

**Trade and Development Board****Working Party on the Strategic Framework and the Programme Budget**

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Item 3 of the provisional agenda

Review of the proposed UNCTAD

Biennial Programme Plan for the period 2012–2013

## **Draft proposed UNCTAD Biennial Programme Plan for the period 2012–2013**

### **Overview**

1. The main objective of the programme implemented by UNCTAD and the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO (ITC) is to assist developing countries, especially least developed countries (LDCs), and countries with economies in transition to integrate beneficially into the global economy. In all aspects of its work, UNCTAD will help to implement the global development agenda and will assist developing countries in meeting their development goals, including poverty eradication, to improve the welfare of their citizens and to address the opportunities and challenges created by globalization. In particular, in line with the priorities of the organization, UNCTAD will pursue its efforts to support the development of Africa across all its sectoral areas of expertise.

2. To achieve the foregoing objectives, UNCTAD, within its mandate, will (a) conduct pragmatic research and analysis on both long-standing and emerging development issues; (b) build consensus around efforts to promote national and international policies and strategies conducive to development; and (c) support countries in implementing their development strategies aimed at integrating into the global economy and achieving sustainable levels of growth and development. In the context of deepening interdependence among all countries, UNCTAD will continue with its unique orientation and commitment to development through these three pillars, while remaining responsive and accountable to all member States.

3. The programme is guided by the quadrennial sessions of the Conference, the Trade and Development Board and its subsidiary bodies, and the Economic and Social Council Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD). The decisions adopted at the twelfth session of the Conference (UNCTAD XII), held in Accra, Ghana, in April 2008, formed the basis for the present programme of work. For the period 2012–2013, the programme will further integrate the outcomes of UNCTAD XIII, scheduled to take place in 2012.

4. UNCTAD will pursue five subprogrammes to support its objective of helping developing countries integrate beneficially into the international trading system. The

principal task of the first subprogramme emanating from the outcomes of UNCTAD XII will be the examination of development strategies in a globalizing world economy and interrelated issues. Subprogrammes 2 and 4 will aim to contribute to building productive capacities and international competitiveness, while subprogramme 3 and the trade logistics component of subprogramme 4 will aim to contribute to maximizing gains from globalization for development in international trade and trade negotiations in goods and services. The development strategies of Africa, LDCs and countries in special situations – including small island developing States (SIDS), landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies – will be covered under subprogramme 5, while sectoral concerns of those countries will also be addressed by other subprogrammes in coordination and cooperation with subprogramme 5.

5. Within subprogramme 1, the Unit for Economic Cooperation and Integration among Developing Countries reports directly to the UNCTAD Secretary-General and will contribute towards promoting effective South–South integration and cooperation, including triangular cooperation, across all of UNCTAD’s sectoral areas of expertise. Within subprogramme 3, the Special Unit on Commodities implements its work as an autonomous unit on commodities, in accordance with paragraph 183 of the Accra Accord. This unit, through the guidance and leadership of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD, will contribute more effectively to the efforts of developing countries, especially LDCs, to formulate strategies and policies to respond to the challenges and opportunities of commodity markets.

6. In all its work, UNCTAD will make efforts to mainstream cross-cutting issues of gender equality and the empowerment of women, the promotion of sustainable development, and full and productive employment. UNCTAD will also strengthen its cross-divisional coordination, in particular with respect to training and capacity-building programmes.

7. UNCTAD will make contributions, within its mandates, to the implementation of the outcomes of relevant global conferences. Notably, it will contribute to the attainment of the internationally agreed development goals contained in the Millennium Declaration and the 2005 World Summit Outcome, in particular those chapters of the World Summit Outcome related to (a) the global partnership for development; (b) financing for development; (c) domestic resource mobilization; (d) investment; (e) debt; (f) trade; (g) commodities; (h) systemic issues and global economic decision-making; (i) economic cooperation among developing countries; (j) sustainable development; (k) science and technology for development; (l) countries with special needs; and (m) meeting the special needs of Africa.

8. UNCTAD will also contribute to the implementation of specific actions requested in the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development and its follow-up, including (a) the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development; (b) the outcomes agreed at the Fourth United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries in 2011; (c) the World Summit on Sustainable Development, including the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation; (d) the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), including the Declaration of Principles and the Plan of Action; (e) the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries; and (f) the outcomes of the midterm review of the Almaty Programme of Action in 2008 and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States. In addition, it will contribute to furthering the implementation of the internationally agreed goals set out in the Doha Ministerial

Declaration of the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and other relevant decisions.

