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TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Twenty-fourth (resumed) executive session
Geneva, 12 May 2000
Agenda item 4

OTHER BUSINESS

Draft decision submitted by Bangladesh, coordinator of the least developed countries

The Trade and Development Board,

Reaffirming the role of UNCTAD as the focal point within the UN system for coordinating LDC-related issues,

Recalling the outcome of UNCTAD X as it relates to LDCs,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 54/235 on the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, to be hosted by the European Union in Brussels during the period 13 – 20 May 2001,

Emphasizing the importance of integrating LDC-related issues into the work of the intergovernmental machinery and that of the UNCTAD secretariat,

1. Decides to establish a standing intergovernmental body to deal with the overall monitoring of progress in the implementation of policies and measures in favour of LDCs,

2. Decides further that such a body will meet at least twice a year to (a) deal, during the spring session, with substantive policy issues which have a bearing on the socio-economic development of LDCs, including sectoral and thematic issues; and (b) monitor, during the autumn session, progress in the outcome of the Third United Nations Conference on LDCs and other related programmes of action,

3. Requests the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to ensure that all core Divisions in the secretariat provide relevant substantive inputs for the consideration of the standing body to be established.

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