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Conference  
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TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Commission on Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities  
Expert Meeting on Enabling Small Commodity Producers and  
Processors in Developing Countries to Reach Global Markets  
Geneva, 11–13 December 2006

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ANNOTATIONS\***

**I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
3. Enabling small commodity producers and processors in developing countries to reach global markets
4. Adoption of the report of the Meeting

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\* This document was submitted on the above-mentioned date as a result of processing delays.

## II. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

### **Item 1: Election of officers**

1. It is recommended that the Expert Meeting elect a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson-cum-Rapporteur.

### **Item 2: Adoption of the agenda and organization of work**

2. The provisional agenda for the Expert Meeting is reproduced in section I above. The Expert Meeting will have three days, from 11 to 13 December 2006, to complete its work. The provisional schedule of meetings for the three days is attached to this document. A detailed programme will be available at the latest one week before the meeting.

#### *Documentation*

TD/B/COM.1/EM.32/1      Provisional agenda and annotations

### **Item 3: Enabling small commodity producers and processors in developing countries to reach global markets**

3. The Commission on Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities, at its tenth annual session, decided to convene an expert meeting on enabling small commodity producers and processors of developing countries to reach global markets. The São Paulo Consensus, in paragraph 100, states that “UNCTAD should continue to monitor developments in commodity markets and assist developing countries, in particular those most dependent on commodities, in formulating strategies and policies to respond to the challenges of commodity markets, including... addressing links between international commodity trade and national development, particularly poverty reduction. It should analyse and promote ... more effective participation in the supply chain.” Accordingly, this Expert Meeting will consider solutions and challenges relating to the integration into supply chains of those commodity sector participants in developing countries most susceptible to being caught in the poverty trap, namely small commodity producers and processors.

4. The withdrawal of government support for agricultural producers outside the OECD has created the need for many small producers and processors in developing countries to integrate into new supply chains in order to market their produce. Many have been unable to do so and been caught in a cycle of low returns and low investment. Others have been unable to build sustainable rural livelihoods at all and have thus been left with no choice but to abandon their land. In order to escape this poverty trap, developing country producers and processors have to be empowered to become partners in supply chains linking them in an organized manner with consumers locally, regionally and internationally.

5. The discussions under this topic will serve to inform UNCTAD member States about the key elements that small producers and processors require from an integrated supply chain: market information, finance, guidance on meeting purchaser quality requirements, and infrastructure and logistics. The discussions will also provide a forum for appraising the utility of organized supply chain models that have emerged as Governments have withdrawn

from the sector, including outgrower schemes and initiatives facilitated by offtakers, trading entities, financial institutions, commodity exchanges and non-profit organizations.

6. To facilitate the discussion, the UNCTAD secretariat has prepared a background note entitled “Enabling small commodity producers and processors of developing countries to reach global markets”.

*Documentation*

TD/B/COM.1/EM.32/2

“Enabling small commodity producers and processors of developing countries to reach global markets”

**Item 4: Adoption of the report of the meeting**

7. The report of the Expert Meeting will be submitted to the Commission on Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities at its next session. The Expert Meeting may wish to authorize the Rapporteur, under the authority of the Chairperson, to prepare the final report after the conclusion of the Meeting.

*Inputs from experts*

Experts nominated by member States are encouraged to submit brief papers (approximately five pages) as contributions to the work of the Meeting. The papers should be submitted to the UNCTAD secretariat in advance of the meeting. Papers, which will draw on experts' experience, will be made available at the meeting in the form and language in which they are received.

Experts are requested to submit papers by 3 November 2006 to: Mr. Olle Ostensson or Ms. Leonela Santana-Boado, Commodities Branch, Division on Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland, Fax: +41 22 917 0509, e-mail: [olle.ostensson@unctad.org](mailto:olle.ostensson@unctad.org) or [leonela.santana-boado@unctad.org](mailto:leonela.santana-boado@unctad.org).

### PROVISIONAL SCHEDULE OF THE MEETING

<b>MONDAY</b> 11 December 2006	<b>TUESDAY</b> 12 December 2006	<b>WEDNESDAY</b> 13 December 2006
<p><i>(10 a.m. – 1 p.m.)</i></p> <p><b>Plenary</b></p> <p><b>Opening statement</b></p> <p><b>Item 1:</b> Election of officers</p> <p><b>Item 2:</b> Adoption of the agenda and organization of the Meeting</p> <p><b>Item 3:</b> Enabling Small Commodity Producers and Processors of Developing Countries to Reach Global Markets:</p> <p>i) Elements of an integrated supply chain: setting out the role played by facilitative services</p>	<p><i>(10 a.m. – 1 p.m.)</i></p> <p><b>Informals</b></p> <p><b>Item 3:</b> (continued)</p> <p>ii) Organised supply chains – mechanisms, impacts and lessons from contemporary global practice</p>	<p><i>(10 a.m. – 1 p.m.)</i></p> <p><b>Informals</b></p> <p><b>Item 3:</b> (continued)</p> <p>iii) The role of governments and international organizations in supporting the advantageous integration of small producers and processors into supply chains, and possibilities for public-private partnerships</p>
<p><i>(3 p.m. – 6 p.m.)</i></p> <p><b>Informals</b></p> <p><b>Item 3:</b> (continued)</p>	<p><i>(3 p.m. – 6 p.m.)</i></p> <p><b>Informals</b></p> <p><b>Item 3:</b> (continued)</p>	<p><i>(3 p.m. – 6 p.m.)</i></p> <p><b>Informals</b></p> <p>Consideration of the outcome of the Meeting</p> <p><b>Plenary (closing)</b></p> <p><b>Item 4:</b> Adoption of the report of the Meeting</p>

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