

11 October 2017

English only

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

Trade and Development Board

Sixty-fourth session

Geneva, 11–22 September 2017

Agenda item 17

Other business

Proposal by the Group of 77 and China for the agreed conclusions for consideration by the Trade and Development Board, at its sixty-fourth session

1. This has been received from the Group of 77 and China in relation to item 17 of the agenda of the sixty-fourth session of the Trade and Development Board.
2. In accordance with the procedure for miscellaneous documents, this submission is reproduced in the language in which it was received and without formal editing.

Proposal by the Group of 77 and China for the agreed conclusions for consideration by the Trade and Development Board, at its sixty-fourth session

Item 2

High-level dialogue: Is the world integrating or disintegrating?

1. *Takes note* of the Report *High-level dialogue: Is the world integrating or disintegrating?* (TD/B/64/10) and, recognizing the increasing trend of the negotiation of more complex RTAs, and in accordance with paragraphs 29 and 76 (a) of the Nairobi Maafikiano, requests the Secretariat to provide analytical work and policy recommendations, to be presented and discussed at the next TDB, on best practices on the facilitation of the integration among regions; including challenges posed by multiple overlapping free trade agreements, and coherence between regional and multilateral integration initiatives.

Item 3

Interdependence: Inclusive growth – towards a global agenda

2. *Notes* the presentations made under this agenda item and expresses concerns on the potential implications that downside risks to the global economy pose to inclusive growth.

Item 4

Development strategies in a globalized world

3. *Welcomes* the *Trade and Development Report, 2017: Beyond Austerity – Towards a Global New Deal* (UNCTAD/TDR/2017) and concurs that the pace of global growth is still weaker than desirable, thus reinforcing the importance of deploying all policy tools to achieve inclusive growth and stability.

Item 5

Contribution of UNCTAD to the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries

4. Draft agreed conclusions to be submitted by the President of the TDB, according to past practice.

Item 6

Economic development in Africa: Tourism for transformative and inclusive growth

5. Draft agreed conclusions to be submitted by the President of the TDB, according to past practice.

Item 7

Evolution of the international trading system and its trends from a development perspective

6. *Takes note* of the Report *Evolution of the international trading system and its trends from a development perspective* (TD/B/64/5) and requests the Secretariat to provide work and recommendations about factors influencing international trade performance, including, in particular, on the possible implications for developing countries and the impact of non-tariff measures on trade and development.

Item 8

Investment for development: Investment and the digital economy

7. *Welcomes* the *World Investment Report 2017: Investment and the Digital Economy* (UNCTAD/WIR/2017) and expresses its concerns with the risks and uncertainties that could hamper the modest recovery of foreign direct investment flows, noting that such recovery has not been experienced by all regions. Requests further analysis and deliberations on the potential implications of recent trends on developing countries, and

support the continuation of the second phase of the road map for the reform of the international investment agreements. Recognize the importance of digital economy and explain the concern to have proper technical assistance for developing countries in terms of capacity building on digital infrastructure, human and institutional as well as the legal framework.

Item 9

Establishing development linkages in the extractive sector: Lessons from the field

8. *Takes note* of the Report *Establishing development linkages in the extractive sector: Lessons from the field* (TD/B/64/3)

9. *Welcomes* the UNCTAD secretariat's Background Note on "Establishing development linkages in the extractive industry: Lessons from the field" and acknowledging the role of the ongoing technical cooperation project in Fostering dialogue, by creating an environment in which stakeholder can discuss problems openly and frankly which is helping in building trust among stakeholders and provides the social stability necessary for the inclusive implementation of production linkage strategies.

10. *Request* UNCTAD to provide the necessary assistance to the concerned authorities to establish a coordination mechanism that efficiently engages the different ministries and agencies involved in fostering local content development and to fill the gap in skills, infrastructure, access to finance and the weakness of the private sector.

11. *Request* UNCTAD to continue its efforts in collaboration with relevant United Nations agencies and other international organizations, as well as with the support of donor countries, to enhance its activities especially in capacity building of the national stakeholders.

Item 10

Activities of UNCTAD in support of small island developing States and in support of landlocked developing countries

12. *Takes note* of the Report *UNCTAD activities in support of small island developing States* (TD/B/64/9) and commends UNCTAD's global advocacy to address small island developing States (SIDS) challenges, as well as the support to resilience-building work in SIDS. Requests that the next report under this agenda item focus on landlocked developing countries.

Item 11

UNCTAD contributions to the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields

13. *Takes note* of the report *Progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits, and UNCTAD contributions* (TD/B/64/6). And requests that the next reports under this agenda item list achievements related to specific goals and objectives of the major United Nations conferences and summits, in particular those listed in paragraph 10 of the Nairobi Maafikiano.

Item 12

Technical cooperation activities

(a) *Review of the technical cooperation activities of UNCTAD*

14. Draft decision for consideration by the Trade and Development Board (as agreed at the 75th session of the Working Party on the Strategic Framework and the Programme Budget)

(b) *Report on UNCTAD assistance to the Palestinian people*

15. *Takes note* that paragraph 55(dd) of the Nairobi Maafikiano is yet to be implemented, requests UNCTAD to implement all relevant UN resolution and specifically paragraph 55(dd) of the Nairobi Maafikiano by strengthening its assistance to the

Palestinian people programme with adequate resources, and requests all Member States to assist UNCTAD to fulfil its mandate in this regards.

Item 13

Matters requiring action by the Board in the follow-up to the fourteenth session of the Conference

16. *Decides* to hold the 65th session of Trade and Development Board from 25 June 2018 to 6 July 2018.

17. *Decides* to initiate work on the revitalization of the intergovernmental machinery of UNCTAD, acting on paragraph 94 of the Nairobi Maafikiano, based on a timeline to be detailed as soon as possible with a view to conclude the consideration of this issue by the 65th session of the Trade and Development Board.
