**Investment and the Digital Economy**  
23 October 2018  

**World Investment Forum 2018**

**Programme**

Venue: Room 24 Palais des Nations (E building), Geneva

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**14:30 – 15:00**  
**Opening Session**

**Opening Remarks** by Mr. James Zhan, Director DIAE/UNCTAD

**Keynote Address** by H.E. Mr. Houlin Zhao, Secretary General, International Telecommunication Union

**Special Remarks** by H.E. Ms. Nora K. Terrado, Undersecretary, Philippines Trade and Investment Promotion Group

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**15:00 – 17:30**  
**Panel discussion (2.5h)**

This segment will consist of two panels. Panelists will discuss investments in various digital economy chains, emerging innovation, challenges and outlook for investment in the digital economy. Panelists are also expected to offer policy issues or options, which can be considered by stakeholders for the development of the digital economy.

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**15:00 – 16:00**  
**Panel 1. Investing in Digital Infrastructure: The foundation of the digital economy (60’)**

**Groupe Speciale Mobile Association (GSMA)**
Javier Albares, Head of Corporate Strategy

**Intel**
Fernando Loureiro, Senior Director, Public Policy and Government Affairs, Latin America

**Huawei**
David Harmon, Vice President, Global Government Affairs

Moderated by Richard Bolwijn, Head Investment Research, DIAE/UNCTAD

**QA**
Panel 2. *Investing in Digital Businesses: The role of digital firms and complementary services* (90’)

**Vertex Holdings**  
Kee Lock Chua, CEO

**Omidyar Network**  
Magdi Amin, Partner

**Alibaba**  
Brian Wong, Vice President, Global Initiatives

**Singularity Investments**  
Lexi Novitske, Principal Investment

Moderated by Dylan Piatti, Deloitte Africa and Chairman of the Board: Ecommerce Africa

**QA**

17:30  **Closing remarks**  
Richard Bolwijn, Head Investment Research, DIAE/UNCTAD

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**Relevant documents**

- [ITU Connecting the Unconnected](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/ITUCirculars/Pages/2017/Connecting-the-Unconnected.aspx) 2017
- UNCTAD Internet Economy Report 2017

**Event webpage**