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TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Working Party on the Medium-term Plan
and the Programme Budget
Forty-seventh session
Geneva, 11–15 September 2006
Agenda item 3

**REVIEW OF TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES OF UNCTAD
AND THEIR FINANCING**

*Draft decision for consideration by the Trade and Development Board**

The Trade and Development Board,

1. *Takes* note with appreciation of the technical cooperation activities carried out by the UNCTAD secretariat and of the reports prepared for the Working Party, and *requests* the secretariat to introduce further improvements in the reports, including *inter alia* in the statistical annex;
2. *Welcomes* the increase in total 2005 contributions, noting in particular the increase in developing country resources for the financing of UNCTAD operations in their countries, and *expresses gratitude* for the continuous support provided by bilateral and multilateral donors;
3. *Invites* all development partners to work together with a view to maximizing the development impact of UNCTAD's technical assistance, and *further invites* donors and potential donors in a position to do so to provide adequate funding for the technical cooperation activities of UNCTAD;
4. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the efforts undertaken by the secretariat to improve effective linkages between its research and analytical work, intergovernmental deliberations and technical cooperation activities, and *calls for* further initiatives in this regard;

* As approved by the Working Party at its closing plenary on Thursday, 14 September 2006.

5. *Reiterates* the importance of ensuring an equitable distribution of resources among the developing country regions and countries with economies in transition in the overall delivery of technical cooperation;
6. *Welcomes* the fact that a significant part of UNCTAD technical assistance is provided through interregional activities based on the thematic knowledge of the secretariat, and *urges* donors to continue their support for these activities;
7. *Reiterates* the importance of UNCTAD technical assistance responding to the specific and special needs of least developed countries, small, structurally weak, vulnerable economies, small island developing States, and landlocked and transit developing countries, in accordance with paragraph 33 of the São Paulo Consensus;
8. *Notes with satisfaction* the increase in total resources allocated to assistance to the least developed countries, as their special needs require particular attention, and *urges* donors and the UNCTAD secretariat to further enhance their assistance to these countries;
9. *Requests* the secretariat to ensure that the technical assistance provided is demand-driven and meets the beneficiaries' development goals and objectives;
10. *Calls* for implementation of recommendations on technical cooperation emanating from the Mid-term Review process, and *requests* the secretariat to report on progress made in this regard to the next session of the Working Party dealing with technical cooperation;
11. *Looks forward* to commencing intergovernmental consultations, which may include the report of the Panel of Eminent Persons established by the Secretary-General of UNCTAD, on possible ways of enhancing the development impact of UNCTAD's technical assistance;
12. *Takes note* in this regard of the efforts envisaged by the UNCTAD secretariat with a view to enhancing the coherence and interdivisional nature of technical cooperation programmes and activities, including streamlining projects into thematic clusters and programmes and closing inactive operations; also *takes note* of the efforts of the UNCTAD secretariat to achieve sustainable fundraising;
13. *Calls for* strengthened cooperation among different providers of trade-related technical assistance;
14. *Calls* on member States to ensure that UNCTAD is in a position to play an important role in the Aid for Trade initiative, in accordance with UNCTAD's mandates, expertise and development approach;
15. *Recognizes* the importance of paragraph 166 of the Bangkok Plan of Action, and *calls for* the implementation of the recommendations made in 2005 on the training courses on key issues on the international economic agenda.