



SUMMARY OF MEETINGS

Thursday, 17 October 2002

935th plenary meeting

Item 7 - Technical cooperation activities:

(a) Review of technical cooperation activities of UNCTAD

Mr. John Burley, Head, Resources Management Service, introduced the item.

The Chairperson of the thirty-ninth session of the Working Party (16-20 September 2002), Mrs. Fatima Al-Ghazali (Oman), reported on the outcome of its work.

The following representatives made statements: Egypt (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China); Denmark (on behalf of the European Union, the countries of Central and Eastern Europe associated to the EU – Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia – as well as Cyprus, Malta and Turkey, also associated to the EU), followed by Portugal; Madagascar (on behalf of the African Group), Indonesia (on behalf of the Asian Group and China); Cuba (on behalf of the Latin American and Caribbean Group); Islamic Republic of Iran, China, Benin (on behalf of the Least Developed Countries), Belarus, United States of America, India, Switzerland and Norway.

The Board took note of the oral report of the Chairperson and endorsed the outcome of the Working Party at its thirty-ninth session. The Board adopted the draft decision in document TD/B/49/L.1 and endorsed the agreed conclusions in document TD/B/WP/L.109 and the draft decision in document TD/B/WP/L.108. The Board also took note of the statements made under this item and thus concludes its consideration of the item.

(b) Consideration of other relevant reports: Report on UNCTAD's assistance to the Palestinian people

The Coordinator of the Unit on Assistance to the Palestinian People introduced the secretariat's report (TD/B/49/9).

Statements were made by the following representatives: Palestine, Egypt (on behalf of the G77 and China), Denmark (on behalf of the European Union, the countries of Central and Eastern Europe associated to the EU – Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia – as well as Cyprus, Malta and Turkey, also associated to the EU), Indonesia (on behalf of the Asian Group and China), Morocco, Israel, Islamic Republic of Iran, League of Arab States, China, Tunisia, Jordan, Lebanon, Pakistan, United States of America, Algeria. Israel and Egypt and Palestine exercised their right of reply.

The Board also took note of the statements made, as well as of the report prepared by the secretariat (TD/B/49/9) and thus concluded its consideration of the item.

Item 8 - Other matters in the field of trade and Development:

Progressive development of the law of international trade: thirty-fifth annual report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law

The Board took note of the report of UNCITRAL on its thirty-fifth session (A757/17) and thus concluded its consideration of the item.

Item 9 - Follow-up decisions taken by the Board

Under this item, the President informed the Board that informal consultations on the financing of experts were continuing under the chairmanship of the Chairperson of the Working Party.

Item 10 - Institutional, organizational, administrative and related matters:

(a) Arrangements for the regular session of the Board

The Board decided to maintain the status quo and continue the existing arrangement for its regular session whereby it holds one regular session per year in the autumn. This consensus was based on the understanding that questions relating to the sessions of the Board could be taken up within the framework of UNCTAD XI.