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TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Twentieth special session

Geneva, 27 January 2003

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ANNOTATIONS

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Financing the participation of experts from developing countries and countries with economies in transition in UNCTAD's expert meetings
3. Institutional, organizational, administrative and related matters:
 - Administrative and financial implications of the actions of the Board
4. Other business
5. Adoption of the report of the Board.

II. ANNOTATIONS

1. Further to a decision taken at the resumed thirty-ninth session of the Working Party on 13 December 2002 on the question of “Financing the participation of experts from developing countries and countries with economies in transition in UNCTAD’s expert meetings”, and pursuant to the decision of the Board at its nineteenth special session (Mid-term Review) that in the event that a solution is not reached, a special session of the Board will be held to resolve the matter, a special session of the Board is to be held on 27 January 2003.

Item 1. Adoption of the agenda

2. The provisional agenda for the current session is reproduced in section I above.

Documentation

TD/B(S-XX)/1 Provisional agenda and annotations

Item 2. Financing the participation of experts from developing countries and countries with economies in transition in UNCTAD’s expert meetings

3. In accordance with the guidelines for the functioning of UNCTAD’s intergovernmental machinery adopted at the nineteenth special session (Mid-term Review) of the Trade and Development Board (29 April – 2 May 2002) and pursuant to the decision of the Working Party on this matter adopted at its thirty-ninth session (16 – 20 September 2002), the Chairperson of the Working Party held informal consultations with all interested delegations on the financing of experts from developing countries and countries with economies in transition in order to reach an agreement on the issue. Despite considerable efforts by all parties involved, the consultations did not succeed in reaching a consensus. Accordingly, the twentieth special session of the Board is being held to resolve the matter, in accordance with the Board’s decision at its nineteenth special session.

4. The Board will hear the report of the Chairperson of the Working Party on the results of the informal consultations and use as a basis for further consideration of the issue the following documents: the draft decision submitted by the Chairperson of 13 December 2002, as well as the proposal of the Group of 77 of 4 October 2002, the two proposals of the European Union of 4 October 2002 and 4 December 2002 and the summaries of the formal statements made by delegations in this regard at the 153rd (closing) plenary meeting of the resumed thirty-ninth session of the Working Party on 13 December 2002.

Item 3 - Institutional, organizational, administrative and related matters:

- Administrative and financial implications of the actions of the Board

5. The Board will be informed during the session of the administrative and financial implications of any proposals before it.

In-session documentation, if required

Item 4 - Other business

Item 5 - Adoption of the report of the Board

6. The Board may wish to authorize the Rapporteur to finalize the report on its twentieth special session under the authority of the President.