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TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Forty-seventh session

Geneva, 9 October 2000

Item 9 (b) of the agenda

**ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ADVISORY BODY IN ACCORDANCE
WITH PARAGRAPH 166 OF THE BANGKOK PLAN OF ACTION**

Draft decision

The Trade and Development Board,

1. *Decides* to establish an Advisory Body to advise the Secretary-General of UNCTAD, in accordance with paragraph 166 of the Bangkok Plan of Action (TD/386) with the terms of reference annexed hereto; the Advisory Body will not be a subsidiary organ of the Trade and Development Board and will not be part of the intergovernmental structure of UNCTAD;
2. *Decides* that the Trade and Development Board will appoint members of the Advisory Body annually at its regular sessions on the basis of the recommendations of the regional groups;
3. *Requests* the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to report to the forty-eighth session of the Trade and Development Board on the implementation of paragraph 166 of the Plan of Action;
4. *Decides* to review the arrangements for the implementation of the regular training courses provided for in paragraph 166 of the Plan of Action at its next regular session;
5. *Decides further* that the President of the Advisory Body will inform the Board, at its regular sessions, on the activities of the Advisory Body;
6. *Decides* that the Advisory Body will hold its first meeting as soon as the detailed proposals mandated by paragraph 166 of the Bangkok Plan of Action are made available by the secretariat, and *urges* the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to make those proposals available as soon as possible.

Annex
DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE ADVISORY BODY

Functions of the Advisory Body

1. The Advisory Body will advise the Secretary-General of UNCTAD on the broad objectives, the content and the structure of the regular training courses provided for in paragraph 166 of the Bangkok Plan of Action, and in particular on:

The general orientation and design of the syllabi of the regular courses in order to reflect UNCTAD's development perspective, the criteria for the selection of the trainers and trainees, and the preparation of the training materials;

The content of the courses in light of the evolving key development issues;

Cooperation with academic training and research institutions and independent experts of developed and developing countries and countries with economies in transition that may provide specialist expertise on the content of the courses;

Fund-raising possibilities, particularly through contacts with academic foundations and other national and international sources of finance, taking into account the necessary centralization of fund-raising functions in the Resources Management Service.

2. The Advisory Body may wish to invite experts to contribute to the discussions on certain aspects of its activities whenever necessary.

Composition of the Advisory Body

3. The Advisory Body will be composed of 15 members. Members will be appointed from among representatives of States member of UNCTAD. In their functions as members of the Advisory Body, they will act in their personal capacity. The term of office will be for one year. The geographical distribution of the members will be as follows: 6 from Group A, 3 from Group C, 4 from Group B and 2 from Group D.

4. The President of the Trade and Development Board will be a member of the Advisory Body and will preside over meetings of the Advisory Body.

Meetings of the Advisory Body

5. Meetings of the Advisory body will be convened by its President. The Advisory Body will hold at least two regular sessions per annum. The Body may hold additional meetings upon request of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD or of any member of the Body. Meetings will take place in Geneva in the UNCTAD secretariat.

6. The Focal Point for the implementation of paragraph 166 will act as secretary of the Advisory Body.