9. As a lead agency of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for the inter-agency thematic cluster on trade and productive sectors, UNCTAD will (a) enhance the role of trade and development and interrelated issues in United Nations development assistance plans, such as United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks and national development strategies; (b) undertake joint operations at the country level as appropriate; and (c) enhance inter-agency cooperation in system-wide initiatives in those areas.

## Subprogramme 1 Globalization, interdependence and development

**Objective of the organization:** to promote economic policies and strategies at the national, regional and international levels that are supportive of sustained growth, inclusive and sustainable development, full and productive employment creation, and hunger and poverty eradication in developing countries, especially LDCs, based on increased gains from globalization and mitigating the adverse impact of global economic crises, against a background of the increasing interdependence of international trade, investment and financial policies and arrangements, and national development strategies.

### Expected accomplishments of the secretariat

### Indicators of achievement

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| (a) Contribute within its mandate to increased understanding of the global economic environment and of policy choices at the national, regional and international levels (Accra Accord, paras. 36 (a)–(d), 37, 39 and 42);   | (a) (i) Increased number of positive evaluations through publication readership surveys and other feedback from policymakers, beneficiaries and analysts;<br>(ii) Increased number of member States reporting a better understanding of policy choices based on UNCTAD's research, as reflected in statements at intergovernmental meetings, in the media and in other types of feedback;   |
| (b) Progress towards a durable solution to the debt problems of developing countries by fostering better understanding at all levels of the interplay between successful development finance strategies, debt sustainability and effective debt management (Accra Accord, para. 40); | (b) (i) The number of institutions and countries using the capacity-building services of the Debt Management and Financial Analysis System (DMFAS) programme;<br>(ii) The number of international and national policy positions and initiatives in the area of debt and development finance incorporating contributions from UNCTAD and the number of countries assisted by UNCTAD through DMFAS that have improved external debt positions as measured by stable or decreasing external debt-to-gross national product ratio, recognizing that many factors impact this measure; |
| (c) Improved empirical, reliable and timely statistics and indicators highlighting the interlinkages between globalization, trade and development for decision-  | (c) (i) Number of increased statistical variables and derived indicators developed and maintained by UNCTAD Central Statistical Service;  |

- making at the national and international levels on economic policies and development strategies (Accra Accord, para. 36 (e));
- (d) Improved policy and institutional capacities, and enhanced international cooperation for the recovery and sustained development of the Palestinian economy, conducive to building a sovereign and viable Palestinian State, in accordance with the relevant international resolutions (Accra Accord, para. 44);
- (e) Improved awareness and understanding of the growing economic interdependence among developing countries and its implications for development strategy, regional integration, and multilateral cooperation to mitigate the adverse effects of global crises (Accra Accord, para.43).
- (ii) Number of institutions using UNCTAD trade, financial and economic statistical data, as measured by counts of institutions' access to UNCTAD's statistical database;
- (d) Number of Palestinian development initiatives and institutions benefiting from UNCTAD's research findings, recommendations and technical cooperation activities;
- (e) Increased number of member States reporting a better understanding of policy choices and collaboration options that promote economic cooperation and integration among developing countries based on UNCTAD's policy-oriented research and other contributions to South-South cooperation initiatives and forums, as measured by readership surveys and statements at various intergovernmental meetings.
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## Strategy

The subprogramme is under the responsibility of the Division on Globalization and Development Strategies (expected accomplishments (a)–(d) above) and the Unit on Economic Cooperation and Integration among Developing Countries (expected accomplishment (e) above). In its work, the division will focus on (a) identifying specific needs and measures arising from the interdependence between trade, finance, investment, technology and macroeconomic policies from the point of view of their effect on development; (b) contributing to a better understanding of coherence between international economic rules, practices and processes, on the one hand, and national policies and development strategies, on the other; (c) creating an enabling environment for the private sector and entrepreneurial investment; (d) promoting, at the national level, poverty eradication, income distribution and public revenue systems; and (e) supporting developing countries, especially LDCs, in their efforts to formulate development strategies adapted to the challenges of globalization, including economic cooperation among developing countries. In this context, UNCTAD will also continue to support the development efforts of middle-income countries. The objective will be pursued through policy advocacy, consensus-building and technical assistance, based on (a) timely and forward-looking research and analysis of macroeconomic and development policies as well as debt and finance, taking into account the outcomes of relevant major international conferences; (b) the formulation of practical policy recommendations for appropriate development strategies at the national, regional and international levels to meet the opportunities and challenges of globalization; (c) furthering consensus-building on macroeconomic and development policies that are suited to the specific conditions of developing countries; (d) training and capacity-building related to effective debt management; (e) statistical and information

