Provisional agenda and annotations

Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

The provisional agenda for the fifty-seventh session of the Trade and Development Board is reproduced in chapter I below. The secretariat’s annotations, contained in chapter II, are intended to provide essential background information covering the provisional agenda items, together with a brief description of the relevant documentation.

A checklist of documents relating to all agenda items will be issued at the beginning of the session.
I. Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work of the session
3. High-level segment: Towards sustainable recovery
4. Economic development in Africa: South–South cooperation: Africa and the new forms of development partnerships
5. Evolution of the international trading system and of international trade from a development perspective: The impact of the crisis-mitigation measures and prospects for recovery
6. Development strategies in a globalized world: Globalization, employment and development
7. Investment for development: Emerging challenges
8. Evaluation and review of UNCTAD’s implementation of the Accra Accord
9. UNCTAD’s contribution to the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields
10. Technical cooperation activities:
   (a) Review of the technical cooperation activities of UNCTAD
   (b) Report on UNCTAD assistance to the Palestinian people
11. Matters requiring action by the Board in the follow-up to the twelfth session of the Conference:
    - Hearing with civil society
12. Other matters in the field of trade and development:
    (b) Report of the Joint Advisory Group on the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO on its forty-third session
14. Institutional, organizational, administrative and related matters:
    (a) Report by the President of the Advisory Body set up in accordance with paragraph 166 of the Bangkok Plan of Action on the implementation of courses by the secretariat in 2009–2010 and their relevant impact; and the appointment of members of the Advisory Body for 2011
    (b) Designation of intergovernmental bodies for the purposes of rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the Board
    (c) Designation of non-governmental organizations for the purposes of rule 77 of the rules of procedure of the Board
    (d) Review of the calendar of meetings
    (e) Membership of the Working Party for 2011
(f) Review of the lists of States contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX)

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

15. Adoption of the report on credentials

16. Provisional agenda for the fifty-eighth session of the Board

17. Other business

18. Adoption of the report

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

1. The provisional agenda of the fifty-seventh session of the Trade and Development Board was approved at the Consultations of the President on 15 April 2010.

Item 1. Election of officers

2. The rules of procedure of the Board are contained in document TD/B/16/Rev.4 and Corr.1.

3. In accordance with rules 18 and 19 of the rules of procedure, the Bureau of the Board consists of 12 members: the President, 10 vice-presidents and the Rapporteur, i.e. four members from list A (Africa/Asia), four from list B, two from list C and two from list D, as referred to in the annex to General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX), as amended.

4. In accordance with the cycle of rotation that has been in operation since UNCTAD IX, the President of the Board for the fifty-seventh session will be a representative of one of the States in list C and the Rapporteur will be a representative of one of the States in list D. The 10 vice-presidents will therefore be as follows: four from list A (Africa/Asia); four from list B; one from list C; and one from list D.

Item 2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work of the session

Agenda

5. The provisional agenda for the session is reproduced in section I above.

Organization of work

6. In order to accommodate the suggestions made by delegations, meetings of the session of the Board have been organized in such a way as to ensure that no two meetings take place at the same time. They have been designed with a view to ensuring effective participation by delegations, particularly small delegations, and also to making the most efficient use of the conference resources of the United Nations.

Schedule of meetings

7. The overall timetable for the two-week period of the Board is provided at the end of this document.

Item 3. High-level segment: Towards sustainable recovery

8. This agenda item will provide an opportunity for delegations to review the experience of the global economic and financial crisis and discuss the policy requirements for a sustained recovery in the different regions. The Board has as a background document for its deliberations chapters I and II of the Trade and Development Report, 2010 and the
Trade and Development Report Overview: The Trade and Development Report reviews, inter alia, current implications of global economic interdependence and recent trends in the world economy from a trade and development perspective, and examines the potential impact on developing countries of ongoing adjustments in major economies as well as in financial and primary commodity markets. Special attention will be given to the role and design of countercyclical policies to overcome the crisis and to the need for reform of the international monetary and financial system aimed at creating a global economic environment that is more stable and conducive to development and poverty alleviation in the developing countries.

