



SUMMARY OF MEETINGS

Monday, 4 October 2004

956th plenary meeting

Opening of the session

The fifty-first session of the Board was opened by H.E. Mr. Zukang SHA (China), President of the fiftieth session of the Board.

Item 1 - Procedural matters:

Item 1(a) - Election of officers

The Board elected by acclamation H.E. Ms. Mary WHELAN (Ireland) as the President of the Board.

The Board elected the following 10 Vice-Presidents:

Mr. Iouri AFANASSIEV	(Russian Federation)
Mr. Luciano BARILLARO	(Italy)
H.E. Mr. Doru Romulus COSTEA	(Romania)
H.E. Ms. Sarala M. FERNANDO	(Sri Lanka)
Mr. Kiminori IWAMA	(Japan)
Ms. Melissa J. KEHOE	(United States of America)
Mr. Ernesto MARTÍNEZ GONDRA	(Argentina)
H.E. Mr. Jorge Ivan MORA GODOY	(Cuba)
H.E. Mr. Love MTESA	(Zambia)
Ms. Preeti SARAN	(India)

The Board elected Mr. Patrick KRAPPÉ 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/51/1.

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 4 – Review of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010:

The Board elected H.E. Ms. Mary Whelan (Ireland) as the Chairperson of Sessional Committee I.

Sessional Committee II to consider and report on Item 5 – Economic development in Africa: Issues relating to Africa's debt sustainability

H.E. Mr. Ousame Camara (Senegal) was elected as Chairperson of Sessional Committee II.

All the other items will be taken up in Plenary.

General Statements

Mr. Carlos Fortin, Officer-in-Charge of UNCTAD addressed the Board.

The following representatives made statements: Brazil (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China); Chile (on behalf of the Latin American and Caribbean Group); Romania (on behalf of Group D); Nigeria (on behalf of the African Group); Pakistan (on behalf of the Asian Group); Benin (on Behalf of LDCs); Netherlands (on behalf of the European Union and its 25 Member States, the Candidate countries (Bulgaria, Romania, Turkey and Croatia)); Switzerland; United States of America; Barbados and Venezuela.

HEARING WITH CIVIL SOCIETY

Item 9 (b) - Hearing with civil society, in accordance with paragraph 117 of the São Paulo Consensus

The President of the Board made an opening statement. Mr. Carlos Fortin, Officer-in-Charge of UNCTAD, addressed the Hearing.

The Hearing with civil society took the form of number of panel discussions. The first was on *Trade and development related issues* with the participation of Mr. Martin Khor, Third World Network (TWN), Malaysia; Mr. Josaphat P. Kweka, Economic and Social Research Foundation (ESRF), United Republic of Tanzania; Ms. Janice Goodson Foerde, International Coalition for Development Action (ICDA), Women and Development (KULU), Denmark; Ms. Elizabeth A. Eilor, African Women's Economic Policy Network (AWEPON), Uganda. The second panel discussion was on *commodities* with the participation of Ms. Kristin Dawkins, Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy (IATP), United States of America, and Ms. Micheline Makou Djouma, Cameroon Organization for Promoting International Economical Cooperation (OCAPROCE). The third panel discussion was on the *Future of UNCTAD*, with the participation of Mr. Mike Waghorne, Public Services International (PSI), France. The fourth panel discussion was on *UNCTAD's contribution to the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations Conferences and Summits in the economic and social fields*, with the participation of Ms. Renate Bloem, Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CONGO), Geneva.