services as tools for policymakers and in support of the UNCTAD work programme; (f) the provision of economic policy analysis and technical assistance to the Palestinian people; and (g) analytical papers, reports and policy briefs addressing the development challenges of South–South integration and cooperation, including triangular cooperation.

## Subprogramme 2 Investment and enterprise

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**Objective of the organization:** To assure developmental gains from increased investment flows and international competitiveness, including through strengthening of productive sectors, to all developing countries, in particular those in Africa and LDCs, as well as LLDCs, SIDS and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies.

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**Expected accomplishments of the secretariat**

**Indicators of achievement**

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| <p>(a) Increased understanding of various key public and private investment issues and of the impact of foreign direct investment (FDI) on development, as well as of related policies that could promote development gains from FDI (Accra Accord, paras. 146,147,149 and 169);</p>                  | <p>(a) (i) Increased number of policymakers and other stakeholders reporting a better understanding of public and private investment issues, as evidenced by the results of surveys and external peer reviews;<br/>(ii) Increased number of countries reporting that they have implemented policy recommendations and utilized methodology provided by UNCTAD in the area of international investment as evidenced by statements made during intergovernmental meetings and official communications;</p> |
| <p>(b) Increased ability to create an environment conducive to attracting and benefiting from investment for development (Accra Accord, paras. 146, 148, 149, 150, 153 and 155);</p>  | <p>(b) (i) Number of countries that have benefited from UNCTAD assistance, including through investment policy reviews, reporting increased FDI and increased benefits from it, as reflected in various types of feedback (e.g. surveys) from beneficiaries;<br/>(ii) Number of countries that have benefited from UNCTAD assistance, recording improved performance based on benchmark indicators, with the recognition that many factors have an impact on this indicator;</p>                         |
| <p>(c) Increased understanding of key and emerging issues related to international investment agreements (IIAs) and their development dimension, enhanced capacity in negotiating and implementing investment treaties, and managing Investor–States disputes (Accra Accord, paras. 146 and 151);</p> | <p>(c) (i) Improved understanding of key and emerging issues related to IIAs, and their development dimension, and examination of the effects of IIAs, as reflected in various types of feedback from policymakers/negotiators;<br/>(ii) Enhanced capacity of member States to participate in negotiating and implementing investment treaties, and managing investor–States disputes, as reflected in various types of feedback from policymakers and negotiators;</p>                                  |
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| (d) Enhanced understanding and capacity to develop international competitiveness through the development of policies aimed at (i) stimulating enterprise development, including through capacity-building in e-tourism and business facilitation; (ii) promoting best practices in corporate social responsibility and accounting; and (iii) establishing competitive and well regulated insurance markets (Accra Accord, paras. 146, 152, 154, 156, 157 and 163). | (d) (i) Increased number of countries indicating that UNCTAD's policy measures and tools are useful and effective in the design of policies aimed at strengthening the competitiveness of their firms, as reflected in various types of feedback (e.g. surveys) from beneficiaries; (ii) Increased number of policymakers and practitioners using guidance and tools developed by UNCTAD in the areas of accounting, insurance, business facilitation, e-tourism and corporate reporting, as reflected in various types of feedback (e.g. surveys) from beneficiaries. |
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## Strategy

The subprogramme is under the responsibility of the Division on Investment and Enterprise. The subprogramme will assist all developing countries – in particular those in Africa and LDCs, as well as LLDCs, SIDS and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies – in designing and implementing active policies at both the national and international levels aimed at enhancing their productive capacities and international competitiveness through investment and enterprise development. To that end, the subprogramme will follow a coherent approach consisting of (a) strengthening its role as the major source of comprehensive information and analysis of international investment, so as to enable policymakers to make better-informed decisions; (b) strengthening the capacity of developing countries to, at their request, formulate and implement integrated policies, develop an enabling environment and participate in discussions relating to international investment; (c) supporting efforts by developing countries to build productive capacities and internationally competitive firms; and (d) training and capacity-building programmes for local institutions.

