



**United Nations Conference
on Trade and Development**

Distr.: Restricted
16 April 2013

Original: English

Trade and Development Board

Fifty-seventh executive session

Geneva, 26–28 June 2013

Item 4 of the provisional agenda

**Designation of non-governmental organizations and intergovernmental bodies
for the purposes of rules 76 and 77 of the rules of procedure of the Board**

**Designation of intergovernmental bodies for the
purposes of rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the
Board**

Application from the Eurasian Economic Commission

Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

Executive summary

The UNCTAD secretariat has received an application from the Eurasian Economic Commission requesting the Trade and Development Board to grant it observer status under rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the Board.

Information regarding the history, aims and structure of the Eurasian Economic Commission is provided in the annex.

Annex

Background information on the Eurasian Economic Commission

History

1. The process of Eurasian integration started 20 years ago. The integration process was driven by the extensive cooperation between the new Independent States in a range of economic sectors (industry, agriculture, transport and energy).
2. The establishment of the Customs Union and the development of the Single Economic Space between Belarus, Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation will lead to the creation of the Eurasian Economic Union in 2015. The underlying goal of integration was to create an environment conducive to cooperation with other countries and other economic unions. In particular, there was an aspiration to create a common economic space with the European Union.
3. On 18 November 2011, the Presidents of Belarus, Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation signed the Declaration on Eurasian Economic Integration and the Treaty on the Eurasian Economic Commission. International agreements setting out the legal framework of the Single Economic Space came into force, and on 1 January 2012, the Single Economic Space became operational. According to the Treaty of 2 February 2012, the Commission began its work as the permanent supranational regulatory body of the Customs Union and the Single Economic Space. The deadline of 1 January 2015 was set for the codification of international agreements, which would constitute the legal and regulatory framework of the Customs Union and the Single Economic Space.

Aims and objectives

4. The main objective of the Commission is to carry out further economic integration initiatives within the framework of the Customs Union and the Single Economic Space.
5. The Commission carries out its activities in compliance with its regulations, adopted on 18 November 2011, as set out in the Treaty on the Eurasian Economic Commission, the international agreements that constitute the legal and regulatory base of the Customs Union and the Single Economic Space, and decisions adopted by the Supreme Eurasian Economic Council in the following areas: tariff and non-tariff customs regulations; customs administration; technical regulations; sanitary, phytosanitary and veterinary measures; payment and distribution of import customs duties; establishment of trade regimes in respect of third countries; statistics of foreign and reciprocal trade; macroeconomic, currency, competition and energy policies; industrial and agricultural subsidies; natural monopolies; State and/or municipal procurement; reciprocal trade in goods and investments; transportation and haulage; protection of intellectual property rights and means of individualization of products, works and services; labour migration; and financial markets (banking sector, insurance, foreign exchange and securities market).
6. The Commission works in close collaboration with its main partners; its first point of contact are the public bodies and agencies of member States with a view to enhancing interaction with national authorities in the decision-making process. To this end, the Commission has set up sectoral advisory committees on trade, technical, regulation and transportation. They are mostly composed of Commission officials and representatives of

the national governments of Single Economic Space member States. When necessary, representatives of the business community are invited to help with specific cases. The second point of contact is with members of the business community.

Membership

7. The Eurasian Economic Commission's member States are Belarus, the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation.

Structure

8. The work of the Commission is divided into separate functions, each supervised by a Board member (Minister) and encompassing a number of industries and areas of economic activity. The members of the Board and the Commission departments work in partnership with the relevant government authorities in Belarus, Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation within their respective competences.

9. The Board is the executive body of the Commission, and consists of nine members (three from each party):

- (a) Chairman of the Board;
- (b) Minister, Competition and Anti-trust Regulation;
- (c) Minister, Customs Cooperation;
- (d) Minister, Economics and Financial Policies;
- (e) Minister, Energy and Infrastructure;
- (f) Minister, Industry and the Agro-industrial Complex;
- (g) Minister, Technical Regulation;
- (h) Minister, Development of Integration and Macroeconomics;
- (i) Minister, Trade.

10. The Chairman and members of the Board are appointed by the Supreme Eurasian Economic Council for a renewable four-year term. In addition to their Board duties, the members take an active part in the day-to-day work of the Commission. The resolutions of the Commission are passed by vote, each member of the Board having one vote.

11. The members of the Board coordinate the work of 23 Commission departments and participate in the activity of sectoral advisory committees in order to work out the decisions to be presented at the meetings of the Board of the Commission.

Relations with United Nations organs and specialized agencies

- (a) International Trade Centre (UNCTAD/WTO);
- (b) Economic Commission for Europe;
- (c) Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific;
- (d) Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation;
- (e) World Customs Organization;
- (f) World Trade Organization.

Budgetary contributions

12. The contributions are determined in proportion with the established import customs duties distribution rate for each member State, in accordance with the Agreement on the Establishment and Application of the Procedure of Deposition and Allocation of Import Customs Duties (other duties, taxes and fees of similar effect) of 20 May 2010.

The share of contributions is as follows:

- (a) Belarus: 4.7 percent;
- (b) Kazakhstan: 7.33 percent;
- (c) Russian Federation: 87.97 percent.

13. Given that the Commission began its work in 2012, information on the budget is available for that year. The Commission budget for 2012 was Rub 4,815,840,000, which amounts to \$158 million, based on the exchange rate of 1 dollar for 30.48 roubles (Central Bank of the Russian Federation, 28 December 2012).

Publications

14. The Eurasian Economic Commission does not issue any publications.

Contact information

15. Mr. Vitaly Aristov
Head of the Division of Bilateral and Multilateral Cooperation of the Trade Policy Department of
the Eurasian Economic Commission
Tel +7 (495) 669-24-00 ext. 3036
E-mail: aristov@ecommission.org

Headquarters address

16. Smolenskiy bulvard 3/5
Building 1
119121 Moscow
Russian Federation
Tel. +7-495-669-24-00 ext. 4041
Fax. +7-495-604-40-37 ext. 41-33
www.eecommission.org

Languages

17. The working language of Eurasian Economic Commission is Russian.
