

Trade and Development Commission  
Fourth session  
14 November 2012  
Item 4 - Promoting and strengthening synergies among the three pillars

**Report on the implementation of the provisions of the Accra Accord related to transport and trade facilitation**

Trade Logistics Branch  
Division on Technology and Logistics

**Content**

**Mandate**

**Work under the three pillars**

**Synergies**

**Mandate**

Paragrap<sup>h</sup>s 164, 165 and 168:

**Research and Analysis**

**Box 2. Accra Accord paragraphs on research and analysis related to Transport and Trade Facilitation**

164. In the area of trade facilitation, transport and related services of interest to developing countries, UNCTAD should continue to analyze issues that affect the trade and transport of developing countries and international supply-chain security. It should also disseminate its analyses and relevant information, and promote the exchange of experiences.

165. UNCTAD should undertake research to develop policy recommendations that will enable developing countries to cut transport costs and improve transport efficiency and connectivity. The research should pay special attention to the needs of the most vulnerable economies, and in particular to the development and implementation of coherent transit systems that will benefit landlocked developing countries and transit developing countries, taking into account the Almaty Ministerial Declaration and Programme of Action. Attention should also be paid to the promotion of multimodal transport.

168. Through its research and policy analysis, UNCTAD should help developing countries make informed policy choices to address the environmental challenges in relation to transport strategies, and to help identify associated capacity-building needs and appropriate regulatory responses.

**Mandate**

Paragrap<sup>h</sup>s 107, 166 and 167:

**Technical Assistance and Capacity Building**

**Box 1. Accra Accord paragraphs on technical assistance related to Transport and Trade Facilitation**

107. UNCTAD should provide technical assistance to landlocked developing countries and transit developing countries to help them ensure that adequate and efficient infrastructure and services, as well as effective transit transport arrangements, are in place to support trade.

166. UNCTAD should continue to provide capacity-building and technical assistance to policymakers and other stakeholders in developing countries on such issues as reducing transport costs and improving transport connectivity and competitiveness, developing and implementing appropriate institutional and legal frameworks, and devising and implementing national and international actions to promote transport and trade facilitation, including in transit corridors. It should coordinate this work with other relevant organizations where appropriate. It should continue to assist developing countries in transport and trade facilitation negotiations, including in the context of the Doha Round, and in ensuring the effective implementation of agreed rules and standards.

167. UNCTAD should continue to provide assistance to developing countries to design and implement policies and actions aimed at improving the efficiency of trade transactions as well as the management of transport operations. It should also continue to cooperate with member States in implementing Aseana, the automated system for customs data.

**Content**

**Mandate**

**Work under the three pillars**

**Synergies**

**Research and Analysis**

- ✓ Annual Review of Maritime Transport and statistical data as renown references on international transport
- ✓ Topical studies on current issues
- ✓ Quarterly updates through UNCTAD's Transport Newsletter

**Technical Assistance**

- ✓ Advisory services and training on transport policies, law and trade facilitation
- ✓ Donor financed multilateral, regional and national programmes on trade facilitation implementation
- ✓ ASYCUDA is UNCTAD's largest Technical Assistance programme



**Intergovernmental and consensus-building activities**

- ✓ Multi-Year Expert Meetings
- ✓ Ad Hoc Expert Meeting on "Climate change impacts and adaptation: a challenge for global ports" (2011)
- ✓ Side event on sustainable freight transport during UNCTAD XIII (2012)
- ✓ Collaboration with other UN partners

**Content**

Mandate


Work under the three pillars

**Synergies (examples)**



**Transport**

- Consensus building at UNCTAD XIII <-> side event- Paving the Way for Sustainable Freight Transport, technical assistance through a UNDA project proposal and research/analysis on Sustainable Freight Transport (RMT 2012 Chpt.6).
- Technical assistance to Mozambique on ports <-> research/analysis on Port Developments (RMT 2012 Chpt.4).




**Transport**

- Research <-> consensus building and capacity building Training-of Trainers event with FIATA in Tanzania July 2012.



**Trade Facilitation and Customs Automation**


- Ad Hoc EM on Trade Facilitation in RTAs <-> Study on the same topic
- Session on Trade Facilitation at the MYEMs <-> Technical Assistance on Trade Facilitation Implementation
- Experiences with Customs Automation <-> Advisory services on TF implementation




 **Legal and regulatory framework**


- Research <-> advisory services <-> MYEMs
- Commercial transport law, environmental regulation, maritime and supply-chain security, e.g.
  - ❖ New UN Convention on Carriage of Goods: The Rotterdam Rules
  - ❖ *Liability and Compensation for Ship-Source Oil Pollution (2012)*
  - ❖ Legal and regulatory developments:
    - Chapter 5 in *Review of Maritime Transport*
    - *Transport Newsletter*



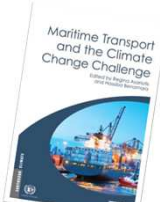
 **Emerging issues affecting transport and trade: energy, environment, security**


- Energy and transport costs:
  - ❖ MYEMs
  - ❖ *Oil Prices and maritime freight rates (Empirical Study)*
  - ❖ RMT
- Maritime and supply-chain security:
  - ❖ MYEMs <-> RMTs



 **Emerging issues affecting transport and trade: energy, environment, security**

- Climate change: implications for maritime transport
  - ❖ MYEM "*Maritime Transport and the climate change challenge*" (2009)
  - ❖ Joint UNECE-UNCTAD Workshop: "*Climate change impacts on international transport networks*" (2010)
  - ❖ Ad Hoc Expert Meeting "*Climate change impacts and adaptation: a challenge for global ports*" (2011)
  - ❖ UNCTAD edited volume "*Maritime Transport and the Climate Change Challenge*" (2012)
  - ❖ *Review of Maritime Transport*
  - ❖ UNDA Project Proposal: Enhancing adaptive capacity of SIDS in relation to coastal transport infrastructure (2012-...)



 **Forthcoming Ad Hoc EM**  
**12 December, Geneva**

- The purpose of this meeting is to discuss possible ways to measure and compare the performance of seaports. Experts will also analyse whether and how indicators could be developed that would help increase transparency. Experts from governments and port authorities, as well as academics and stakeholders from the private sector, will have an opportunity to share information on recent and ongoing research in this area, and to discuss potential future collaborations, including UNCTAD's role in the process.