## Subprogramme 3 International trade

Responsibility for implementation of the components of the subprogramme lies with the Division on International Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities, and the Special Unit on Commodities.

### Component 1: International Trade

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**Objective of the organization:** To ensure the effective, qualitative and beneficial participation of all countries, in particular developing countries, with enhanced work on the special problems of Africa, LDCs, LLDCs, SIDS and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies, in international trade and the trading system in order to make trade a positive force for all.

Expected accomplishments of the secretariat	Indicators of achievement
<p>(a) Strengthened capacity of developing countries and countries with economies in transition to integrate beneficially into the global economy and the international trading system, including services development and trade, and to design and implement trade policies and participate effectively and coherently in bilateral, regional (including South–South) and multilateral trade negotiations, placing greater emphasis on practical solutions (Accra Accord, paras. 89, 90, 94, 95, 97 and 105–107);</p> <p>(b) Further improve and disseminate analytical tools, and databases and software, such as the Trade Analysis and Information System (TRAINS) or the World Integrated Trade Solution (WITS), contributing to trade and trade-related decision-making, including in addressing the trade and development impact of non-tariff barriers (Accra Accord, paras. 96 and 97);</p> <p>(c) Create capacities of developing countries and countries with economies in transition to prepare and implement national and regional competition laws, address the challenges arising from global economic crises in implementing competition and consumer protection legislation, thus achieving domestic and international competitiveness, and enhanced international cooperation for better implementation of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices, in particular section F (Accra Accord, paras. 103 and 104);</p> <p>(d) Strengthened capacity of developing countries to design and implement mutually supportive trade, environment, climate change and sustainable development objectives</p>	<p>(a) (i) Number of countries increasing their participation in trade negotiations through the submission of trade negotiating proposals in bilateral, regional and multilateral trade negotiations, including South–South trade negotiations and WTO accession processes, and the number of countries that UNCTAD has worked with that have built relevant institutional and human resources capacities;</p> <p>(ii) Number of developing countries that have benefited from UNCTAD assistance in designing trade-related policies;</p> <p>(b) (i) Number of active users of TRAINS (or its successor database), either through the Internet or WITS, and of the Agriculture Trade Policy Simulation Mode;</p> <p>(ii) Increased number of specific actions taken by member States to reduce or eliminate the use of non-tariff barriers in international trade, as reflected in UNCTAD’s analytical tools and various feedback from beneficiaries;</p> <p>(c) (i) Number of countries establishing or revising, and implementing national and/or regional (including South–South) competition and consumer protection legislation and institutional frameworks;</p> <p>(ii) Number of voluntary consultations on the resolution of specific competition cases as envisaged in section F of the United Nations Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices, based on modalities elaborated upon by UNCTAD;</p> <p>(d) (i) Number of countries that have benefited from UNCTAD policy analysis and advice, which are designing and implementing policies, plans, programmes,</p>

in development strategies at all levels (Accra Accord, paras. 99–102 and 105).

normative initiatives and institutional arrangements with a view to taking advantage of trade and investment opportunities and promoting their sustainable development objectives;

(ii) Increased participation of developing countries in the Biotrade and Biofuels initiatives, and development-friendly climate change related activities within UNCTAD's mandate, as measured, for example, by the number of biotrade products traded domestically and internationally.

