



## SUMMARY OF MEETINGS

**Monday, 6 October 2003**

944<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting

### Opening of the session

The fiftieth session of the Board was opened by H.E. Mr. Dimiter TZANTCHEV (Bulgaria), President of the forty-ninth session of the Board.

Item 1 - Procedural matters:

Item 1(a) - Election of officers

The Board elected by acclamation H.E. Mr. SHA Zukang as the President of the Board. The President of the Board made a statement.

The Board elected the following 10 Vice-Presidents:

|   |                               |
|---|-------------------------------|
| H.E. Mr. Michel ADAM                    | (Belgium)                     |
| Mr. Youri AFANASSIEV                    | (Russian Federation)          |
| H.E. Mr. Chitsaka CHIPAZIWA             | (Zimbabwe)                    |
| H.E. Mr. Djismun KASRI                  | (Indonesia)                   |
| Ms. Melissa J. KEHOE                    | (United States of<br>America) |
| H.E. Mohamed Saleck Ould Mohamed LEMINE | (Mauritania)                  |
| H.E. Mr. Lester Mejía SOLÍS             | (Nicaragua)                   |
| H.E. Mr. Iván MORA GODOY                | (Cuba)                        |
| Mr. Mitsunori NANBA                     | (Japan)                       |
| H.E. Mr. Dimiter TZANTCHEV              | (Bulgaria)                    |

The Board elected Mr. François LEGER (France) as its Rapporteur.

Following established practice, the Board agreed that the Regional Coordinators and China, and the Chairmen of the Sessional Committees, would be fully associated with the work of the Bureau of the Board.

Item 1 (b) - Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work of the session

The Board adopted its provisional agenda as contained in document TD/B/50/1.

**Organization of work**

The Board approved the proposals for the organization of the work of the session as contained in a revised timetable and agreed that, in the course of the session and in the light of developments, changes to the timetable would be reflected in the Daily Journal of the Board.

The Board established two Sessional Committees:

Sessional Committee I to consider and report on item 3 – Review of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010:

- (a) UNCTAD-wide activities in favour of LDCs
- (b) The expected impact of recent initiatives in favour of least developed Countries in the area of preferential market access

The Board elected Mr. Marc GIACOMINI (France) as the Chairman of Sessional Committee I.

Sessional Committee II to consider and report on Item 4 – Economic development in Africa: Issues in Africa's trade performance.

H.E. Mohamed Saleck Ould Mohamed LEMINE (Mauritania) was elected as Chairman of Sessional Committee II.

All the other items will be taken up in Plenary.

General Statements

Mr. Rubens Ricupero, Secretary-General of UNCTAD addressed the Board.

The following representatives made statements: Thailand (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China); Italy (on behalf of the European Union); Barbados (on behalf of the Latin American and Caribbean Group); Oman (on behalf of the Asian Group); Zimbabwe (on behalf of the African Group); Bulgaria (on behalf of Group D); Benin (on behalf of the least developed countries); Japan; China; Brazil; United States of America and Switzerland.

945<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting

Item 3 - Interdependence and global economic issues from a trade and development perspective: Capital accumulation, economic growth and structural change

The Officer-in-Charge of the Division for Globalization and Development Strategies made an introductory statement on the item.

The general debate was opened and statements were made by the following representatives: Thailand (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China); Italy (on behalf of the European Union); Argentina (on behalf of the Latin American and Caribbean Group); Oman (on behalf of the Asian Group); Zimbabwe (on behalf of the African Group); Iran (Islamic Republic of); Norway; Indonesia; Algeria; Ethiopia; Nicaragua and Cuba.