



# TRANSFORMING TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT IN A FRACTURED, POST-PANDEMIC WORLD

Report of the  
**Secretary-General of UNCTAD**  
to the fifteenth session  
of the Conference







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# Abbreviations



<b>COVID-19</b>	coronavirus disease (of 2019)
<b>FDI</b>	foreign direct investment
<b>GDP</b>	gross domestic product
<b>IFF</b>	illicit financial flow
<b>SDR</b>	special drawing right
<b>UNCTAD</b>	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
<b>WTO</b>	World Trade Organization

# Preface



Since the last session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development four years ago, fractures and fault lines have deepened across the world economy, compromising the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. These fractures include widening inequalities that have fuelled popular discontent with globalization, deepening digital divides and uneven vulnerabilities to climate change. These fractures also include a growing disconnect between investment in the real economy and exuberant financial markets that have left the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development underfinanced yet have kept debt burdens growing and illicit financial flows rising. The multilateral system itself has shown increasing

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