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## Strategy

This subprogramme is under the responsibility of the Division on International Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities. The subprogramme promotes inclusive development from trade through work on international trade in goods, services and commodities and the international trading system, and on the linkages between trade and internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including the Millennium Development Goals of poverty reduction and gender equity. The subprogramme will continue and improve close cooperation with other international organizations and foster coordination of system-wide United Nations activities in the area of international trade in goods and services, and commodities. The subprogramme assists developing countries – in particular those in Africa and LDCs – and countries with economies in transition, through all three pillars of UNCTAD's work. The work of UNCTAD under this subprogramme will include (a) monitoring and assessment of the evolution of the international trading system and trends in international trade from a development perspective, placing greater emphasis on practical solutions including policy options and successful strategies for maximizing trading opportunities, mitigating the adverse impact of global economic crises and building resilient economies; (b) enhancing developing countries' capacities to establish negotiating priorities, negotiate and implement bilateral, regional and multilateral trade agreements and ensure coherency between them; (c) examining ways of improving the utilization of trade preferences and making them more predictable; (d) assisting structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies in their efforts to integrate into the multilateral trading system; (e) assisting developing countries in their efforts to increase participation in global services production and trade, including in undertaking policy reviews and establishing regulatory and institutional frameworks; (f) providing strengthened technical support and cooperation to developing countries and countries with economies in transition in WTO accession processes and their follow-up; (g) undertaking research and analysis on trade and development aspects of intellectual property in accordance with paragraph 105 of the Accra Accord; (h) facilitating economic cooperation among developing countries and South–South trade, including through the Global System of Trade Preferences among Developing Countries; (i) strengthening analytical capacity for policymaking and trade negotiations, and integrating trade and development concerns into national development plans and poverty reduction strategies, in particular for LDCs; (j) addressing the trade and development impact of non-tariff barriers; (k) promoting the use of competition law and policy as tools for achieving domestic and international competitiveness and for dealing with anti-competitive practices; (l) addressing issues at the interface between trade and



environment, including fostering low-carbon development, and development gains and investment opportunities related to the emerging climate change regime and the sustainable use of biodiversity; (m) developing and implementing trade and trade-related technical cooperation and capacity-building activities, including projects under the Aid for Trade initiative; and (n) strengthening its contribution, within its mandate, to the Enhanced Integrated Framework for Trade-related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries.

## Component 2: Commodities

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**Objective of the organization:** To help commodity-dependent developing countries to harness development gains from the commodity economy, as well as to deal with trade and development problems related to commodity dependence.

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Expected accomplishments of the secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Improved capacity of commodity-dependent developing countries to address trade and development problems associated with the commodity economy, including food security and poverty reduction, and to seize opportunities emerging from commodity trade and enhanced international and regional cooperation on this front (Accra Accord, paras. 91–93, 98 and 183).	(a) Number of commodity-dependent countries adopting specific policy measures in the commodity sector that draw on UNCTAD’s work, with a view to facilitating greater participation in commodity value chains, improving transparency and accountability, integrating commodity strategies into national development plans, harnessing related development gains, and strengthening regional cooperation in addressing challenges associated with the commodity economy.

## Strategy

The work on commodities (undertaken by the Special Unit on Commodities) will continue under the substantive policy guidance and strategic oversight of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD. The Special Unit on Commodities assists developing countries – in particular, Africa, LDCs, LLDCs, SIDS and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies – through all three pillars of UNCTAD’s work. The unit will continue to play a key role, with appropriate coordination with other international and regional actors, including with relevant international commodity bodies, in the following:

- (a) Addressing the trade and development problems associated with the commodity economy;
- (b) Monitoring developments and challenges in commodity markets and addressing links between international commodity trade and national development, particularly with regard to poverty reduction;
- (c) Assisting commodity-dependent developing countries in their efforts to:
  - (i) Develop national commodity strategies, including mainstreaming commodity policies into their national and regional development strategies;
  - (ii) Build supply-side capacities in order to attain competitiveness;

- (iii) Move up value chains and diversify commodity sectors;
  - (iv) Comply with public and private international trade standards;
  - (v) Access commodity information and databases;
  - (vi) Take advantage of export opportunities for commodities in emerging markets;
  - (vii) Build human and institutional capacities;
  - (viii) Promote and improve transparency and accountability in the public, private and corporate sectors in order to enable the countries concerned to maximize the benefits that accrue to them from the extractive industries, taking into account, where appropriate, the implementation of relevant initiatives on extractive industries;
  - (ix) Establish effective marketing systems and support frameworks for small commodity producers, including economically viable safety-net programmes; and
  - (x) Develop commodity financing and risk management schemes.
- (d) Promoting intergovernmental cooperation in the field of commodities and consensus-building on ways of integrating commodity policies into (i) national, regional and international development and poverty reduction strategies; (ii) trade-related policies and instruments for resolving commodity problems; and (iii) investment and financial policies for accessing financial resources for commodity-based development, including with respect to official development assistance, Aid for Trade and other possibilities;
- (e) Contributing to building effective multi-stakeholder partnerships with a view to identifying innovative approaches to resolving commodity-related problems.

