

Induction Course 2013

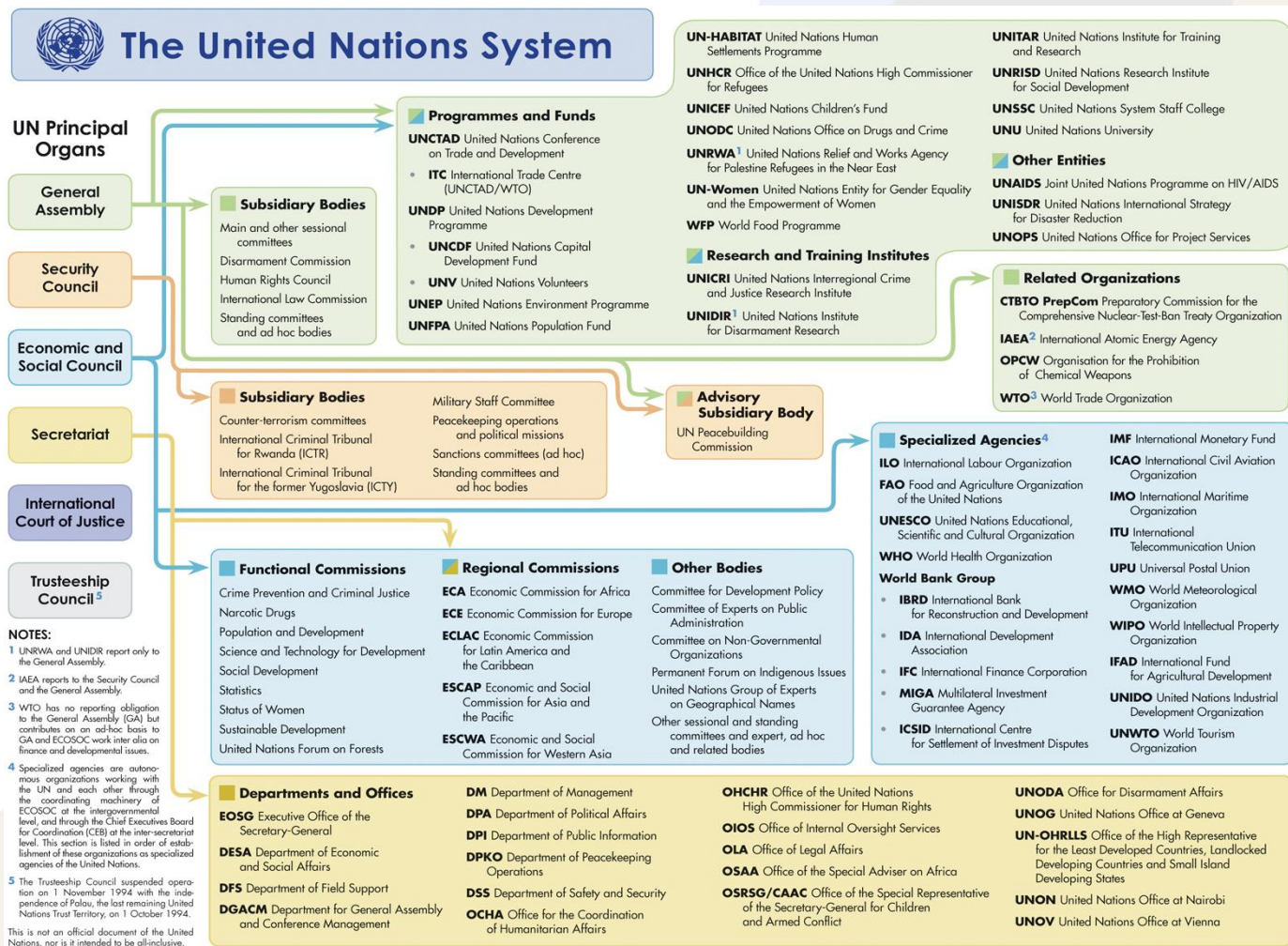
UNCTAD's history, mission, and structure

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Geneva, 9 September 2013



UNCTAD in the UN System



NOTES:

- ¹ UNRWA and UNIDIR report only to the General Assembly.
- ² IAEA reports to the Security Council and the General Assembly.
- ³ WTO has no reporting obligation to the General Assembly (GA) but contributes on an ad-hoc basis to GA and ECOSOC work inter alia on finance and developmental issues.
- ⁴ Specialized agencies are autonomous organizations working with the UN and each other through the coordinating machinery of ECOSOC at the intergovernmental level, and through the Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) at the inter-secretariat level. This section is listed in order of establishment of these organizations as specialized agencies of the United Nations.
- ⁵ The Trusteeship Council suspended operation on 1 November 1994 with the independence of Palau, the last remaining United Nations Trust Territory, on 1 October 1994.

