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**EFFICIENT TRANSPORT AND TRADE FACILITATION TO
IMPROVE PARTICIPATION BY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE**

Agreed recommendations*

The Commission recognizes the importance of access to adequate transport and logistics services by developing countries as a prerequisite for the achievement of the international development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, particularly for countries with special needs. Given the long-term nature of the problems addressed in the area of transport and trade facilitation and based on the São Paulo consensus, the UNCTAD secretariat should continue to:

(a) Keep under review and monitor developments relating to efficient transport and trade facilitation and examine their implications for developing countries;

* As agreed by the Commission on Enterprise, Business Facilitation and Development at the closing plenary meeting of its ninth session on Friday, 25 February 2005.

(b) Provide assistance to developing countries in the ongoing negotiations relating to the Doha Development Agenda at the WTO. In particular, UNCTAD, in cooperation with other relevant international organizations, should strengthen assistance to the trade facilitation negotiations process. It should also seek the support of the donor community in expanding its activities within the Global Facilitation Partnership. The secretariat should conduct consultations immediately with relevant stakeholders in order to create a better understanding of the developmental aspects of trade facilitation with a view towards the development of an appropriate consultative framework;

(c) Provide technical assistance and capacity building activities in the area of transport and trade facilitation, including on the use of automated systems to improve international trade and transport management. Special attention should be paid to the improvement of transit arrangements for the landlocked and transit developing countries;

(d) Monitor developments and disseminate information on security measures affecting the international trade and transport of developing countries and analyse their potential implications;

(e) Cooperate with other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in their work relating to the development of international legal instruments affecting international transport and trade facilitation, including multimodal transport, as provided for in paragraphs 59 and 60 of the São Paulo Consensus.
