



**United Nations Conference
on Trade and Development**

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Trade and Development Board

Fifty-second executive session

Geneva, 11–12 April 2011

Item 3 of the provisional agenda

Institutional, organizational, administrative and related matters

**Designation of non-governmental
organizations for the purposes of rule 77
of the Rules of Procedure of the Board**

Application from LDC Watch

Note by the UNCTAD secretariat*

Executive summary

The UNCTAD secretariat has received an application from LDC Watch requesting the inclusion of that organization by the Trade and Development Board in the list provided for in rule 77 of the Rules of Procedure of the Trade and Development Board.

Having reviewed the information provided, the secretariat is of the opinion that, subject to the concurrence of the Bureau of the Trade and Development Board, LDC Watch may be classified in the general category under the provisions of paragraph 12(a) of Board decision 43(VII).

The Board may wish to take action on the above-mentioned application at its fifty-second executive session.

Information concerning LDC Watch is annexed to this note.

* This document was submitted on the above date because the Trade and Development Board approved the fifty-second executive session on 16 February 2011.

Annex I

Background information on LDC watch

History

LDC Watch grew out of a process established by the United Nations to enable non-governmental organization (NGO) involvement in The Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (LDC-III) Conference in Brussels in 2001. A global civil society forum was supported by the European Union, and following the Brussels Conference, the “NGO Forum on LDCs” was established, including representation from LDCs, Europe and the United States of America. A Steering Committee was set up to monitor implementation of the Brussels Plan of Action (BPoA) commitments. LDC Watch developed out of that initiative in July 2004.

Aims and objectives

The overall objective of LDC Watch is to use civil society’s energy, expertise and commitment to monitor the effective implementation of the BPoA and to engage in shaping future strategies as a means of achieving sustainable development for the world’s LDCs. LDC Watch seeks to:

- (a) Increase awareness on the BPoA including all other internationally agreed development goals (IADGs) amongst the general public, CSOs and governments in LDCs, as well as development partner governments and agencies and relevant multilateral institutions;
- (b) Enhance the capacity of LDC civil society organizations (CSOs) to effectively advocate, lobby, campaign and network for the implementation of the BPoA as well as all other IADGs;
- (c) Achieve increased political will and commitment of all stakeholders towards achieving sustainable development in LDCs;
- (d) Build the capacity of CSOs in LDCs, including those representing the interests of critical groups and perspectives – gender, farmers, trade unions, etc. – to lobby for the implementation of the LDC special programmes;
- (e) Build a network to act as a pressure group to change political will within the relevant governments and international bodies, so as to strictly abide by their commitments to implementing the actions identified in the LDC special programmes;
- (f) Promote increased attention and delivery of the specific requirements of the LDCs in the global development processes, including the implementation of the 2005 Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness and the Monterrey Consensus on Financing for Development;
- (g) Mobilize and prepare for an effective civil society engagement in the process towards the LDC-IV Conference.

Membership

LDC Watch has national focal points in 33 LDCs and 5 non-LDC focal points (see annex II).

Structure

The LDC Watch steering committee has the following members:

(a) Dr. Arjun Karki (International Coordinator), Rural Reconstruction Nepal (RRN), Kathmandu, Nepal;

(b) Mr. Demba Dembele (President), Africaine de Recherche et de Cooperation pour l'Appui au Developpement Endogene (ARCADE) Dakar, Senegal;

(c) Mr. Simon Stocker (Secretary), Eurostep, Belgium;

(d) Ms. Thida Khus (Treasurer), Silaka, Phnom Penh, Cambodia;

(e) Ms. Azeb Girmai (Member), Environmental Development Action in the Third World (ENDA-ETHIOPIA), Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

The LDC Watch Steering Committee meetings are held approximately twice a year, once physically, and once via teleconference. The activities are implemented by the international secretariat in consultation, coordination and collaboration with the National Focal Points (NFPs) and the respective field offices located in different parts of the globe. The NFPs are facilitated by the Regional Focal Points (RFPs) in Senegal, Cambodia and Ethiopia, as well as the European Coordination Office in Belgium (effectively the RFP for Europe). To carry out country/regional consultations with civil society, the secretariat works closely with the NFP, who organizes participants, arranges logistics and is the local host of the event/activity.

