



**United Nations  
Conference  
on Trade and  
Development**

Distr.  
GENERAL

TD/B/EX(30)/1  
8 November 2002

Original: ENGLISH

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**TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

Thirtieth executive session  
Geneva, 2–4 December 2002  
Item 1 of the provisional agenda

**I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Escaping the poverty trap: National and international policies for more effective poverty reduction in LDCs
3. Other business
4. Report of the Board on its thirtieth executive session

## II. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

### Item 1 Adoption of the agenda

1. The provisional agenda for the session is reproduced above.

#### Documentation

TD/B/EX(30)/1 Provisional agenda and annotations

### Item 2 Escaping the poverty trap: National and international policies for more effective poverty reduction in LDCs

2. The executive session is taking place pursuant to the decision taken at the nineteenth special session of the Trade and Development Board that "...following the publication of the *Least Developed Countries Report*, an executive session of the Board on LDCs, not exceeding three days, will meet to discuss the report...".

3. The objective of UNCTAD is the *Least Developed Countries Report* is to assist LDC policy-maker and their development partners to implement the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010. The 2002 edition, entitled "Escaping the poverty trap", is the first international comparative analysis of poverty in the LDCs. It shows that extreme poverty is pervasive and persistent in most LDCs, and that the incidence of extreme poverty is highest in those LDCs that are dependent on primary commodity exports. On the other hand, there is a major but currently underestimated opportunity for rapid reduction of extreme poverty in the LDCs through sustained growth. However, this opportunity is not being realized because most LDCs are stuck in an international poverty trap, which is tightened by the current form of globalization. The executive session will focus on identifying key issues that need to be in place to improve the current approach to poverty reduction, and it is expected to make additional concrete proposals on the content of national poverty reduction strategies and international policies.

#### Documentation

UNCTAD/LDC/2002 and Overview *The Least Developed Countries Report 2002: Escaping the Poverty Trap*

### Item 3 Other business

### Item 4 Report of the Board on its thirtieth executive session

4. The Board may wish to authorize the Rapporteur to finalize the report on its thirtieth executive session under the authority of the President.

**TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Morning</b> 10:00 – 13:00	<b>Afternoon</b> 15:00 – 18:00
<b>Monday</b> <b>2 December</b>	<b>Opening Plenary (Room XX)</b>  Statements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Secretary-General of UNCTAD</li> <li>• Regional Group Coordinators only</li> </ul>	<b>Interactive Debate (Room XXVI)</b> <b>Item 2:</b> Escaping the poverty trap Video-link with NY
<b>Tuesday</b> <b>3 December</b>	<b>Interactive Debate (Room XXVI)</b> <b>Item 2:</b> Escaping the poverty trap	<b>Interactive Debate (Room XXVI)</b> <b>Item 2:</b> Escaping the poverty trap
<b>Wednesday</b> <b>4 December</b>	<b>Informals (Room XXVI)</b> <b>Item 2:</b> Escaping the poverty trap	<b>Informals (Room XXVI)</b> <b>Item 2:</b> Escaping the poverty trap