63rd session of the Working Party on the Strategic Framework and the Programme Budget Geneva, 21–23 November 2012

Item 3: Review of the programme narrative component of the draft proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014–2015

Statement by the Deputy Secretary-General of UNCTAD

AS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY

Mr. Chairman, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my pleasure to present to you the three general sections of the draft proposed programme narrative for the biennium 2014–2015. I will refer to these in the order in which they are presented in the document.

Firstly, we have part A, on policymaking organs. This section contains a description of the bodies that are relevant to UNCTAD's programme of work, namely the Conference, the Trade and Development Board and its subsidiary bodies, and the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, which, as you know, receives substantive support from the UNCTAD secretariat. This section is mainly descriptive, and is based on the applicable mandates and resolutions.

Secondly, we have part B, on the Executive Direction and Management, which in the case of UNCTAD refers to the Office of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD or, as we call it, the OSG. This part starts with a brief outline of the general responsibilities of the OSG. Then the same format is followed as for the subprogrammes, meaning that there is a logical framework that outlines the objectives pursued by the OSG with its work, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement, performance measures and external factors; and then there is a list of outputs to be delivered by this Office. The logical framework of the Executive Direction and Management remains unchanged as compared to the present biennium (2012–2013). This is because the framework had been revised for 2012–2013, and it is of key importance not to change the framework too frequently in order to ensure comparability of our performance across bienniums. As for the outputs, you will find a number of generic outputs referring to the general work of the OSG in managing the UNCTAD secretariat, but also some more specific outputs in the areas directly overseen by the OSG, such as communication, gender issues, and evaluation.

The third general part of the document is its final item, part D, on Programme Support. In the case of UNCTAD, and as explained in paragraph 36 of the document, programme support refers to the three entities that provide general support to the UNCTAD secretariat, namely the Intergovernmental Support Service, the Technical Cooperation Service and the Resources Management Service. In addition to paragraph 36, you will find in this section a list of generic outputs that will be delivered by these three Services in 2014 and 2015. This section covers involved the work in providing logistical support to our intergovernmental machinery, in coordinating our technical assistance activities and in the general management of our resources, including financial administration.

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen, this concludes my presentation on parts A, B and C of the programme

narrative. I would like to thank you for your attention, and we stand ready to provide any further clarifications that you may require.

Thank you.