

PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS

Friday, 19 September 2008

10 a.m. **Sessional Committee II - First plenary meeting** **Room XXVI**

Item 5 Economic development in Africa: Trade liberalization and export performance in Africa
(UNCTAD/ALDC/AFRICA/2008; TD/B/55/6)

- Opening statement by Ms. Lakshmi Puri, Acting Deputy Secretary General of UNCTAD
- Presentation by Mr. Habib Ouane, Director of the Division for Africa, Least Developed Countries and Special Programmes
- General statements by regional groups and delegations

Followed by

- *Interactive debate*
-

3 p.m. **Sessional Committee II - Second plenary meeting** **Room XXVI**

Item 5 Economic development in Africa: Trade liberalization and export performance in Africa
(*continued*)

Panellists:

- H.E. Mr. Arsene Bahihuta, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Uganda, Geneva
- Mr. Arne Lennart Bigsten, Director-at-large, Department of Economics, University of Gothenburg, Sweden
- Mr. Yves Charpentier, Conseiller auprès du Directeur Général de l'Agence Française de Développement, Paris.

Followed by

- *Interactive debate*

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS
Monday, 22 September 2008

10 a.m. **1024th Plenary Meeting** **Room XXVI**

**Item 7 Development strategies in a globalized world:
Financial policies and productive investment
related to trade and development**
(UNCTAD/TDR/2008 and Overview)

- Introduction by Mr. Detlef Kotte, Head,
Macroeconomic and Development Policies Branch
- Presentation by the secretariat on capital flows,
financial policies and investment
- Presentation by Professor Gerald Epstein, Co-
Director of the Political Economy Research
Institute), Professor of Economics, University of
Massachusetts

Followed by

- *Interactive debate*
-

2 p.m. Special session on Cape Verde **Room XXVI**

3.30 p.m. **1025th Plenary Meeting** **Room XXVI**

**Item 7 Development strategies in a globalized world:
Financial policies and productive investment
related to trade and development** (*continued*)

- Presentation by the secretariat on debt and
development assistance
- Presentation by Professor Ernest Aryeetey, Director
of the Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic
Research, University of Ghana, Legon

Followed by

- *Interactive debate*

Bureau of the fifty-fifth session of the Trade and Development Board

President	H.E. Mr. Debapriya BHATTACHARYA	(Bangladesh)
Vice-presidents	H.E. Mr. Arcanjo Maria DO NASCIMENTO	(Angola)
	H.E. Mr. Alberto DUMONT	(Argentina)
	Mr. Paulo ESTIVALLET DE MESQUITA	(Brazil)
	H.E. Mr. Tomáš HUSÁK	(Czech Republic)
	Mr. Christophe GUILHOU	(France)
	H.E. Mr. Kwabena BAAH-DUODU	(Ghana)
	H.E. Mr. Masood KHAN	(Pakistan)
	Mr. Vassily NEBENZIA	(Russian Federation)
	H.E. Mr. Javier GARRIGUES	(Spain)
	Mr. Otto VAN MAERSSSEN	(United States of America)
Rapporteur	Ms. Andriani FALKONAKI SOTIROPOULOS	(Greece)

Sessional Committee I

Chair	H.E. Mr. Jean FEYDER	(Luxembourg)
Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur	Mr. Ravi Bhattarai	(Nepal)

Sessional Committee II

Chair	H.E. Mr. Kwabena BAAH-DUODU	(Ghana)
Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur	Mr. Joannes Ekaprasetya TANDJUNG	(Indonesia)

Information for participants

Registration

Registration forms will be placed on the desks in room XVIII. It would be appreciated if delegations and observers would complete the forms before leaving the meeting.

Distribution of documents

The documents distribution counter is in the lobby on the second floor of the E-building (door 40).

Participants should bring with them pre-session documents, i.e. documents circulated prior to the opening of the session. Additional copies of pre-session documents may be available, stock permitting, at the distribution counter in the conference room.

Arrangements for regional group meetings

Requests for rooms for regional group meetings should be made to the UNCTAD Meetings and Credentials Unit (*ext.* 75599/75497, office E.3061).

Statements

Delegates are invited to send electronic versions of their statements for posting on the web to editorialsection@unctad.org. The statements will be made available in the form and language in which they are submitted.

Audio files

Audio files (floor/English) of general statements and statements made at the high-level segment are now available on the UNCTAD website (www.unctad.org). Under the "Meetings" tab, you will find a link to the Programme of the Trade and Development Board at its fifty-fifth session, where there are quick links to MP3 (audio) files.

SUMMARY OF MEETINGS

Friday, 19 September 2008

Sessional Committee II

First plenary meeting

Item 1 Procedural matters

(b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work of the session

Election of the Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur

Mr. Joannes Ekaprasetya of Indonesia was elected as Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur of Sessional Committee II.

Item 5 Economic development in Africa: Trade liberalization and export performance in Africa

Ms. Lakshmi Puri, Acting Deputy Secretary General of UNCTAD, made an opening statement.

Mr. Habib Ouane, Director of the Division for Africa, Least Developed Countries and Special Programmes, made an introductory statement on agenda item 5.

The general debate was opened. Representatives of the following member States made general statements: Zimbabwe (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China); Chad (on behalf of the African Group); Indonesia (on behalf of the Asian Group); Mexico (on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States); France (on behalf of the European Union); Bangladesh (on behalf of the least developed countries); China; Cuba; Benin; Japan; and South Africa.

In the interactive debate that followed, representatives of the following member States took the floor: Chad; Mali; Cameroon; and Angola. The representative of the European Commission also took the floor. The secretariat made general observations and responded to questions and comments.

Sessional Committee II

Second plenary meeting

Item 5 Economic development in Africa: Trade liberalization and export performance in Africa *(continued)*

The Board held an informal panel discussion on "Export performance following trade liberation: some patterns and policy perspectives", with the participation of the following panellists: Mr. Arne Lennart Bigsten, University of Gothenburg, Sweden; Mr. Yves Charpentier, Advisor to the Director General, Agence Française de Développement, Paris; and H.E. Mr. Arsene Balihuta, Ambassador of Uganda.

In the interactive debate that followed, representatives of the following member States took the floor: Zimbabwe (on behalf of the Group of 77); Senegal; Lesotho; Chad (on behalf of the African Group); France (on behalf of the European Union); Côte d'Ivoire; Angola; Mali; Israel; and the Russian Federation. The representative of the European Commission also took the floor.

The panellists responded to questions and comments. The Chair made concluding remarks.
