Introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Ismail Ersahin, Executive Director & CEO, WAIPA Ms. Nan Li Collins, Director, Division on Investment and Enterprise, UN Trade and Development
09:30 – 09:40	Session 2	Program Overview – Objectives & Structure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Dushyant Thakor, Deputy Executive Director, WAIPA
09:40 – 10:10	Session 3	Keynote Address: <i>Investment Promotion in the Era of Complexity: Finance, Sustainability & SDGs</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Nan Li Collins, Director, Division on Investment and Enterprise, UN Trade and Development
10:10 – 10:40		Coffee Break
10:40 – 11:10	Session 4	Keynote Address: <i>IPA Strategies in the Changing World Order</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. James Zhan, Chair, Executive Board of World Investment Conference, WAIPA
11:10 – 11:40	Session 5	Discussions with leading IPA representatives
11:40 – 12:10	Session 6	Formulating IPA Strategy: Practical Tools & Priorities for 2026 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Dushyant Thakor, Deputy Executive Director, WAIPA
12:10 – 12:25	Session 7	Group Exercise Briefing — WAIPA Team
12:25 – 13:30	—	Lunch Break

13:30 – 14:00	—	Transfer to Palais des Nations
Policy & Technical Dialogue at UN Trade and Development		
14:00 – 14:25	Session 8	Understanding FDI Statistics & Trends <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Astrit Sulstarova, Chief, Trends & Data Section, UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
14:25 – 14:50	Session 9	Reforming International Investment Agreements for Sustainable Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Vincent Beyer, Expert in Legal Affairs, International Investment Agreements Section, Division on Investment and Enterprise, UNCTAD
14:50 – 15:15	Session 10	Interaction with the UNCTAD team
15:15 – 15:30		Facility Walkthrough & Group Photograph – Palais des Nations
15:30	—	Transfer to MIE2
Networking & High Tea with the Geneva Business Community		
16:15 – 16:30	Session 11	Welcome Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Ismail Ersahin, Executive Director & CEO, WAIPA • Mr. Vincent Subilia, Director General, CCIG Brief Remarks by the participating companies and the program participants
16:30 – 18:00	Session 12	High Tea & Networking / End of Day

DAY 2

TUESDAY 3RD MARCH 2026

Time	Session Number	Topic & Details
09:00 – 09:30	Session 13	Investor Targeting & Investment Promotion Campaigns <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Dushyant Thakor, Deputy Executive Director, WAIPA
09:30 – 10:15	Session 14	Developing policies and ecosystems to attract Global Capability centres <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Nitin Pangam, CEO MaeFlower Consulting
10:15 – 10:45	—	Coffee Break
10:45 – 11:45	Session 15	Group Work Session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 30 min group discussions 30 min interactive group reflections (5×5 min)
11:45 – 12:45	Session 16	Digital FDI & Targeting AI & ICT Investments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Matthew Stephenson, Head, Investment and Services, World Economic Forum
12:45 – 13:45	—	Lunch Break
13:45 – 14:15	—	Transfer to ILO
Investment & Jobs Dialogue at the International Labour Organization (ILO)		
14:15 – 15:00	Session 17	FDI for More and Better Jobs
15:00 – 15:15	Session 18	Community of Practice Platform for IPAs
15:15 – 15:45	Session 19	Interactive Discussion + Q&A
15:45 – 16:00		Facility Walkthrough & Group Photograph
16:00 – 16:30	—	Transfer to MIE2



DAY 3

WEDNESDAY 4TH MARCH 2026

08:30 – 18:00

Innovation, Technology & Investment Ecosystems - Greater Lausanne Region

Immersive exposure to advanced innovation-led investment models

Day 3 involves a curated learning visit to the Greater Lausanne Region (Canton of Vaud), designed as an immersive journey into Switzerland's innovation and research ecosystems. Participants will travel from Geneva to engage directly with innovation-led investment environments, gaining firsthand insight into how advanced economies translate research excellence, technology, and innovation into globally competitive investment propositions.

Through structured institutional interactions and ecosystem briefings, the day will explore how innovation-driven regions support high-value investment attraction, R&D-intensive industries, and long-term economic competitiveness. The program also provides space for peer interaction, reflection, and informal networking in a cultural setting.

Indicative Learning Interactions

- **Global R&D & Innovation Leader**
Insights into how multinational companies structure global R&D operations, innovation pipelines, and location strategies for advanced manufacturing and technology investments.
- **Regional Innovation & Investment Authority**
Understanding how sub-national innovation and investment bodies support start-ups, scale-ups, and international firms, and act as gateways for foreign investors.
- **University–Industry Innovation Ecosystem**
Exploration of collaboration models linking universities, research institutions, and industry to build sectoral clusters and investable innovation platforms.
- **Cultural & Networking Experience**
Informal peer engagement and relationship-building in a cultural setting, reinforcing learning beyond formal sessions.

Specific institutions and locations will be finalized closer to the program dates, subject to availability and confirmations.



DAY 4

THURSDAY 5TH MARCH 2026

Time	Session Number	Topic & Details
09:00 – 09:30	Session 20	Sustainability & Climate Investments 101 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Dushyant Thakor, Deputy Executive Director, WAIPA
09:30 – 10:15	Session 21	IISD Functional Approach to National Investment Laws (Focus: Incentives, facilitation, monitoring & oversight functions relevant to IPAs) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Josef Ostraňský, Senior Policy Advisor, IISD
10:15 – 10:45	Session 22	Traversing the investment lifecycle: Case studies from IPAs across the world in facilitation, aftercare & advocacy <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Dushyant Thakor, Deputy Executive Director, WAIPA
10:45 – 11:15	—	Coffee Break
11:15 – 11:45	Session 23	Group Dialogue: Insights and Action Priorities <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Moderator: Mr. Andreas Hora, Deputy Executive Director, WAIPA
11:45 – 12:30	Session 24	Certificate Handover, Closing Remarks & Group Picture <ul style="list-style-type: none">• WAIPA and UN Trade & Development
12:30 – 13:30	—	Lunch Break
13:30 – 14:00	—	Transfer to WTO
Trade & Investment Dialogue at WTO: EIF 3.0 and Investment Facilitation for Development		
14:00 – 14:45	Session 29	WTO Dialogue: EIF 3.0 – Enabling Trade-Led Development



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