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Item 4 (d) of the provisional agenda

Accreditation of civil society organizations for the purposes of UNCTAD–XIII*

Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

1. At UNCTAD–XI and UNCTAD–XII, civil society organizations (CSOs) that did not enjoy observer status with UNCTAD were allowed to apply for accreditation to the Conference and its preparatory process. All applications for accreditation were submitted to member States for approval. At UNCTAD–XII, 143 civil society organizations were accredited by member States in this manner. The Trade and Development Board may wish to consider adopting the same arrangements for the participation of civil society organizations in UNCTAD–XIII and its preparatory process, as well as to authorize CSOs that were accredited to UNCTAD–XII to reapply for accreditation for UNCTAD–XIII without being required to resubmit all the related documentation.

2. In addition, within the framework of the Preparatory Committee of the Conference, two hearings were held with civil society, parliamentarians and the private sector to allow for inputs and contributions to the discussions on the theme and sub-themes of the Conference. The Board may wish to make the same arrangements for UNCTAD–XIII in this respect also.

3. The Board is invited to consider taking the following decision:

“The Trade and Development Board

1. *Decides* to adopt the same arrangements for the accreditation and participation of civil society in UNCTAD–XIII and its preparatory meetings as at past Conferences, on the understanding that all applications for accreditation will be submitted to member States for approval; civil society organizations that were accredited to UNCTAD–XII may apply for accreditation to UNCTAD–XIII without the necessity to resubmit the related documentation;

* This document was submitted on the above-mentioned date because the agenda for the fifty-third executive session of the Trade and Development Board was approved on 28 April 2011 at the Consultations of the President of the Board.

2. *Further decides* that two hearings with civil society, parliamentarians and the private sector will be convened within the framework of the Preparatory Committee for UNCTAD XIII.”