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UNCTAD in the UN System

- UNCTAD was established by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1964 in its resolution 1995 (XIX).
- Its current membership – 194 Member states – most inclusive Forum; - It works through consensus;
- Established as an organ of the GA; Reports to the GA through ECOSOC and the 2nd committee; working with specialized agencies including BWIs at the intergovernmental level through ECOSOC; Secretariat coordination through CEB;
- Its budget is determined by UN – ACABQ; 5th committee;
- Its Secretary General is appointed by the SG of the UN in consultation with regional groups; The position rotates between Africa, Asia and Latin America Groups.

Role of Geneva Delegates in UNCTAD's Governance?

- Geneva delegates are directly involved in what is called "policy-making organs", i.e. the quadrennial conference, the TDB and its subsidiary organ the WP plus the two commissions.

Birth of UNCTAD

- In the 60s with the establishment of ITO stalled the UN system was missing an organization or body analyzing trade and development from not least the developing countries perspective.
- It was demanded by the newly formed G 77.
- In 1964 these demands were met at the first UNCTAD Conference in Geneva;
- It's first Secretary General - Raul Prebisch came from a continent that was teeming with revolutionary spirit to change the present world order. He gave UNCTAD a head start and became the intellectual leader of the New International Economic Order that came to dominate the UN debates in the late 60s & early 70s

UNCTAD's Budget

- The Secretariat is composed of about 400 staff ;
- Annual regular budget of approximately \$68 million from the United Nations;
- Extra-budgetary technical assistance funds of +\$40 million

Main Goals

- Promote economic development and poverty reduction;
- Contribute to the progressive and beneficial integration in the global economy,

Particularly through

national policies and international support measures in support of development centered globalization.

Almost 50 years of promoting development-friendly integration of developing countries into the world economy: Some highlights

- 1960s -70s - GSP; International Commodities Agreement; The Common Fund for Commodities; Code of conduct for liner conferences; Control of Restrictive Business practices;
- 1970 - Classification of the Group of Least Developed Countries
- Instrumental in the adoption by the UNGA of the 0.7 % of GDP target for ODA;
- Special and Differential Treatment at multilateral trade negotiations
- Proposed debt relief for poor countries;
- GSTP; Positive Agenda for Trade Negotiation Developed TA successes such as ASYCUDA and DMFAS
- EMPRETEC ;Several capacity building training and advisory services
- Proposed the concept of « good development governance »
- STIP and IPR reviews;
- Creation of world association of Investment Promotion agencies;
- Policy Space; Developmental States; Development of Productive capacities; Development centered Globalization

UNCTAD's Mandate

- GA Resolution 1995
- UNCTAD XII - Accra Accord
- UNCTAD XIII – Doha Mandate

Guiding Principles

Same as those put forward by Gunnar Myrdal, Executive Secretary UNECE; Nobel 1974

- Independent Research - scientific agent - tolerance to diversity of views
- Competence – staff selection
- Relevance and usefulness – practical purpose
- Scientific Modesty – welcome criticism but also respect
- Integrity – remain true to findings
- Caution – avoid being provocative

