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Trade and Development Board
Commission on Enterprise, Business Facilitation and Development
Expert meeting on regional cooperation in transit transport:
Solutions for landlocked and transit developing countries
Geneva, 27–28 September 2007
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. Regional cooperation in transit transport: Solutions for landlocked and transit developing countries
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 above. The expert meeting will take place on 27 and 28 September 2007. The provisional schedule of meetings for the two days is attached to this document. A detailed programme will be available before the meeting.

Documentation

TD/B/COM.3/EM.30/1 Provisional agenda and annotations

Item 3. Regional cooperation in transit transport: Solutions for landlocked and transit developing countries

3. At its forty-first executive session, in April 2007, the Trade and Development Board decided to convene an expert meeting on “Regional cooperation in transit transport: Solutions for landlocked and transit developing countries”.

4. The lack of territorial access to the sea adversely affects the competitiveness of landlocked countries in the global economy and hence their ability to participate in international trade and the benefits deriving therefrom. UNCTAD has for many years worked on removing obstacles faced by landlocked and transit developing countries and has produced practical solutions. The establishment of efficient transit transport systems that utilize infrastructure and facilities along the transit route depends mainly on successful cooperation between landlocked developing countries and their neighbours. In this context, emerging transport management techniques such as those incorporating information and communication technology in integrated transport systems and door-to-door logistic services can be highly relevant in improving transit transport efficiency.

5. The expert meeting will analyse recent trends in regional cooperation in transit transport. It will identify models and best practices to improve international transit transport operations based on practical solutions such as the use of information technologies and systems. The expert meeting will also review the institutional operational arrangements for multimodal door-to-door transport operations and best practices of successful transit arrangements, and will identify the main ways in which the efficiency of transit transport operations can be improved.

6. To facilitate the discussions, the UNCTAD secretariat has prepared an issues note on the topic of the meeting (TD/B/COM.3/EM.30/2). Experts are encouraged to prepare brief papers on the topic. 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.30/2 Regional cooperation in transit transport: Solutions for landlocked and transit developing countries

Item 4. Adoption of the report of the meeting

7. The report of the expert meeting will be submitted to the Commission on Enterprise, Business Facilitation and Development at its twelfth session in 2008. 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 of the meeting

Thursday, 27 September 2007	Friday, 28 September 2007
<p><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 work</p> <p>Introduction of item 3</p> <p>Informal meetings</p> <p>Item 3: Regional cooperation in transit transport: Solutions for landlocked and transit developing countries</p>	<p><i>(10 a.m. – 1 p.m.)</i></p> <p>Informal meetings</p> <p>Item 3: <i>(continued)</i></p>
<p><i>(3 p.m. – 6 p.m.)</i></p> <p>Informal meetings</p> <p>Item 3: <i>(continued)</i></p>	<p><i>(3 p.m. – 6 p.m.)</i></p> <p>Informal meetings Consideration of the outcome of the meeting</p> <p>Closing plenary</p> <p>Item 4: Adoption of the report of the meeting</p>