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TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Working Party on the Medium-term Plan

and the Programme Budget

Geneva, 12–16 September 2005

Agenda item 4

**EVALUATION OF TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES:
IN-DEPTH EVALUATION OF THE TRAINING COURSES ON KEY ISSUES
ON THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AGENDA**

Agreed conclusions^{*}

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

Having considered the in-depth evaluation of the training courses on key issues on the international economic agenda, contained in document TD/B/WP/182,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the independent evaluation team for the evaluation report, and to the Government of Norway for its financial support for the evaluation;
2. *Expresses general satisfaction* with the achievements of the training courses so far, in particular with their integrated and coordinated approach that makes the courses unique, and *encourages* the secretariat to continue its effort in this regard;
3. *Notes* in particular the need for more predictable funding of the courses, *requests* the secretariat to explore ways to regularly conduct six regional courses within the biennium, and *requests* the secretariat to report back to the Working Party at its next session.

^{*} As adopted by the Working Party at its 170th (closing) plenary on Thursday, 15 September 2005.

4. *Notes* also the importance of the follow-up to ensure the sustainability of impact through *inter alia* increased networking, including with former participants, and partnerships with regional and local institutions, and *encourages* the secretariat to make further efforts in this regard;
5. *Encourages* the secretariat to continue its effort to provide courses in the UN language appropriate to the needs of the participants; equally, all specific documentation should be provided in that language in order to ensure the maximum effectiveness of the courses;
6. *Endorses* the recommendations contained in the evaluation report, and *requests* the secretariat to report back to the Working Party on progress in implementing them by no later than the forty-seventh session;
7. In this respect, the Advisory Body, in order to fully discharge its mandate will need to maintain an adequate exchange with the secretariat and to be provided with timely and relevant information; the chairman of the Advisory Body *is invited* to report to the forty-seventh session of the Working Party on its progress in this respect;
8. *Reiterates* the importance of the evaluation process in UNCTAD, *welcomes* the active participation by the secretariat in this instance, which has helped produce a valuable tool for the benefit of all concerned, *looks forward* to such positive cooperation in the future, and in this respect, *requests* that adequate human resources be provided for the coordination of future evaluations.