## Subprogramme 4 Technology and logistics

**Objective of the organization:** To enhance the economic development and competitiveness of developing countries, in particular LDCs, LLDCs, SIDS, and countries with economies in transition, through (a) the promotion of science, technology and innovation and increased access to sustainable utilization of technology and knowledge, including information and communication technologies; (b) efficient trade logistics services and transit transport systems; and (c) training and capacity-building programmes, including for local institutions.

### Expected accomplishments of the secretariat

### Indicators of achievement

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| <p>(a) Improved efficiency of trade logistics of developing countries through, inter alia, strengthening of management of transport operations, coherent transit systems and trade facilitation, development and implementation of appropriate institutional and legal frameworks, and active participation of developing countries in transport and trade facilitation negotiations (Accra Accord, paras. 107 and 164–168);</p> | <p>(a) (i) Increased number of specific identifiable actions taken by developing countries towards improved trade logistics, such as actions to cut transport and transaction costs; improve effective transit systems, transport efficiency and connectivity; establish a supportive legal framework; and/or promote efficient trade facilitation measures;</p> |
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| <p>(b) Improved awareness and adoption of national and international policies in the area of science, technology and innovation, as well as information and communication technologies (ICTs), notably to respond to technological changes, implement effective domestic innovation policy, support transfer and diffusion of technology, and strengthen North–South and South–South cooperation in harnessing knowledge and technology for development, including through capacity-building, as agreed in the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits (Accra Accord, paras. 153 and 158–161);</p> | <p>(ii) Increased number of measures adopted by countries using the Automated System for Customs Data (ASYCUDA) to further improve the efficient management of their customs administration, as evidenced by their adoption of the ASYCUDA system or additional system upgrades and functions;</p>   |
| <p>(c) Contribute towards the enhanced role and the mandates of the CSTD towards promoting consensus-building and better understanding of policy options and best practices on science and technology for development and information and communication technologies for development, including the follow-up to the outcomes of the WSIS (Accra Accord, paras. 159 and 161);</p>   | <p>(b) (i) Increased number of specific actions or policy measures taken by developing countries to implement programmes to enhance the contribution to development of science, technology and innovation, and ICTs, as a result of policy advice and assistance by UNCTAD, including in the context of policy reviews;</p> <p>(ii) Increased number of cooperation initiatives at the subregional, regional and international levels in the area of science and technology and information and communication technologies, such as the harmonization of national cyberlegislation at a regional level;</p>                              |
| <p>(d) Enhanced knowledge and capacities in developing countries in the areas of trade and investment and interrelated issues, through cross-divisional capacity-building programmes providing research, teaching and training to local institutions in developing countries (Accra Accord, para. 162).</p>   | <p>(c) (i) High-level participation in sessions of the CSTD and adoption of national and international measures on science and technology arising from Economic and Social Council resolutions;</p> <p>(ii) An increase in the number of representatives of non-governmental organizations, academia and the private sector, and other stakeholders in the work of the commission;</p> <p>(d) Increased number of specific actions taken by developing countries to strengthen capacities of human resources and local institutions in the areas of trade and investment, and interrelated issues, as a result of UNCTAD assistance.</p> |
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## Strategy

This subprogramme is under the responsibility of the Division on Technology and Logistics. The effective implementation of the work programme under this subprogramme will contribute to improving competitiveness of developing countries, including Africa, LDCs, LLDCs, SIDS, as well as countries with economies in transition, in the globalizing world economy and international trade through (a) improving trade logistics policies, strengthening transport operations management and supporting the design and implementation of coherent transit systems; (b) assisting in the implementation of customs automation and trade facilitation programmes; (c) assisting in the development and implementation of appropriate trade and transport facilitation institutional and legal frameworks; (d) supporting the active participation of developing countries in transport and trade facilitation negotiations; (e) promoting access to, and enhancing the capacity to, develop and use technology and knowledge; (f) following up as a focal point for the Executive Committee of Economic and Social Affairs on science and technology; (g) coordinating and contributing to the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development launched at UNCTAD XI; (h) coordinating the system-wide follow-up of the outcome of the WSIS, including enhanced access to and efficient application of ICTs for development; (i) serving as secretariat for the United Nations CSTD and reporting to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly; (j) supporting the development of local teaching and research capacities in member countries' academic institutions; and (k) fostering training and capacity-building aimed at policymakers and trade practitioners in the fields of trade and interrelated areas of finance, technology, investment and sustainable development. Wherever appropriate, the subprogramme will continue to carry out consultations and work in close collaboration with relevant specialized agencies and programmes of the United Nations system.

