



**United Nations Conference
on Trade and Development**

Distr.: General
11 April 2012

Original: English

Trade and Development Board
Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission
Multi-year Expert Meeting on International Cooperation:
South-South Cooperation and Regional Integration
Fourth session
Geneva, 11–12 June 2012
Item 2 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Provisional agenda and annotations

Corrigendum

The date of the meeting in the corner notation should read as above.



United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

Distr.: General
2 April 2012

Original: English

Trade and Development Board
Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission
Multi-year Expert Meeting on International Cooperation:
South–South Cooperation and Regional Integration
Fourth session
Geneva, 11–15 June 2012
Item 2 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Provisional agenda and annotations

I. Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
3. Trade financing and the role of regional financial institutions in promoting South–South trade and investment
4. Adoption of the report of the meeting

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

Item 1.

Election of officers

1. It is recommended that the expert meeting elect a Chair and a Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur.

Item 2.

Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

2. The provisional agenda for the expert meeting is reproduced in chapter I above. A detailed programme will be available one week before the meeting.

Documentation

TD/B/C.II/MEM.2/10 Provisional agenda and annotations

Item 3.

Trade financing and the role of regional financial institutions in promoting South–South trade and investment

3. The Trade and Development Board, at its fiftieth executive session, in July 2010, approved the Multi-year Expert Meeting on International Cooperation: South–South Cooperation and Regional Integration, which will discuss the following topics:

(a) Promoting South–South cooperation to build productive capacities, including in the agricultural sector, in developing countries and transition economies (covered in the meeting held on 23–25 February 2011);

(b) Trade financing and the role of regional financial institutions in promoting South–South trade and investment (topic to be covered in the current meeting).

4. There is growing concern among policymakers about the scarcity of finance for trade and related development challenges for developing and low-income countries. These countries stand to suffer more than developed economies from the general reassessment of risks and liquidity shortages generated by the financial crisis. In this context, regional financial institutions can play a crucial role by expanding innovative ways of financing trade operations and favouring resource pooling and coordination with other key actors, such as private banks and export credit agencies.

5. The expert meeting will explore these issues in the context of growing economic linkages among developing countries and consider (a) how South–South trade and investment integration might be affected by the shortage of trade finance and (b) how enhanced South–South cooperation and stronger regional financial institutions can help overcome financial constraints on development at this critical juncture and sustain development.

6. The meeting will provide a forum to:

(a) Assess the potential damage of shrinking trade finance to the real economy and to South–South integration;

(b) Examine regional financial institutions and their role in providing trade financing, promoting South–South integration and sustaining inclusive development;

(c) Present good practice and compare notes on innovative approaches in critical policy areas;

(d) Review issues and challenges to policy design at the national and international levels;

(e) Identify opportunities to further inter-agency collaboration, knowledge sharing and policy debate in the areas of UNCTAD's expertise.

7. To facilitate the discussion, the UNCTAD secretariat has prepared a background note. Experts and panellists will share their national or regional experiences on the topic of the meeting. In addition, experts are encouraged to prepare brief papers on the subjects under discussion. The papers will be made available at the meeting in the form and language in which they are received.

Documentation

TD/B/C.II/MEM.2/11 Trade financing and regional financial institutions from a South–South perspective

Item 4.**Adoption of the report of the meeting**

8. The report of the expert meeting will be submitted to the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission at its next session. The expert meeting may wish to authorize the Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur, under the authority of the Chair, to prepare the final report after the conclusion of the meeting.

Inputs from experts

Experts nominated by member States are encouraged to submit brief papers (approximately five pages) as contributions to the work of the meeting. The papers should be submitted to the UNCTAD secretariat in advance of the meeting. The papers will be made available at the meeting in the form and language in which they are received.

Experts are requested to submit papers to the UNCTAD secretariat by 28 May 2012, addressed to Mr. Piergiuseppe Fortunato, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland; fax: +41 22 917-0055; e-mail: piergiuseppe.fortunato@unctad.org.



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