

Trade and Development Board, sixtieth session
Geneva, 16–27 September 2013

Opening Plenary
General statements by regional groups
Speaker: JUSSCANNZ

Monday, 16 September 2013

*Not checked against delivery **

* This statement is made available in the language and form in which it was received. The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of UNCTAD.

(Check against delivery)

**Opening Statement of the JUSSCANNZ
For the 60th Session of the Trade and Development Board
Monday, 16 September 2013, Geneva**

Delivered by Mr. Tomochika UYAMA, Deputy Permanent Representative of
Permanent Mission of Japan in Geneva, on behalf of JUSSCANNZ

Mr President,
Secretary General Dr. Mukhisa Kituyi,
Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,

It is my honor to speak on behalf of JUSSCANNZ.

First of all, we congratulate you Mr President, on your election as the President of the 60th Session of the Trade and Development Board. We are confident that under your able leadership, this TDB will be a successful meeting. JUSSCANNZ is ready to actively engage in the discussion over the course of the next two weeks.

I would also like to express our sincere gratitude to His Excellency Ambassador Jüri Seilenthal and His Excellency Ambassador Mukhtar Tileuberdi for their excellent work and guidance throughout the past year as the President of the 59th Session of the TDB.

Mr. President,

This is a special TDB for all of us, with our new Secretary General Dr. Mukhisa Kituyi joining us for the first time. JUSSCANNZ joins all others in welcoming Dr. Kituyi and wishing him the very best in his new role as Secretary General leading the important work of UNCTAD. We look forward to his strong leadership in guiding this organization. With new and fresh leadership, we believe that this is the right moment to reiterate our support of the work of UNCTAD. JUSSCANNZ

(Check against delivery)

believes that UNCTAD's role as an intergovernmental forum dedicated to integrating trade and development issues provides unique opportunities for member states to share best practices and maximize the benefits to be gained from international trade.

As we all know, economic growth is an effective means to alleviate poverty and promote sustainable development. Trade and targeted investment are key components in achieving such growth. It is important that UNCTAD continue its work in the areas where it has the most comparative advantage- these areas of trade and investment. Its analysis on trade, investment, and related issues, as well as technical cooperation should be pragmatic and results-oriented in order to be useful and important tools for promoting growth and combating poverty in beneficiary countries.

Today, some of UNCTAD's publications are definitive sources of information: many international firms rely on UNCTAD's World Investment Reports to plan investments in developing countries. The UNCTAD-led coordination on sustainability standards will help exporters deal with a range of private labels, and access new markets. The technical cooperation provided by UNCTAD teams, such as in the area of Trade Facilitation and custom officer capacity building, promises enduring results. We would like to see a continued effort by the UNCTAD secretariat to pursue the goals set by the Doha Mandate to enhance opportunities for livelihoods through trade so that members may grow their way out of poverty.

JUSSCANNZ also looks forward to the 50th Anniversary of UNCTAD in 2014. During the last 50 years, the world, in particular the developing world, has experienced many changes. UNCTAD must also change to respond to the continuing shifts in the global economy in order to remain relevant to member states. The 50th anniversary will provide an important opportunity to review past best practices and to chart the organization's future contributions on trade and development.

(Check against delivery)

Mr. President,

We would like to express our appreciation to the new UNCTAD Secretary General for his initial meetings with member States and his fresh approach to the management and administration of the organization. We are grateful for the Secretariat's commitment to implement the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit Report and decisions made at UNCTAD XIII and the 26th TDB Special Session. We look forward to discussing the Progress report on the implementation of the work plan for enhancing the management and administration of UNCTAD at this TDB. We also look forward to an opportunity during this TDB to discuss UNCTAD's draft strategies in tandem with the Strategic Framework and Programme Budget, as part of item 14.

We share in the commitment of all parties- member states, beneficiaries, donors, partners and staff- to improve the operations and delivery of UNCTAD's mandate. In this regard, we strongly encourage active engagement from the senior management, stronger coordination among Divisions, and closer communication with member states to improve the transparency and accountability. We support the new Secretary General's leadership to manage and implement a work plan, based on results. Further enhancement of efficiency and effectiveness promises to be a win-win for all stakeholders of UNCTAD, especially for those who are the recipients of its advice and technical cooperation.

We stand ready to work closely with you, Dr. Kituyi as well as your staff and with all the member states to enable UNCTAD to make a positive difference, delivered by a motivated staff, to meet the practical needs of beneficiary countries for their sustainable development.

Thank you for your kind attention.