## Subprogramme 5 Africa, least developed countries and special programmes

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**Objective of the organization:** To promote economic development and poverty reduction in Africa, LDCs and other groups of countries in special situations (LLDCs, SIDS and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies), and their progressive and beneficial integration into the global economy, in particular through national policies and international support measures which build productive capacities, including by assisting them in trade mainstreaming through the implementation of the Enhanced Integrated Framework and the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks. UNCTAD will also contribute, within its mandate, to the implementation and follow-up to the outcomes of relevant global conferences and to the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020. The Special Programme of the Division aims at helping LLDCs mitigate the adverse economic consequences of their geographical disadvantage through (a) support to policymaking toward enhanced productive capacities and sound economic specialization; (b) helping SIDS to enhance their resilience to external shocks and making steady socio-economic progress possible to most of them; and (c) instilling an UNCTAD-wide practice of systematic attention to the problems of structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies outside the United Nations-recognized categories.

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Expected accomplishments of the secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Increased range of national and international policy choices to promote African development in the areas of expertise of UNCTAD (Accra Accord, paras. 10, 41 and 195);	(a) (i) Number of member States that have endorsed policy recommendations put forward by UNCTAD, as demonstrated by statements at various UNCTAD intergovernmental meetings;  (ii) Increased number of countries reporting that they have adopted policy recommendations and utilized analytical conceptualizations, problem identification and methodology provided by UNCTAD in the area of African development;
(b) Increased analytical understanding and consensus in the global economy on the development problems of the LDCs and on the policies to address them (Accra Accord, paras. 10, 39 (c) and (d), 41, 90 (i), 147 and 184 (b) and (g));	(b) (i) Number of member States that have endorsed policy recommendations put forward by UNCTAD, as demonstrated by statements at various UNCTAD intergovernmental meetings;  (ii) Increased number of countries reporting that they have adopted policy recommendations and utilized analytical conceptualizations, problem identification and methodology provided by UNCTAD in the area of LDC development;
(c) Better integration of trade policies and priorities in the national development plans through, inter alia, the Enhanced Integrated Framework for Trade-related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries (Accra Accord, paras. 90 (i), 212 (d) and 214);	(c) Number of LDCs that have made progress in mainstreaming trade policies and priorities in their national development plans, and have implemented the action matrices of the Enhanced Integrated Framework, with the recognition that many factors have an impact on this indicator;
(d) Improved participation of LDCs in major global conferences and summits as well as effective implementation of the Programme of Action for Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020 in areas within UNCTAD’s mandates and competence (Accra Accord, paras. 10, 11, 184 (b) and (g), and 212 (d));	(d) Increased number of concrete proposals for action by the LDCs that are agreed upon and reflected in the final outcome documents of major conferences and summits;
(e) Better awareness of issues and policy options to alleviate the challenges faced by landlocked developing countries (Accra Accord, paras. 10, 36 (d), 41, 107, 146, 165 and 212 (g));	(e) Number of LLDCs benefiting from UNCTAD’s advisory services in different areas of economic policy, with a particular focus on investment, productive capacities and competitiveness;

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| (f) Enhanced capacity of SIDS policymakers to build development partnerships conducive to the adoption of relevant international support measures (Accra Accord, paras. 10, 36 (d), 58, 146 and 212 (h));                       | (f) Number of SIDS directly benefiting from the advisory services of UNCTAD in different areas of economic policymaking with implications for resilience-building and structural transformation; |
| (g) Better awareness of the problems faced by non-LDC, non-LLDC, non-SIDS “structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies” (Accra Accord, paras. 10, 36 (d), 90 (j) and 212 (h));  | (g) Increased number of UNCTAD outputs that address the problems faced by these countries;   |
| (h) Enhanced support to the work of relevant United Nations bodies and to concerned LDCs towards a smooth graduation process, in the context of the triennial review of the United Nations list of LDCs in 2012 (A/RES/59/209). | (h) Number of countries benefiting from UNCTAD assistance towards their graduation and smooth transition from LDC status.  |
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## Strategy