Documentation
UNCTAD/TDR/2010 and Overview Trade and Development Report, 2010

Item 4. Economic development in Africa: South–South cooperation: Africa and the new forms of development partnerships

9. The Economic Development in Africa Report 2010: South–South Cooperation: Africa and the New Forms of Development Partnerships examines the nature and key features of the burgeoning relationships between Africa and Southern partners, and their potential to enhance Africa’s capacity to address its development needs and challenges. The report surveys recent trends in Africa–South trade and the implications of the financial and economic crisis for sustainability of Africa-South trade. It also surveys recent trends and features of official flows from developing country partners, and their implications for governance, debt sustainability, investment quality and natural resources in the region. It looks into the evolving trends and geography of Southern FDI to Africa, as well as Africa–South cooperation in international investment agreements, in view of the potential role it could play in stimulating FDI. The report provides policy recommendations for consideration by African countries, development partners, regional and multilateral institutions to find ways to harness and manage these relationships for better development results of Africa.

Documentation
TD/B/57/2 Economic development in Africa: South–South cooperation: Africa and the new forms of development partnerships (overview)

Item 5. Evolution of the international trading system and of international trade from a development perspective: The impact of the crisis-mitigation measures and prospects for recovery

10. The Board will review developments in the international trading system and international trade of particular relevance to developing countries. There is emerging uneven recovery of national economies from the crisis while there remain concerns over high indebtedness and unemployment, as well as the wide variation of trade performance across countries and products. Against this backdrop, the Board will examine the extent and pattern of the recovery in international trade and its developmental implications. Special attention will be given to the trade and development effects of the crisis-mitigation policy interventions and exit strategies, and prospects for sustained, balanced and inclusive growth and the fulfilment of the Millennium Development Goals. The Board will also consider
implications for the international trading system and coherence with the broader global economic governance. A background note will be prepared by the secretariat.

Documentation

TD/B/57/3 Evolution of the international trading system and of international trade from a development perspective: The impact of the crisis-mitigation measures and prospects for recovery

Item 6. Development strategies in a globalized world: Globalization, employment and development

11. This agenda item will provide an opportunity for delegations to examine the causes for persistent unemployment and underemployment, and the shortcomings of past economic policies that have led to unsatisfactory labour market outcomes, through the lens of their implications for trade and development. The Board has as a background document for its deliberations chapters III to VI of the Trade and Development Report, 2010 and the Trade and Development Report Overview. The Trade and Development Report (a) reviews, inter alia, the records of employment creation and unemployment in a large number of developed and developing countries; (b) analyses the results of, and draws lessons from, different policies aimed at employment creation; and (c) makes recommendations for development strategies that are more conducive to employment creation and poverty reduction than those pursued in the past. Special attention will be given to the role and appropriate design of macroeconomic policies in support of the creation of productive capacity, the generation of domestic demand and the full participation of workers in productivity growth.

Documentation

UNCTAD/TDR/2010 and Overview Trade and Development Report, 2010

Item 7. Investment for development: Emerging challenges

12. Against the backdrop of the FDI recovery from the global economic crisis and global efforts to achieve the MDGs and address climate change, deliberations under this agenda item will focus on recent developments in foreign direct investment (FDI) trends and policies, key and emerging issues arising there from, and their impact on development. The Overview of the World Investment Report 2010 will serve as the document for this agenda item, and the full Report will be the background document that will inform the debate.

Documentation

UNCTAD/WIR/2010 and Overview World Investment Report 2010

Item 8. Evaluation and review of UNCTAD’s implementation of the Accra Accord

13. In accordance with paragraph 200 of the Accra Accord, this item was added to the agenda of the Board at its fifty-seventh session. The Secretary-General of UNCTAD will present a report on UNCTAD’s implementation of the Accra Accord.
Item 9. UNCTAD’s contribution to the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields

14. In its resolution 57/270 B, the General Assembly stressed the need to make maximum use of existing United Nations mechanisms for the purpose of reviewing the implementation of commitments made within the United Nations system in key areas of development. In this regard, it invited the Trade and Development Board to contribute, within its mandate, to the implementation – and to the review of the progress made in the implementation – of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits, under its relevant agenda items.

