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TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Commission on Enterprise, Business Facilitation and Development
Expert Meeting on the Development of Multimodal Transport and Logistics Services
Geneva, 24–26 September 2003
Item 2 of the provisional agenda

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ANNOTATIONS

I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
3. Development of multimodal transport and logistics services
4. Adoption of the report of the Meeting

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 24 to 26 September 2003, to complete its work. The provisional schedule of meetings for the three days is attached to this document. A detailed programme will be available one week before the meeting.

Documentation

TD/B/COM.3/EM.20/1 Provisional agenda and annotations

Item 3: Development of multimodal transport and logistics services

3. At its seventh session, the Commission on Enterprise, Business Facilitation and Development decided to convene an Expert Meeting on the Development of Multimodal Transport and Logistics Services. Multimodal transport and logistics services are essential for the development of international trade, but they are not widely available in developing countries, because local service providers tend to lack the capacity to reach overseas markets, and because existing infrastructure, technologies and institutional and legal frameworks are often inadequate to allow efficient linkages with global operators. The Expert Meeting will review and explore the impact of the latest developments in multimodal transport and logistics on developing countries, as well as the challenges and opportunities that these developments provide for them, including small island, landlocked and least developed countries.

4. The Expert Meeting will analyse the determinants of inexpensive and high-quality transport and logistics services, and identify main areas for possible service improvements. It will assess market developments, as well as the impact of operational, legal and regulatory developments, including the implementation of recent security measures, on the ability of developing countries to participate in the provision of such services. The Meeting is expected to discuss proposals for necessary action aimed at improving the situation of developing countries as both users and suppliers of multimodal transport and logistics services.

5. To facilitate the discussions, the UNCTAD secretariat has prepared an issues note on recent developments in multimodal transport and logistics services, and problems encountered by developing countries (TD/B/COM.3/EM.20/2). In addition, experts are

encouraged to prepare brief papers on the subject under discussion. These papers will be made available at the meeting in the form and language in which they are received.

Documentation

TD/B/COM.3/EM.20/2 Development of multimodal transport and logistics services:
Issues note by the UNCTAD secretariat

Item 4: Adoption of the report of the Meeting

6. The report of the Expert Meeting will be submitted to the Commission on Enterprise, Business Facilitation and Development at its eighth session in December 2003. 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.

PROVISIONAL SCHEDULE FOR THE MEETING

<p style="text-align: center;">WEDNESDAY 24 September 2003</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">THURSDAY 25 September 2003</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">FRIDAY 26 September 2003</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>(10 a.m. – 1 p.m.)</i></p> <p>Plenary</p> <p>Opening statement</p> <p>Item 1: Election of officers</p> <p>Item 2: Adoption of the agenda and organization of the Meeting</p> <p>Introduction of item 3</p> <p>Informals</p> <p>Item 3: Development of multimodal transport and logistics services</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>(10 a.m. – 1 p.m.)</i></p> <p>Informals</p> <p>Item 3: (continued)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>(10 a.m. – 1 p.m.)</i></p> <p>Informals</p> <p>Item 3: (continued)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>(3 p.m. – 6 p.m.)</i></p> <p>Informals</p> <p>Item 3: (continued)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>(3 p.m. – 6 p.m.)</i></p> <p>Informals</p> <p>Item 3: (continued)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>(3 p.m. – 6 p.m.)</i></p> <p>Informals</p> <p>Consideration of the outcome of the Meeting</p> <p>Plenary (closing)</p> <p>Item 4: Adoption of the report of the Meeting</p>