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INCLUSION OF A NATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION IN THE REGISTER IN CONFORMITY WITH DECISION 43 (VII) OF THE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Land and Agriculture Policy Centre

Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

1. The Land and Agriculture Policy Centre (LAPC), a national non-governmental organization, recently applied for inclusion in the Register of such bodies provided for under Board decision 43 (VII), sections III and IV.

2. In accordance with Board decision 43 (VII) and further to consultations with the member State concerned, the Secretary-General of UNCTAD has included LAPC in the Register.

3. Information concerning LAPC is annexed to this note.

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<u>Annex</u>

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE LAND AND AGRICULTURE POLICY CENTRE

Brief History

1. The Centre was established in South Africa by the African National Congress in 1993 to advise on land, agriculture, environmental and rural development issues.

Aims and objectives

2. According to article III of its Memorandum and Articles of Association, the main objectives of the Centre are to develop well researched policy options on land reform, rural development and agricultural reform to influence the policies of a future administration; to facilitate the analysis of existing policies and alternative policy proposals relating to this sector; to provide options for the reorientation of policy-making towards a democratic order; to collect data and develop and manage a comprehensive information system concerning land and agricultural issues and including all existing research. The Centre has four main research programmes: land reform, natural resource management, agricultural policy, and rural development policy.

<u>Membership</u>

3. The members of the Centre are the subscribers of the memorandum of association. There are currently eight members.

<u>Structure</u>

4. The Board of Directors, consisting of not less than three and a maximum of seven members, meets at least twice a year and is responsible for the management of the Centre. At the meeting of the Board following the Annual General Meeting, the Directors elect a Chairman, a Vice Chairman, a Secretary and a Treasurer. The Board may appoint committees and delegate any of its powers to any such committees. The Annual General Meeting deals, inter alia, with receiving and consideration of the annual financial statements; consideration and approval of the report of the Board; appointment and level of remuneration of an auditor; election of Directors for the following year.

Financial_resources

5. The Centre's resources are derived principally from donor support from a range of agencies including the European Union, the British Overseas Development Agency and the Danish International Development Agency.

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Publications

6. LAPC publishes various working papers, research studies and briefing papers.

<u>Liaison</u>

7. Liaison with UNCTAD will be maintained by the Director, Mr. David Cooper.

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9. The official language of the Centre is English.