I have the honour to report to the Trade and Development Board on the work of the Working Party at its seventy-seventh session that was held last week from 30 January to 1 February 2019.

Under item 3 the Working Party reviewed the draft UNCTAD programme plan and performance information for the year 2020 (part II of the proposed programme budget).

For its consideration of the item, the Working Party had before it the proposed draft UNCTAD programme plan and performance information for the year 2020 provided by the secretariat. To assist the Working Party, the secretariat provided additional background information such as the template on which the proposed draft programme was elaborated, the fascicle for the 2018-2019 budget and a table showing the link between the outputs with the specific paragraphs of the various mandates including the Nairobi Maafikiano. Nevertheless, the Working Party in its agreed conclusions still called upon the Secretary-General of UNCTAD, for future programme budget exercises, to provide to member States,
alongside the draft programme plan, appropriate supporting documentation so as to undertake a comprehensive review of the proposed draft programme plan.

At its closing plenary, the Working Party adopted agreed conclusions in which it concurred with the revised draft programme plan which is contained in document TD/B/WP(77)/CRP.1/Rev.1. It requested the secretariat to take into account the comments and inputs provided by member States during the session. It also requested the Secretary-General to ensure that the views expressed by member States be transmitted in a timely manner to the relevant United Nations entities, invited him to make available to the member States of UNCTAD documentation on the submissions on the draft UNCTAD programme plan he has made to the United Nations entities dealing with programmatic and budgetary issues.

The Working Party also approved the agenda of its 78th session, scheduled to take place from 2 to 4 September 2019. I have the honour to submit the report of the Working Party, which will be contained in document TD/B/WP/295, for the consideration of the Board and the agreed conclusions that will be contained therein for endorsement by the Board.

Finally, I wish to extend my deep appreciation and gratitude to all delegations that took an active part in our deliberations and contributed to the consensus reached.

This concludes my report on the work of the seventy-seventh session of the Working Party on the Strategic Framework and the Programme Budget.

I thank you, Mr. President.