

Trade and Development Board
Twenty-sixth special session
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Geneva

General statements by member States
Speaker: Italy

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UNCTAD TDB Special Session (Geneva, 15 June 2012)

NATIONAL STATEMENT OF ITALY

Mr. Chairman,
Mr. Deputy Secretary General,
Mr. Inspector,
Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates , Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is for me a great honor to address you on behalf of the Italian Delegation.

Italy aligns itself with the statement of the European Union and that, considering the particular relevance we attach to the issues discussed during this Special Session, I am pleased to take this opportunity to make some additional remarks.

First of all Italy would like to express its appreciation for the Joint Inspection Unit Review and for the engagement by the Secretariat through the Management Response. We think that this exercise offers a useful and welcomed opportunity to confirm the outcome of Doha on the follow up to the JIU Review and to enhance UNCTAD's transparency, accountability and visibility and reduce its inefficiencies.

Mr. Chairman, this is indeed a process that we consider of particular relevance and urgency, especially in the light of the budget restraints faced by many Member States and by the UN system and in consideration of our common essential goal to preserve and strengthen the relevance and the effectiveness of the multilateral system and of all international organizations.

Concerning the specific issues addressed during today's Session, Italy agrees with the call for more transparency and efficiency in budgetary, staff and management matters, as stressed also by the JIU Review, and, in this framework, we believe that priority should be given to developing and implementing a stronger and more effective Result Based Management integrated framework.

Furthermore, we would like to underline three other relevant aspects that are directly linked with the improvement and the implementation of the RBM strategy: the strengthening of the monitoring and evaluation capacities of the organization; the need for a more effective coordination within the Divisions of UNCTAD; and raising the productivity its fund-raising and resources mobilization strategies.

Of particular importance is also the need to improve the Human Resources management and the communication and transparency policy of the organization, with the aim of enhancing its efficiency and accessibility and of raising the level of trust and confidence in the work and capability of the Secretariat.

Another fundamental issue is the need to strengthen the Member States Driven character of UNCTAD, in order to make it more responsive to the needs and to the inputs of all Member States, so that their oversight and engagement in the activities and in the future of the organization could be enhanced.

Concerning the follow up of this Special Session, we also suggest that the Secretariat prepare a time-bound, detailed and concrete plan of action for the follow up to the JIU Report and to other issues mentioned today by the Member States. The action plan prepared by the Secretariat should be presented at the TDB's meeting in September for the Member States evaluation and to decide on its implementation.

In closing, Mr. Chairman, let me reiterate the willingness of the Government of Italy to engage, together with the Secretariat and with the all membership, in this constructive and crucial process to strengthen and revamp UNCTAD by improving its efficiency, effectiveness, transparency and relevance.

Thank you very much for the kind attention.