This subprogramme is under the responsibility of the Division for Africa, Least Developed Countries and Special Programmes. To achieve the objective of the subprogramme, the division will focus on identifying and promoting understanding of the economic development problems specific to the countries concerned through policy analysis and research, and will play an advocacy role in promoting consensus in the international development community on the policy measures that best address such development problems. This will involve identification of new issues and approaches, and greater interactions with research institutes in the LDCs as well as development partners. A major aim is to add value to current policy debates with innovative thinking on current issues. Research outputs will be linked closely to the provision of advisory services, training, workshops and lectures, with a view to improving human and institutional capabilities. It will also seek to sensitize development partners to the specific needs of these countries and ways to meet these needs. In order to identify policy options at the national and international levels on the use of trade as a more effective tool for poverty eradication, UNCTAD will undertake research activities on the interlinkages between trade and poverty, and training and capacity-building programmes for local institutions. The division will continue to support relevant countries in their efforts to take maximum advantage of their respective United Nations statuses and, by doing so, avoid their increased marginalization from the global economy and reduce poverty. This will involve support towards enhancing productive capacities and building resilience to adverse external influences. Technical cooperation outputs of this subprogramme will be focused on building capacities for national policymaking ownership and will include linking policy analysis and research work to policy ownership capacity-building support activities. Furthermore, they will be aimed at effective participation and delivery of Trade Related Technical Assistance in the context of, inter alia, the Enhanced Integrated Framework and Aid for Trade.

In addition, the subprogramme will contribute to the implementation of the UNLDC IV outcome for the Decade 2011–2020, the Almaty Programme of Action addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries, and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the

Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, including the outcome of their reviews. In order to ensure coherence and consistency, this subprogramme will coordinate and cooperate with other subprogrammes on the sectoral work relating to the groups of countries concerned. Moreover, the division will promote UNCTAD-wide efforts toward analytical insights into the problems faced by non-LDC, non-LLDC, non-SIDS structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies through the systematic coverage of these countries in relevant UNCTAD research and technical assistance.

The strategy of the subprogramme will be reviewed and revised as appropriate in the light of the outcomes of the Fourth United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries in 2011.

**Legislative mandates***General Assembly resolutions*

- 2297 (XXII) International Trade Centre
- 55/2 United Nations Millennium Declaration
- 55/279 Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010
- 56/210 International Conference on Financing for Development
- 58/201 Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries
- 60/1 2005 World Summit Outcome
- 60/185 Unilateral economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries
- 60/209 Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006)
- 62/137 Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly
- 62/161 The right to development
- 62/179 New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support
- 62/187 Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus
- 62/203 Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries
- 62/208 Triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
- 62/209 South–South cooperation
- 63/140 Assistance to the Palestinian people
- 63/203 International trade and development
- 63/213 Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States
- 63/222 Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence
- 63/227 Implementation of the Brussels Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010
- 63/228 Groups of countries in special situations: specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation
- 63/239 Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document for the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus
- 63/260 Development-related activities
- 63/303 Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and its Impact on Development
- 63/311 System-wide coherence



*Trade and Development Board resolutions*

- TD/386 Plan of Action  
 TD/387 Bangkok Declaration: Global Dialogue and Dynamic Engagement  
 TD/412 Report of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on its eleventh session  
 Part I: UNCTAD XI — The Spirit of São Paulo  
 Part II: The São Paulo Consensus  
 TD/B(S-XXIII)/7 Agreed outcome of the Mid-term Review  
 UNCTAD/IAOS/2008/2 Accra Accord and the Accra Declaration

**Subprogramme 1****Globalization, interdependence and development***General Assembly resolutions*

- 62/185 International financial system and development  
 62/186 External debt and development: towards a durable solution to the debt problems of developing countries  
 63/206 External debt and development: towards a durable solution to the debt problems of developing countries

**Subprogramme 3****International trade***General Assembly resolutions*

- 57/253 World Summit on Sustainable Development  
 62/189 Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development  
 63/225 International migration and development

**Subprogramme 4****Technology and logistics***General Assembly resolutions*

- 60/252 World Summit on the Information Society  
 62/182 Information and communication technologies for development  
 62/201 Science and technology for development

**Subprogramme 5****Africa, least developed countries and special programmes***General Assembly resolution*

- 59/209 Smooth transition strategy for countries graduating from the list of least developed countries