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Trade and Development Board

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

Fifty-first session

Geneva, 1–5 September 2008

Item 2 of the provisional agenda

Provisional agenda and annotations*

I. Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
3. Discussion of the four-year work plan in accordance with paragraph 221 of the Accra Accord
4. Review of the technical cooperation activities of UNCTAD and their financing
5. Progress report on the implementation of sub-theme 4 of the Accra Accord
6. Evaluation of technical cooperation activities:
 - (a) Progress report on UNCTAD's advisory services on investment
 - (b) Progress report on UNCTAD's trade-related technical assistance and capacity-building on accession to the World Trade Organization
 - (c) UNCTAD's evaluation policy
7. Provisional agenda for the fifty-second session of the Working Party
8. Other business
9. Adoption of the report of the Working Party to the Trade and Development Board

* This document was submitted on the above-mentioned date as a result of processing delays.

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

Item 1. Election of officers

1. Under rule 64, paragraph 3, of the rules of procedure of the Trade and Development Board, and in accordance with the cycle of rotation for the election of the Chair and the Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur, the Chair of the Working Party at its fifty-first session will be a representative of one of the States members on list C. The Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur will be a representative of one of the States members on list B.

Item 2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

2. The Working Party will be invited to approve the provisional agenda for its fiftieth session, as reproduced in section I above.

Documentation

TD/B/WP/201 Provisional agenda and annotations

Item 3. Discussion of the four-year work plan in accordance with paragraph 221 of the Accra Accord

3. In accordance with paragraph 221 of the Accra Accord, the UNCTAD secretariat will present a four-year work plan to member States for discussion at the Working Party with a view to making recommendations to the Trade and Development Board at its subsequent session as regards the necessary adjustments to the approved work programme for the period 2008–2009.

Documentation

TD/B/WP/203 Draft work plan for the implementation of the Accra Accord, 2008–2011

Item 4. Review of the technical cooperation activities of UNCTAD and their financing

4. For its consideration of this item, the Working Party will have before it the report of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD entitled “Review of the technical cooperation activities of UNCTAD” (TD/B/WP/202), dealing with activities undertaken in 2007, which is being submitted both to the Working Party at its fifty-first session and to the Trade and Development Board at its fifty-fifth session. The report contains analytical information on the different sources of financing for UNCTAD’s technical cooperation activities, i.e. voluntary contributions and their allocation by thematic areas and by regions or countries, as well as an updated overview of the structure and main features of UNCTAD technical cooperation programmes and projects.

5. Annex I to the above document – “Review of activities undertaken in 2007” (TD/B/WP/202/Add.1) – provides a review of technical cooperation activities undertaken in 2007 under various programmes and projects. It contains background information on activities, as well as information on their impact and results.

6. Annex II to the report – “Statistical tables” (TD/B/WP/202/Add.2) – provides data on financial contributions, project expenditures and the distribution of activities among different regions and programmes. It also provides a list of projects under implementation in 2007.

Documentation

TD/B/WP/202	Review of the technical cooperation activities of UNCTAD
TD/B/WP/202/Add.1	Review of the technical cooperation activities of UNCTAD – Annex I: Review of activities undertaken in 2007 (English only)
TD/B/WP/202/Add.2	Review of the technical cooperation activities of UNCTAD – Annex II: Statistical tables (English only)

Item 5. Progress report on the implementation of sub-theme 4 of the Accra Accord

7. In accordance with paragraph 221 of the Accra Accord, the UNCTAD secretariat will provide a progress report on the implementation of sub-theme 4 of the Accord.

Item 6. Evaluation of technical cooperation activities:**(a) Progress report on UNCTAD's advisory services on investment**

8. The Working Party, at its forty-ninth session, requested a report on the progress made in the implementation of the recommendations and observations contained in paragraphs 89 and 90 of the evaluation report on UNCTAD's advisory services on investment.

Documentation

TD/B/WP/204	Progress report on the implementation of the recommendations and observations contained in the evaluation on UNCTAD's advisory services on investment
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(b) Progress report on UNCTAD's trade-related technical assistance and capacity-building on accession to the World Trade Organization

9. The Working Party, at its forty-ninth session, requested a report on the further progress made in the implementation of the recommendations made in the evaluation report on UNCTAD's trade-related technical assistance and capacity-building on accession to the World Trade Organization.

Documentation

TD/B/WP/205	Progress report on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the evaluation on UNCTAD's trade-related technical assistance and capacity-building on accession to the World Trade Organization.
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(c) UNCTAD's evaluation policy

10. In response to the recommendation by the Office of Internal Oversight Services and in accordance with the Norms and Standards for Evaluation in the United Nations system, the UNCTAD secretariat plans to establish its own evaluation policy. The policy will be in line with the standards established by the United Nations system. In view of the programmatic oversight role of the Working Party, which also undertakes in-depth

evaluations itself, the secretariat will present a draft policy for consultation and possible endorsement.

In-session document

Item 7. Provisional agenda for the fifty-second session of the Working Party

11. In the course of the session, the secretariat will submit a draft provisional agenda for the next session of the Working Party.

Item 8. Other business

Item 9. Adoption of the report of the Working Party to the Trade and Development Board

12. The report of the fifty-first session of the Working Party will be submitted to the Trade and Development Board.
