



SUMMARY OF MEETINGS

Monday, 13 October 2003

SESSIONAL COMMITTEE II

First and second meetings

Item 4 - Economic Development in Africa: Issues in Africa's trade performance

The Chairman, Mr. Mohamed Saleck Ould Mohamed LEMINE (Mauritania), opened the Sessional Committee, and Mr. Steinard Lindberg (Norway) was elected as Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur.

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

The Special Coordinator for Africa introduced the item.

The following representatives made statements: Thailand (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China); Zimbabwe (on behalf of the African Group; the African Union); Benin (on behalf of the least developed countries); Barbados (on behalf of the Latin American and Caribbean Group); Italy (on behalf of the European Union, the acceding countries – Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia – as well as the associated countries - Bulgaria, Romania and Turkey – aligned themselves with this statement); Nigeria; Mauritania; China; Japan; Ethiopia; Algeria; Switzerland; Uganda; United States of America; and South Africa.

The Committee then pursued its deliberations in an informal interactive debate on the agenda item with the following panellists: Mr. Michael Atingi-Ego, Director, Research Department, Bank of Uganda, Kampala, Uganda; Professor Raphael Kaplinsky, Fellow, Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, Brighton, UK; Professor T. Ademola Oyejide, Department of Economics, University of Ibadan, Nigeria, Mr. Terry Townsend, Executive Director, International Cotton Advisory Committee, Washington DC, USA.