Financial resources

Fund accountability statement

(In euros)	2008	2009
Balance of fund as of 1 Jan. of respective year	63,986	69,545
Fund transfers during the year	152,364	104,554
Bank interest	244	403
Exchange difference	--	1,107
Fund available for the period	216,594	175,609
Programme cost	79,334	73,453
Campaigning, advocacy, lobbying	58,517	40,511
Campaigning and advocacy – material and means	5,657	2,595
Climate change	--	4,530
Exchange difference	3,541	--
Total expenditure	147,049	121,089
Balance of fund	69,545	54,520
Represented by		
Balance with banks	117,168	96,958
Advances recoverable in cash or kind	12,247	4,495
Less: Accounts payable	(59,870)	(46,933)
Net current assets	69,545	54,520

LDC Watch raised core support of €50,000 from Oxfam Novib for the financial year 2009. ActionAid International contributed €11,002; United Nations Millennium Campaign contributed €9,949 and in addition to the core support, Oxfam Novib contributed €15,000 separately for interventions at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) COP 15 in Copenhagen in December 2009. LDC Watch also received funding from the Korean Development Fund (KDF), Republic of Korea.

Relations with other international organizations

LDC Watch was accredited to Financing for Development (FfD) and works closely with the United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLS) in preparation for LDC-IV. LDC Watch also works with the United Nations Millennium Campaign.

Publications

LDC Watch publishes a newsletter and position papers.

Liaison

Liaison with UNCTAD will be maintained by Jyoti Upadhyay, Programme Officer, International Secretariat: jyoti@ldcwatch.org.

Address

International secretariat:

c/o Rural Reconstruction Nepal (RRN)

PO Box 8130, Kathmandu, Nepal

Tel: +977 1 442 7823

Language

Working languages: English and French.

Annex II

LDC Watch focal points

LDC Watch has national focal points in 33 LDCs:

- Afghanistan – Sanayee Development Organization (SDO)
- Bangladesh – EquityBD
- Benin – Groupe De Recherche Et D’action pour la Promotion de l’agriculture et du Developpement (GRAPAD)
- Bhutan – Focal point advocating on issues of refugees
- Burkina Faso – Organisation pour le Renforcement des Capacities de Developpement (ORCADE)
- Burundi – Appui au Développement Intégral et à la Solidarité sur les Collines (ADISCO)
- Cambodia – Silaka
- Central African Republic – Groupe d’action de Paix et de Formation pour la Transformation (GAPAFOT)
- Chad – Le Comité National des Jeunes pour la réalisation des Objectifs du Millénaire pour le Développement au Tchad (CNJ/OMD)
- Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) – Réseau Pour la Promotion de la Démocratie et des Droits Economiques et Sociaux (PRODDERDCONGO)
- Djibouti – Organisation Djiboutienne de Bienfaisance et de Développement (HODAGAD)
- Eritrea – Eritrean Movement for Democracy and Human Rights (EMDHR)
- Ethiopia – Environmental Development Action in the Third World (ENDA), Economic and Social Council General Consultative Status since 1996
- The Gambia – Worldview
- Guinea – Centre du Commerce International pour le Developpement (CECIDE)
- Lesotho – Consumers Protection Association
- Liberia – Foundation For Human Rights And Democracy (FOHRD)
- Malawi – Malawi Economic Justice Network
- Maldives – NGO Federation of Maldives
- Mali – Centre Amadou Hampâté Bâ (CAHBA)
- Mauritania – Association pour le Bien-Être Familial et le Developpement Durable (ABEFDD)
- Nepal – Rural Reconstruction Nepal (RRN), ECOSOC Special Consultative Status since 1997
- Niger – Alternative Espaces Citoyens
- Niger – Associati n Nig rienne Des Scouts De L’environnement
- Senegal – Africaine De Recherche Et De Cooperation Pour L’appui Au Developpement Endogene (ARCADE)
- Solomon Islands – Development Services Exchange (DSE)
- Somalia – Somali Organization For Community Development Activities (SOCDA)
- Sudan – Edge

- United Republic of Tanzania – Tanzania Gender Networking Programme (TGNP)
- Timor-Leste – Peace and Conflict Studies Centre, National University of Timor-Lorosae
- Uganda – Southern And Eastern African Trade, Information And Negotiations Institute (SEATINI)
- Yemen – Human Rights Information and Training Center (HRITC), Economic and Social Council Special Consultative Status since 2004
- Zambia – Consumer Unity & Trust Society (CUTS)

LDC Watch also has 5 Non-LDC focal points:

- Belgium, European Coordination Office – Eurostep, Economic and Social Council Special Consultative Status since 2005
 - Finland – Service Centre for Development Cooperation (KEPA)
 - Denmark – MS ActionAid Denmark, (ActionAid has Economic and Social Council Special Consultative Status since 1991, UNCTAD General Observer)
 - Sweden – Forum Syd Head office
 - Norway – Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD)
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