PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS
Friday, 26 September 2008

9.30 a.m. Sessional Committee I - informal meeting Room XXVI

Item 4 Review of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010 (continued)

- Consideration of draft agreed conclusions

Followed by

- Formal adoption of the agreed conclusions

10 a.m. Sessional Committee II - informal meeting Room XXVI

Item 5 Economic development in Africa: Trade liberalization and export performance in Africa (continued)

- Consideration of draft agreed conclusions

Followed by

- Formal adoption of the agreed conclusions

3 p.m. Closing plenary (1029th meeting) Room XXVI

Item 1 Procedural matters

(c) Adoption of the report on credentials (TD/B/55/L.3)

(d) Provisional agenda for the fifty-sixth session of the Board
Item 4  Review of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010 (TD/B/55/SC.I/L.1 and agreed conclusions)

Item 5  Economic development in Africa: Trade liberalization and export performance in Africa (TD/B/55/SC.II/L.1 and agreed conclusions)

Item 11  Matters requiring action by the Board in the follow-up to the twelfth session of the Conference and arising from or related to reports and activities of its subsidiary and other bodies – Hearing of Civil Society (TD/B/55/L.2/Add.1)

Item 14  Institutional, organizational, administrative and related matters

(b) Designation of non-governmental bodies for the purposes of rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the Board (TD/B/IGO/LIST/7)

(c) Designation of non-governmental organizations for the purposes of rule 77 of the rules of procedure of the Board (TD/B/NGO/LIST/9)

(d) Review of the calendar of meetings

(e) Membership of the Working Party for 2009

(f) Review of the lists of States contained in the annex to General Assembly Resolution 1995 (XIX) (TD/B/INF.211)

(g) Administrative and financial implications of the actions of the Board

Item 15 Other business

Item 16 Adoption of the report

(TD/B/55/L.1; TD/B/55/L.2 and Add.1-8; TD/B/55/L.3)
### Bureau of the fifty-fifth session of the Trade and Development Board

#### President

H.E. Mr. Debapriya BHATTACHARYA (Bangladesh)

#### Vice-presidents

- H.E. Mr. Arcanjo Maria DO NASCIMENTO (Angola)
- H.E. Mr. Alberto DUMONT (Argentina)
- Mr. Paulo ESTIVALLET DE MESQUITA (Brazil)
- H.E. Mr. Tomáš HUSÁK (Czech Republic)
- Mr. Christophe GUILHOU (France)
- H.E. Mr. Kwabena BAAH-DUODU (Ghana)
- H.E. Mr. Masood KHAN (Pakistan)
- Mr. Vassily NEBENZIA (Russian Federation)
- H.E. Mr. Javier GARRIGUES (Spain)
- Mr. Otto VAN MAERSSEN (United States of America)

#### Rapporteur

Ms. Andriani FALKONAKI SOTIROPOULOS (Greece)

#### Sessional Committee I

- **Chair**: H.E. Mr. Jean FEYDER (Luxembourg)
- **Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur**: Mr. Ravi Bhattarai (Nepal)

#### Sessional Committee II

- **Chair**: H.E. Mr. Kwabena BAAH-DUODU (Ghana)
- **Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur**: Mr. Joannes Ekaprasetya TANDJUNG (Indonesia)
Information for participants

Registration

Registration forms will be placed on the desks in room XVIII. It would be appreciated if delegations and observers would complete the forms before leaving the meeting.

Distribution of documents

The documents distribution counter is in the lobby on the second floor of the E-building (door 40).

Participants should bring with them pre-session documents, i.e. documents circulated prior to the opening of the session. Additional copies of pre-session documents may be available, stock permitting, at the distribution counter in the conference room.

Arrangements for regional group meetings

Requests for rooms for regional group meetings should be made to the UNCTAD Meetings and Credentials Unit (ext. 75599/75497, office E.3061).

Statements

Delegates are invited to send electronic versions of their statements for posting on the web to editorialsection@unctad.org. The statements will be made available in the form and language in which they are submitted.

Audio files

Audio files (floor/English) of general statements and statements made at the high-level segment are now available on the UNCTAD website (www.unctad.org). Under the "Meetings" tab, you will find a link to the Programme of the Trade and Development Board at its fifty-fifth session, where there are quick links to MP3 (audio) files.

Announcements by delegations

The Group of 77 will meet on Friday, 26 September, at 8.45 a.m. in Room XXVI.
SUMMARY OF MEETINGS
Friday, September 2008

Sessional Committee I - informal meeting

Item 4  Review of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010

The meeting was chaired by Mr. Ravi Bhattarai (Nepal), Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur of Sessional Committee I.

Sessional Committee I concluded its consideration of the draft agreed conclusions on item 4.