15. Paragraph 11 of the Accra Accord states that: “UNCTAD, within its mandate, should make a contribution to the implementation and follow-up to the outcomes of relevant global conferences. It should continue to contribute to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals. With all aspects of its work it will help to implement the global development agenda and pave the way to 2015. It should also contribute to the implementation of specific actions requested in the 2005 World Summit, the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010, the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation agreed at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, and the Declaration of Principles and the Plan of Action of the World Summit on the Information Society. It should also contribute to furthering the implementation of the internationally agreed goals in the Doha Ministerial Declaration and other relevant decisions.”

16. The Board is expected to respond to the request addressed to it by the General Assembly in paragraph 27(a) of resolution 57/270 B on the basis of a note prepared by the UNCTAD secretariat.

Item 10. Technical cooperation activities:

(a) Review of the technical cooperation activities of UNCTAD

17. The Board will review the technical cooperation activities undertaken in 2009, as well as developments in UNCTAD’s technical cooperation; in particular, matters of trade- and investment-related capacity-building, and issues related to progress in the implementation of decision 478 (L) of the Board regarding technical cooperation. In considering this item, the Board will be assisted by the outcome of the fifty-sixth session of the Working Party on the Strategic Framework and the Programme Budget, due to be held from 6 to 8 September 2010 and including a review of technical cooperation activities undertaken in 2009.
18. In line with the Accra Accord, the São Paulo Consensus, and the United Nations strategic framework for 2010–2011, UNCTAD’s assistance to the Palestinian people was intensified in 2009–2010. UNCTAD’s activities support Palestinian development and institution-building efforts, with the ultimate objective of contributing to the realization of the international community’s vision of establishing a viable Palestinian State underpinned by a well-functioning economy. Activities include (a) cohesive interventions to build Palestinian capacity in the areas of development strategies; (b) trade policy and facilitation; (c) public finance modernization; and (d) enterprise development, investment and competition policy. As established in previous years, the Report will brief the Board on operational activities in the occupied Palestinian territory, and highlight UNCTAD’s economic policy recommendations.

19. In 2009, the economy of the occupied Palestinian territory showed signs of modest recovery from a historically low base, but it remains locked in an adverse development path. This year, the report will assess the resource requirements for Gaza reconstruction and the potential economic impact of reconstruction effort under different scenarios. It will also shed light on the constraints and prospects of the declining Palestinian tradable goods sector and identify certain export and import-competing products that are plausible targets for policy support. Within this context, the report will summarize UNCTAD’s recent efforts to coordinate, through the United Nations Chief Executive Board (CEB) cluster, the international support to the strengthening of Palestinian trade and productive capacities. The report will conclude with an update on the progress of UNCTAD operational activities in the occupied Palestinian territory.

20. In taking note of the report on UNCTAD’s assistance to the Palestinian people, the Board may wish, in its report on its fifty-seventh session, to draw the General Assembly’s attention to the deliberations under this item, in accordance with General Assembly decision 47/445. The Board may also wish to consider the need to support UNCTAD’s efforts to capitalize on the CEB Interagency Cluster on Trade and Productive Capacity and strengthen it with adequate and predictable extrabudgetary resources.

(b) Report on UNCTAD assistance to the Palestinian people

18. In line with the Accra Accord, the São Paulo Consensus, and the United Nations strategic framework for 2010–2011, UNCTAD’s assistance to the Palestinian people was intensified in 2009–2010. UNCTAD’s activities support Palestinian development and institution-building efforts, with the ultimate objective of contributing to the realization of the international community’s vision of establishing a viable Palestinian State underpinned by a well-functioning economy. Activities include (a) cohesive interventions to build Palestinian capacity in the areas of development strategies; (b) trade policy and facilitation; (c) public finance modernization; and (d) enterprise development, investment and competition policy. As established in previous years, the Report will brief the Board on operational activities in the occupied Palestinian territory, and highlight UNCTAD’s economic policy recommendations.

