Trade and Development Board, sixtieth session
Geneva, 16–27 September 2013

Agenda Item 10:
UNCTAD's contribution to the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields

Speaker: G77 and China

Friday, 20 September 2013

*This statement is made available in the language and form in which it was received. The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of UNCTAD.*
Mr. Chairman, H.E. Ambassador Triyono Wibowo (Indonesia)

I have the honour to deliver a statement on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

1. Let me begin by thanking Mr. Petko Draganov and the Secretariat for preparing and presenting the report on the contribution made by UNCTAD in the implementation of the major summits and conferences of the United Nations in the economic and social fields. However, I must reiterate that this is not a minor issue and therefore should not go through the agenda of the Trade and Development Board in a package of issues to be exposed and discussed in just half a day.

2. The different instances of the multilateral system should be interconnected elements that seek to join forces to achieve common goals, such as peace and development. For this reason, it is necessary to establish mechanisms that allow each of the organizations of the multilateral system to contribute to that purpose, under principles of subsidiarity and efficiency.

3. UNCTAD has one of the broadest mandate in the international system and therefore its role is especially important to contribute to the implementation of commitments derived from summits and conferences on economic and social issues. The issue at stake is to establish clear principles of synergy and effectiveness to guide UNCTAD 's contribution to the goals multilaterally agreed by its members.

Mr. President,

4. We are in the middle of one of the most important multilateral process of recent years: the generation of the post-2015 development framework. It is imperative that UNCTAD, with its almost fifty years of expertise, deepen its assessment of the steps taken to achieve the millennium development goals and, based on the lessons learned, further its involvement in the generation of new clear indicators that can define the development efforts in the next decades.

5. The activities that have been agreed to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of UNCTAD, open an intergovernmental space to share our views on the contribution that this organization can do in this process.
6. UNCTAD must also share its experience in the process of formulation of the sustainable development goals. As we all know, this discussion is not only about environmental issues, but it also has to do with the economic and social pillars, which entitles this organization to make its voice heard in this process.

Mr. President,

7. The Group of 77 and China recalls that UNCTAD is the focal point of the United Nations system for trade and development and interrelated issues in finance, investment, technology and sustainable development. As such, it has a clear mandate to contribute to the achievement of the principles and objectives set out in the summits and United Nations conferences related to economic and social issues. This task must be performed on the three pillars that constitute this organization, including a broader consideration in the Trade and Development Board. We hope that this is going to be seriously taken into account in the future.

Thank you very much Mr. Chairman.

* * *