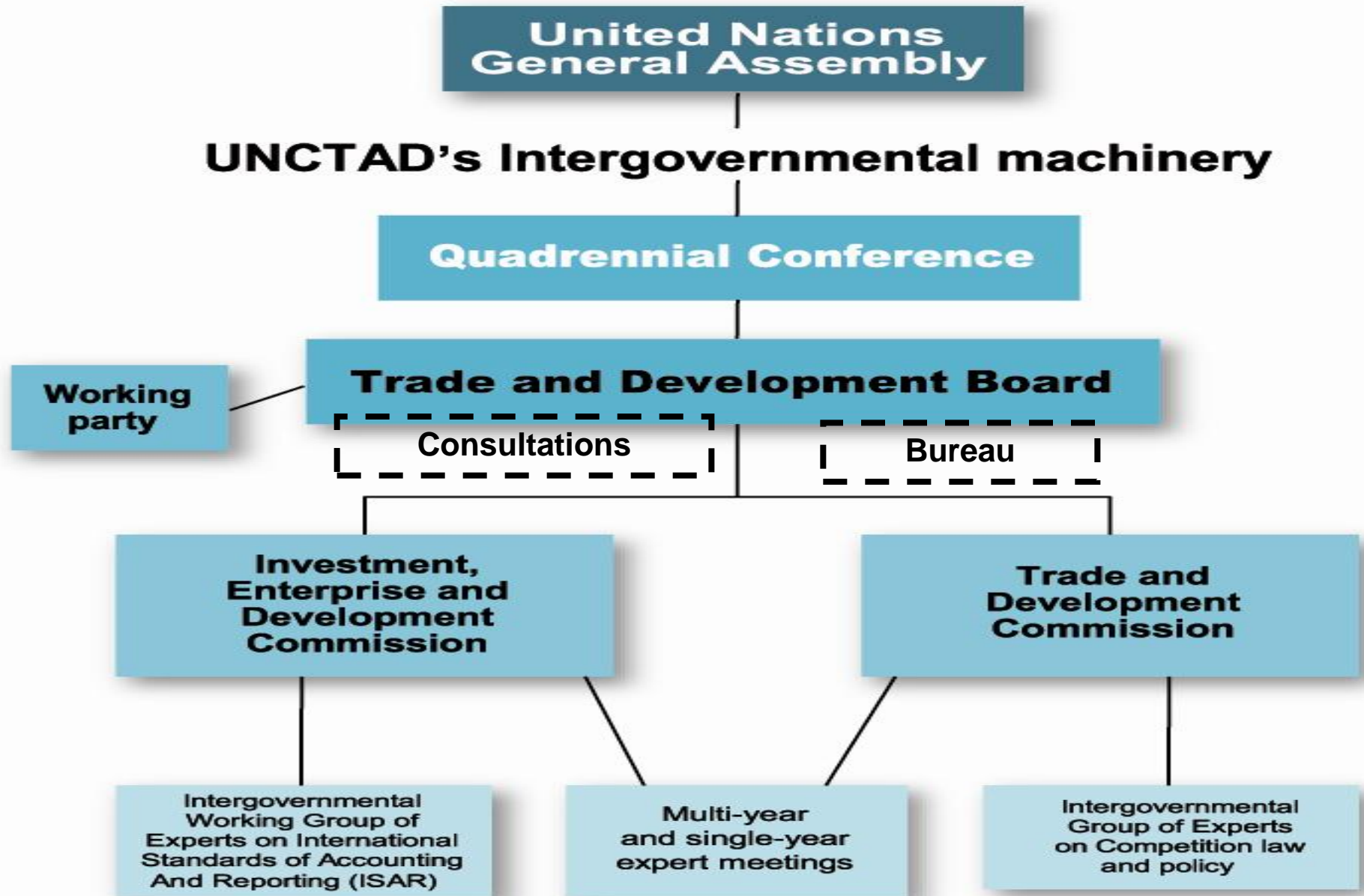
UNCTAD Three Pillars

Research
&
Policy Analysis
Flagship Reports

Capacity
Building:
Technical
Assistance

Consensus
building
Paragraphs 189 to
211 of the Accra
Accord

UNCTAD's Intergovernmental machinery at glance



UNCTAD's Intergovernmental machinery

- **TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD (TDB):**

Regular session in September in Geneva + up to 3 times in executive sessions

To deal with urgent policy issues, as well as management and institutional matters.