Final plenary meeting
Sessional Committee I adopted its agreed conclusions.

Sessional Committee II - informal meeting

Item 5  Economic development in Africa: Trade liberalization and export performance in Africa

The meeting was chaired by Mr. Joannes Ekaprasetya Tanjung (Indonesia), Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur of Sessional Committee II.

Sessional Committee II concluded its consideration of the draft agreed conclusions on item 4.

Final plenary meeting
Sessional Committee II adopted its agreed conclusions.
Closing plenary (1029th meeting)

The meeting was chaired by H.E. Mr. Debapriya Bhattacharya (Bangladesh), President of the Trade and Development Board.

Item 4    Review of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001

The report of Sessional Committee I was introduced by the Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur, Mr. Ravi Bhattaria (Nepal).

The Board took note of the report of Sessional Committee I as contained in document TD/B/55/SC.I/L.1 and endorsed the agreed conclusions contained in document TD/B/55/SC.I/L.2.

Item 5    Review of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001

The report of Sessional Committee II was introduced by the Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur, Mr. Joannes Tandjung (Indonesia).

The Board took note of the report of Sessional Committee II as contained in document TD/B/55/SC.II/L.1 and endorsed the agreed conclusions (to be issued as document TD/B/55/SC.II/L.2).

Item 1    Procedural matters

(c) Adoption of the report on credentials

The Board adopted the report of the Bureau on the credentials of representatives participating in the fifty-fifth session of the Board, as contained in TD/B/55/L.3.

(d) Provisional agenda for the fifty-sixth session of the Board

The Board decided to refer consideration of this item to consultations of the President. The provisional agenda will be drawn up and submitted for approval at an appropriate time.

Item 11   Matters requiring action by the Board in the follow-up to the twelfth session of the Conference and arising from or related to reports and activities of its subsidiary and other bodies

– Hearing of Civil Society

Mr. Adalbert Nouga, of Village Suisse ONG, presented the report.

The Board took note of the report as contained in document TD/B/55/L.2/Add.1.
Item 14 Institutional, organizational, administrative and related matters

(b) Designation of intergovernmental bodies for the purposes of rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the Board

The Board was informed that the list of intergovernmental organizations in status with UNCTAD was contained in TD/B/IGO/LIST/7, and that there were no new applications to be considered.

(c) Designation of non-governmental organizations for the purposes of rule 77 of the rules of procedure of the Board

The Board was informed that the list of non-governmental organizations in status with UNCTAD was contained in TD/B/NGO/LIST/9. The Board approved one new application for observer status:

- The World Forum of Civil Society Networks (UBUNTU): the background information on this organization is contained in document TD/B/55/R.1.

(d) Review of the calendar of meetings

The Board approved the calendar of meetings for the remainder of 2008 and the provisional calendar of meetings for 2009 as contained in a non-paper dated 26 September 2008.

(e) Membership of the Working Party for 2009

The Board approved the membership of the Working Party for 2009 as follows: Albania, Belarus, China, Congo, Djibouti, El Salvador, Finland, France, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Mexico, Morocco, Peru, Philippines, Russian Federation, Sweden, Switzerland and United States of America.

(f) Review of the lists of States contained in the annex to General Assembly Resolution 1995 (XIX)

There were no new applications for membership of the Board, which still stands at 151.

(g) Administrative and financial implications of the actions of the Board

The Board was informed that the actions of the Board at its current session had no financial implications for the current programme budget.
Item 15 Other business

Topics and terms of reference for expert meetings

The Board approved the compilation of topics and terms of reference as a whole contained in a non-paper dated 26 September and requested the secretariat to issue the compilation as an official document of the Board to be translated into all official United Nations languages.

Executive session

The Board requested the extended Bureau to meet in the following week to decide on the holding of an executive session in mid November and to approve its agenda.

Training and capacity building

The representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran made a statement.

Item 16 Adoption of the report

The Rapporteur, Mrs. Falkonaki-Sotiropoulos (Greece), introduced the draft report of the Trade and Development Board on its fifty-fifth session, as contained in TD/B/55/L.1; TD/B/55/L.2 and Add.1-9, TD/B/SC.1/L.1 and L.2 and TD/B/SC.2/L.1. The Board adopted the draft report and authorized the Rapporteur to complete the report for transmission to the General Assembly.

Mr. Supachai Panitchpadki, Secretary-General of UNCTAD, made a closing statement.

Closing statements were made by the following representatives: Mexico; Zimbabwe (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China); Indonesia (on behalf of the Asian Group); Kyrgyzstan (on behalf of Group D); Bangladesh (on behalf of the least developed countries); France (on behalf of the European Union); Peru (on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States); and Chad (on behalf of the African Group).

The President of the Board made concluding remarks.