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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**

Fundación Forum Ambiental (FFA)

Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

1. The Fundación Forum Ambiental (Environmental Forum Foundation - FFA), 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. After consultations with the member State concerned, the Secretary-General of UNCTAD has included the organization in the Register in accordance with Board decision 43 (VII).
3. Information on the organization is annexed to this note.

Annex

Background information on the Fundación Forum Ambiental (FFA)

History

1. The Fundación Forum Ambiental (Environmental Forum Foundation - FFA) was founded in Barcelona, Spain, in 1997 with the primary aim of creating a meeting place for debate and reflection on enterprise and the environment where all the sectors concerned could be brought together. The Foundation will act through high-level, maximum-impact initiatives that promote mutual understanding among the sectors involved and contribute to industrial and environmental progress.

Aims and objectives

2. The objectives of the Foundation are as follows:

- (a) To introduce an environmental culture into the enterprise culture;
- (b) To disseminate the idea in society that sustainable industrial development is compatible with protecting the quality of the environment;
- (c) To develop and promote an indigenous sector of environment-based economic activities;
- (d) To consolidate the Mediterranean and international dimension of initiatives by institutions and firms working in the environmental sector in Catalonia;
- (e) To promote, finance or subsidize courses, research, teaching and publication of doctoral, masters' or undergraduate theses or dissertations and research work of any kind including periodicals or one-off papers on subjects and issues related to the Foundation's objectives;
- (f) To cooperate in the broadest sense with other public or private centres or institutions pursuing similar aims.

Membership

3. The Foundation is governed by a Board, which is its highest decision-making body. Board members serve on a standing committee, which has clearly defined functions. The Board also appoints a director with overall responsibility for the professional organization of the Foundation. The Director has full authority to take direct action. Lastly, there is a technical committee whose task is to advise the Foundation.

Structure

4. The Board is the governing and executive body of the Foundation. The following are ex officio Board members: (i) the Chairperson of the Organizing Committee for the Energy and Environment Fair; (ii) the Environment Minister of the autonomous Government of Catalonia or a person designated by the Minister; and (iii) the Mayor of Barcelona or a person designated by the Mayor. The Board meets at least three times a year, as does the Standing Committee.

Financial resources

5. The Foundation's income comes from the following sources:
- Employers' contributions to the Foundation;
 - Contributions from various bodies (whether or not employers) for the implementation of a given project;
 - Registration fees for conferences;
 - Bank interest;
 - Projects carried out and financed by third parties.

Relations with other international organizations

6. The Foundation has included in its structure an international adviser who resides in Geneva, is a member of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development global network and participates in organizing business missions for the environmental sector of the economy. The International Adviser regularly attends major international events, conferences and meetings in the field of the environment and enterprise.

Publications

7. The Foundation has produced about 10 publications and issues an annual report on its activities.

Liaison

8. Liaison with UNCTAD will be assured by Mr. Carles Mendieta i Suñé, Director of the Foundation, and by Mr. Francesc Vendrell, its International Adviser.

Address

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10. The working languages of the organization are Catalan and Spanish.