- **Two Commissions** (meet 1 a year; subsidiary bodies of the TDB; report to the TDB)

1. Trade and Development;

2. Investment, Enterprise and Development;

- **Eight Expert Meetings (6 MY & 2 SY) – report to the commissions**

- **Working Party – meets 3 times – decisions and conclusions to the TDB**

- **Monthly consultations of the President; Bureau; Informal consultations**

Preparations for meetings

- Agenda
- Documentation
- Outcome
- Preparatory informal meetings, e.g. regional coordinators, Bureau meetings.
- Notifications to missions in Geneva
 - Correspondence
 - UNCTAD ISS informal emails

UNCTAD's Intergovernmental meetings

**Officers of meetings drawn from the “lists” (Annex :
Resolution 1995 (XIX))**

**Elected on the basis of equitable geographic
distribution**

Chairman

Vice- President

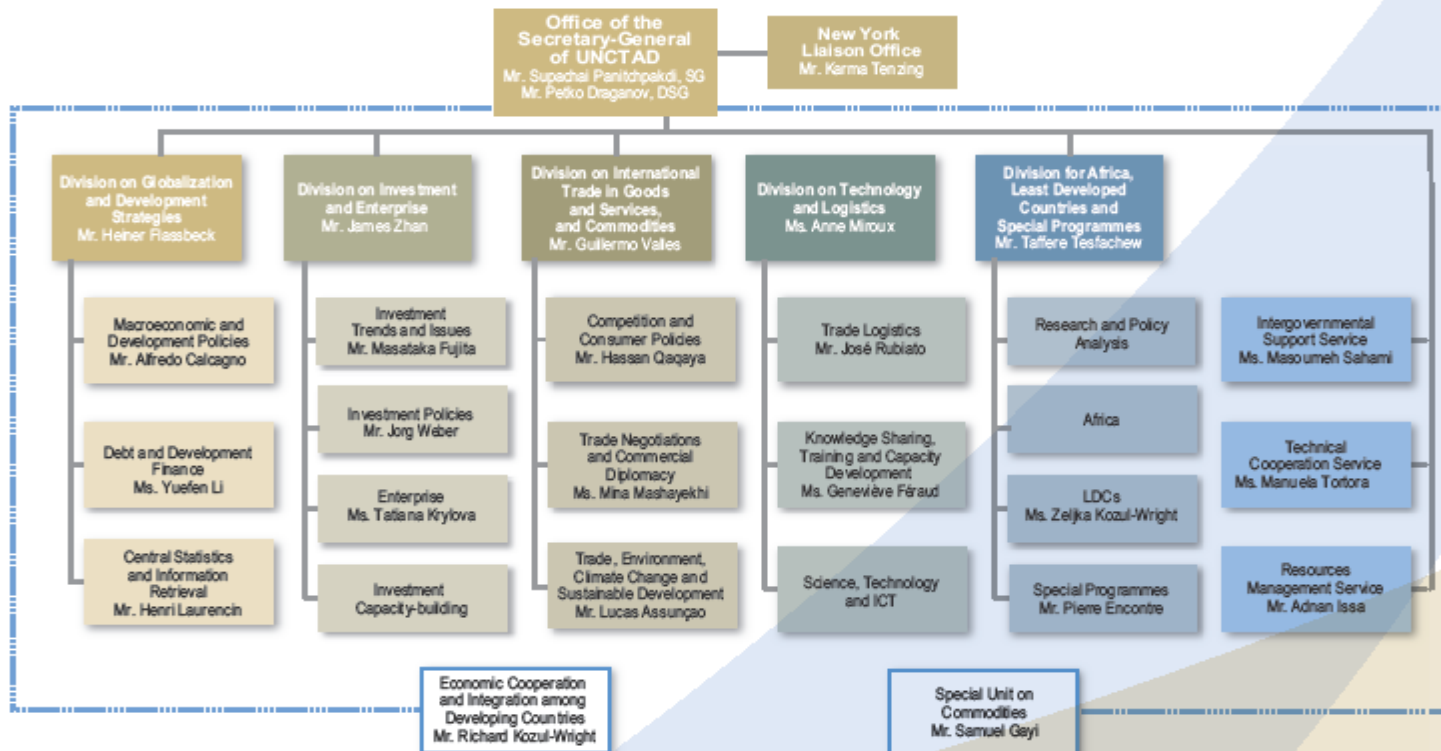
Vice-President-cum-Rapporteur



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