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Trade and Development Board

Commission on Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities

Twelfth session

Geneva, 7–8 February 2008

Item 2 of the provisional agenda

Provisional agenda and annotations

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II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

Introduction

1. At its twenty-third special session, within the context of the UNCTAD XI Mid-term Review, the Trade and Development Board recommended that UNCTAD's consensus-building pillar be strengthened, *inter alia* by ensuring that, as appropriate, the commissions take into account the work of expert meetings in their substantive policy dialogues, and by ensuring that, in order to advance the consensus-building process, intergovernmental meetings result in development-oriented outcomes including policy options, as mutually agreed (TD/B(S-XXIII)/7 (Vol. I), para. 32 (b)).
2. To this end, the Commission will have before it the reports of the expert meetings held during 2007, as well as background documentation and other relevant documentation prepared by the secretariat identifying policy issues for discussion by the Commission.

Item 1. Election of officers

3. In accordance with rule 18 of the rules of procedure of the main committees of the Trade and Development Board, the Commission shall elect a chair, five vice-chairs and a rapporteur from among the representatives of its members, taking due account of the need to ensure equitable geographical distribution. In accordance with rule 19 of the rules of procedure, the bureau of the Commission shall consist of seven members: four members from lists A and C combined, two from list B and one from list D, referred to in the annex to General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX) as amended.

4. Accordingly, following the cycle of rotation established after UNCTAD IX, the bureau for the twelfth session of the Commission will be as follows: Chair from an Asian country in list A; Rapporteur from list D; three vice-chairs from lists A and C combined; and two vice-chairs from list B.

Item 2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

5. The twelfth session of the Commission is scheduled for 7–8 February 2008. The topics for the expert meetings were approved by the Trade and Development Board at its forty-first executive session, in April 2007. The provisional agenda for the twelfth session of the Commission was approved at the consultations of the President of the Trade and Development Board on 20 July 2007.

6. With regard to the organization of the work of the session, it is suggested that the agenda items be taken up sequentially, with the first plenary meeting, on Thursday 7 February, being devoted to procedural matters and introductory statements.

Documentation

TD/B/COM.1/89 Provisional agenda and annotations

Item 3. Globalization's contribution to development: the trade perspective and UNCTAD's contribution

7. Under this agenda item, the Commission will examine the contribution of international trade to maximizing development gains and promoting inclusive development in the context of globalization. It will also examine UNCTAD's

contribution in this respect, in line with its role as the focal point of the United Nations on trade and development. The discussions on this agenda item should help facilitate the provision of input by the Commission to the twelfth session of the Conference, UNCTAD XII, which will take place in Accra, Ghana, from 20 to 25 April 2008, and which will address the opportunities and challenges of globalization.

Documentation

TD/B/COM.1/90 Globalization's contribution to development: the trade perspective and UNCTAD's contribution

Item 4. Reports of expert meetings:

(a) Expert meeting on the trade and development implications of financial services and commodity exchanges

8. Under this agenda item, the Commission will review and discuss the outcome of the expert meeting on the trade and development implications of financial services and commodity exchanges, held on 3 and 20–21 September 2007.

Documentation

TD/B/COM.1/EM.33/2 The development role of commodity exchanges

TD/B/COM.1/EM.33/3 Trade and development implications of financial services

TD/B/COM.1/EM.33/4 Report of the expert meeting on the trade and development implications of financial services and commodity exchanges

(b) Expert meeting on the participation of developing countries in new and dynamic sectors of world trade: the South-South dimension

9. Under this agenda item, the Commission will review and discuss the outcome of the “expert meeting on the participation of developing countries in new and dynamic sectors of world trade: the South-South dimension”, held on 16–17 October 2007.

Documentation

TD/B/COM.1/EM.34/2 New and dynamic sectors of trade: the South-South dimension

TD/B/COM.1/EM.34/3 Report of the expert meeting on participation of developing countries in new and dynamic sectors of world trade: the South-South dimension

Item 5. Implementation of the agreed conclusions and recommendations of the Commission on Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities, including an assessment of the work of the Commission since UNCTAD XI

10. The guidelines adopted by the Trade and Development Board at its nineteenth special session (TD/B(S-XIX)/7) state that: “Commissions’ agendas will continue to include an item on follow-up and implementation of past recommendations. The secretariat will report on its implementation of the

recommendations addressed to it, and member States will be invited to report on their own implementation in statements to the Commission" (Guidelines, para. 10). The secretariat will accordingly report on its implementation of the recommendations and conclusions adopted by the Commission since UNCTAD XI, with a focus on the implementation of the recommendations and conclusions adopted by the Commission at its eleventh session.

Documentation

TD/B/COM.1/91 Progress report on the implementation of agreed conclusions and recommendations of the Commission since UNCTAD XI

Item 6. Provisional agenda for the thirteenth session of the Commission

11. A draft provisional agenda for the thirteenth session of the Commission will be submitted for consideration and approval.

Item 7. Other business

Item 8. Adoption of the report of the Commission to the Trade and Development Board

12. The report of the twelfth session of the Commission will be submitted to the Trade and Development Board.
