



## INVITATION TO THE 2nd UNITED STATES-MEXICO-CANADA AGREEMENT (USMCA/T-MEC/CUSMA)

### SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISE (SME) DIALOGUE

Thursday, September 21, 2023. Mexico City, Mexico.

Small business stakeholders are cordially invited to attend the 2nd USMCA SME Dialogue in Mexico on Thursday, September 21, 2023 in Mexico City, Mexico, hosted by the Ministry of Economy of Mexico.

The SME Dialogue is convened by the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, the U.S. Department of Commerce, and the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), together the Global Economic Intelligence Unit and the Vice Ministry of Foreign Trade of the Ministry of Economy of Mexico, and with Global Affairs Canada and Canada's Trade Commissioner Service. The USMCA SME Dialogue **brings together small and medium-sized businesses and stakeholders, including those representing underserved communities**, with government officials to **discuss strengthening regional trade and investment with USMCA**, enhancing cooperation on issues of mutual interest to SMEs, and helping more small businesses benefit from the USMCA, which will foster **economic growth and jobs** in communities across North America.

In 2022, two-way goods and services trade with USMCA totaled almost **\$1.8 trillion** with the vast majority of traders from small businesses. Investments in each other's economies totaled \$1.1 trillion, which includes small business supply-chains and communities.

Topics for discussion in Mexico City include the experience of women-owned businesses in North American trade, digital inclusion of SMEs, financial inclusion of SMEs, and processes and procedures to export in North America.



A preliminary draft agenda is attached. Attendees will be able to engage in discussion with experts and learn about tools and resources to grow their businesses internationally.

This invitation is for small business stakeholders from the United States, Canada and Mexico only. Registration is free of charge. Participants are responsible for their own travel expenses and accommodation. RSVPs are accepted on a first-come, space available basis. In your RSVP, please provide your name, organization, city/state and email:

**For U.S. participants:** Please RSVP with your name, organization, city, state as soon as possible and no later than September 8 to [international@sba.gov](mailto:international@sba.gov)

**For Mexico participants:** Please RSVP no later than September 8 to [jessica.mendez@economia.gob.mx](mailto:jessica.mendez@economia.gob.mx) and [ana.rosas@economia.gob.mx](mailto:ana.rosas@economia.gob.mx)

**For Canada participants:** Please RSVP with your name, organization and city to [Ariane.Drolet@international.gc.ca](mailto:Ariane.Drolet@international.gc.ca) as soon as possible and no later than September 8.

A final agenda and meeting location will be sent to registered participants.

Thank you for your interest.



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## 2nd USMCA/T-MEC/CUSMA Small and Medium Enterprise Dialogue

### AGENDA

Thursday, September 21, 2023. Mexico City, Mexico

9:00 – 9:30	<b>Register</b>
9:30 –10:00 10:00-10:30	<b>Welcome Remarks</b> <b>Women-owned businesses share their experience in North America trade.</b> <b>Moderated Q&amp;A Discussion</b>
10:30 – 11:45	<b>Discussion panel: Why should you digitize your SME?   Digitization: advantages and challenges in the cross-border market</b> <b>Q&amp;A Discussion</b> Representatives of e-commerce chambers, SME counselors and small businesses explain the advantages and challenges of trading online in a cross-border market.
11:45 – 12:00	<b>Coffee break</b>
12:00 – 13:15	<b>Round table: Ensuring Small Business Can Access Export Financing: Efforts in the private and public sectors for financial inclusion   Financial inclusion: public and small business perspectives</b> <b>Moderated Q&amp;A Discussion</b>
13:15 – 15:00	<b>Lunch- Remarks by bi-national chambers</b>
15:00 – 16:30	<b>Presentation: "Your USMCA route"   Processes and procedures to export within the USMCA region</b> Foreign trade specialists share the main steps to export to partner countries. Small business stakeholders share with trilateral government representatives their views on implementation of the Agreement. <b>Moderated Q&amp;A Discussion</b>
16:30-16:45	<b>Coffee break</b>
16:45 – 17:00	<b>Concluding remarks</b>
17:00	<b>Networking reception</b>



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