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Item 11. Matters requiring action by the Board in the follow-up to the twelfth session of the Conference:

- Hearing with civil society

21. The report of the second UNCTAD Public Symposium, which took place from 10 to 11 May 2010, will be before the Board for its consideration.

*Documentation*

TD/B/57/5 Report on the second UNCTAD Public Symposium – Responding to global crises: New development paths
TD/B/57/5/Add.1 Annex to the Report on the second UNCTAD Public Symposium – Responding to global crises: New development paths

Item 12. Other matters in the field of trade and development:


22. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 2205 (XXI), the report of the forty-third session of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (New York, 21 June–9 July 2010) will be before the Board.

*Documentation*


(b) Report of the Joint Advisory Group on the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO on its forty-third session

23. At its forty-third session, held from 14 to 15 December 2009, the Joint Advisory Group on the International Trade Centre reviewed the Centre’s technical cooperation activities.


24. The report of the Working Party on its fifty-six will be before the Board for its consideration.

*Documentation*


Item 14. Institutional, organizational, administrative and related matters:

(a) Report by the President of the Advisory Body set up in accordance with paragraph 166 of the Bangkok Plan of Action on the implementation of courses by the secretariat in 2009–2010 and their relevant impact; and the appointment of members of the Advisory Body for 2011

25. In accordance with Board decision 466 (XLVII), the President of the Advisory Body will inform the Board about the activities of the Advisory Body and about the implementation of paragraph 166 of the Bangkok Plan of Action. The Board will be invited
to appoint members of the Advisory Body for 2011, on the basis of the recommendations of the regional groups.

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

26. At present, there are 114 intergovernmental organizations in status with UNCTAD. A list of these organizations is contained in document TD/B/IGO/LIST/8. There are no new applications before the Board for its consideration at this session.

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

27. At present, there are 200 non-governmental organizations in status with UNCTAD: 111 in the general category and 89 in the special category. A list of these organizations is contained in document TD/B/NGO/LIST/11. There are no new applications before the Board for its consideration at this session.

(d) Review of the calendar of meetings

28. The Board will have before it the calendar of meetings for the remainder of 2010, and for 2011.

   In-session documentation

(e) Membership of the Working Party for 2011

29. The Board will be required to approve the membership of the Working Party for 2011, on the basis of nominations from the regional groups.

   In-session documentation

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

30. The Board will have before it, as appropriate, the updated membership list of UNCTAD and the Board.

   Documentation

   TD/B/Inf.215 Membership of UNCTAD and membership of the Trade and Development Board

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

31. The Board will be informed during the session of the administrative and financial implications of any proposals before it.

   In-session documentation, if required

Item 15. Adoption of the report on credentials

32. In accordance with rule 17.2 of the rules of procedure, the Bureau of the Board will examine the credentials and submit its report to the Board.

   In-session documentation
Item 16. Provisional agenda for the fifty-eighth session of the Board

33. The draft provisional agenda for the fifty-eighth session of the Board will be prepared by the secretariat. The Board may wish to refer consideration of this item to the consultations of the President of the Board with the Bureau and coordinators.

Item 17. Other business

Item 18. Adoption of the report

34. In accordance with paragraph 195 of the Accra Accord, the report of the Board to the General Assembly will contain negotiated outcomes on Africa, and technical cooperation, Chair’s summaries and negotiated outcomes addressed to the secretariat.
## Schedule of meetings for the fifty-seventh session of the Trade and Development Board

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* The Bureau will be invited to review and prepare draft decisions as required for the following items: 10(a) and 13–16.
Trade and Development Board
Fifty-seventh session
Geneva, 15–28 September 2010
Item 2 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the agenda and organization
of the work of the session

Provisional agenda and annotations

Corrigendum

Paragraph 13

For TD/B/57/7/Add.1 (English only) read TD/B/57/7/Add.1.