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TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Working Party on the Medium-term Plan
and the Programme Budget
Forty-fourth (resumed) session
Geneva, 30–31 May 2005
Agenda item 3

**Review of the work programme: Draft programme budget
for the biennium 2006-2007**

Agreed conclusions*

The Working Party on the Medium-term Plan and the Programme Budget,

Having considered Section 12, “Trade and development”, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007, as contained in document A/60/6 (Sect. 12),

Emphasizing the need for full implementation of the outcomes of UNCTAD XI,

1. *Takes note* of the programmatic content of Section 12, which generally reflects comments made by the Working Party at its January-February 2005 session during the preparatory process for the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007;

2. *Requests* the secretariat to provide in the future a user-friendly explanatory note, drawn from the budget fascicle, containing information on the substantive rationale for the allocation of resources to substantive subprogrammes and the manner in which various resources respond to that rationale, and provide explanations on various components of budgetary allocations;

* As agreed by the Working Party at its 167th plenary meeting on Tuesday, 31 May 2005.

3. *Invites* the Chairman of the Working Party to undertake consultations aimed at improving the consideration by the Working Party of the proposed UNCTAD section of the programme budget, including in terms of programmatic information and related resource issues;

4. *Requests* that in future the Working Party be given an opportunity to consider the work programme in advance of its submission to United Nations Headquarters by the UNCTAD secretariat;

5. *Encourages* the secretariat to further improve the quality and clarity of the expected accomplishments and indicators;

6. *Expresses* disappointment that the quantitative indicators for the activities under the section dealing with technical assistance do not appear in the budget fascicle, and *takes note* of the assurances provided by the secretariat that such indicators are still in the relevant data base of the United Nations (IMDIS) and that the secretariat will make use of them;

7. *Notes* the decline of 2 per cent in the overall allocation of resources for UNCTAD, and *considers* that UNCTAD should be provided with the resources necessary for the implementation of the outcomes of UNCTAD XI, including contributing to the achievement of international development goals including those contained in the Millennium Declaration;

8. *Recalls* the broad mandate of UNCTAD as a body of the United Nations General Assembly and *stresses* that all the activities, programmes and projects contained in the programme budget for the new biennium should be developed and implemented based on needs and the principle of equitable geographical distribution of resources among all developing country regions as well as countries with economies in transition;

9. *Reiterates* the value and importance of all UNCTAD subprogrammes;

10. *Appreciates* the efforts made to strengthen subprogramme 1B on the development of Africa, subprogramme 5 on LDCs, landlocked and transit developing countries and small island developing States (SIDS), and subprogramme 2 on investment, enterprise and technology;

11. *Notes* the efforts to strengthen subprogramme 5, *stresses* the need to reinforce the subprogramme's delivery capacity on mandated activities and, in this context, *stresses* likewise the need to enhance all the other subprogrammes in order to enable them, *inter alia*, to address the substantive issues of concern to LDCs, landlocked and transit developing countries, and SIDS;

12. *Supports* the ongoing efforts of UNCTAD in respect of the assistance provided to countries affected by the earthquake and the tsunami in the Indian Ocean area in their recovery and rehabilitation efforts, and *encourages* the secretariat to continue in that direction.