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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 4

# EVALUATION OF TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES

## Agreed conclusions\*

## A. In-depth evaluation of the technical cooperation programme on accession to WTO

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

Having considered the in-depth evaluation of the technical cooperation programme on accession to WTO, as contained in document TD/B/WP/190,

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, and *reiterates* the importance it attaches to the evaluation process in UNCTAD;

2. *Takes note* of the views expressed by a number of beneficiary countries and the findings of the evaluation report, and in this context *expresses its appreciation* for the timely, comprehensive, demand-driven and development-focused assistance provided by UNCTAD's technical cooperation programme on accession to WTO;

3. *Welcomes with satisfaction* the recommendations contained in the evaluation report and *requests* the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to implement the recommendations within UNCTAD's mandate;

<sup>\*</sup> As adopted by the Working Party at its closing plenary on Thursday, 14 September 2006.

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to report back on the progress made in the implementation of the recommendations at the next session of the Working Party on technical cooperation;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to take concrete steps towards ensuring that integral support including post-accession assistance is provided, that the internal resource base of the technical assistance programme is strengthened, and that close collaboration with WTO and other relevant organizations is continued and enhanced;

6. *Welcomes* the contributions made by donors to this programme, and *encourages* the donor community to increase the financial support for this technical cooperation programme, including through efforts to provide continuous and predictable multi-year funding;

7. *Calls for* the international community to make an effort to enhance donor coherence and coordination in the assistance for the accession process, bearing in mind UNCTAD's comparative advantage;

8. *Encourages* the beneficiary countries to strengthen the ownership of the accession process, including by making contributions to the implementation of the assistance programme whenever appropriate;

## B. Follow-up on the implementation of recommendations by the independent external evaluation of the course on key issues on the international economic agenda

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

Having taken note of the progress report on the implementation of the recommendations contained in last year's evaluation of the training courses on key issues on the international economic agenda, as contained in document TD/B/WP/189,

9. *Notes with satisfaction* the progress made in the implementation of the recommendations;

10. *Encourages* the UNCTAD secretariat to continue its efforts to make further progress in their implementation;

11. *Requests* the UNCTAD secretariat to report on the progress made to the next session of the Working Party on technical cooperation.