



## United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

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### Trade and Development Board

Twenty-fifth special session  
Geneva, 19–26 March 2012

## Report of the Trade and Development Board on its twenty-fifth special session

Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, from 19 to 26 March 2012

### I. Opening of the session

1. The session was opened by Mr. Mothae Anthony Maruping (Lesotho), President of the Trade and Development Board.
2. Opening statements were made by Mr. Supachai Panitchpakdi, the Secretary-General of UNCTAD; the representative of Switzerland, speaking on behalf of JUSSCANNZ; the representative of Indonesia, speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China; the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran, speaking on behalf of the Asian Group; the representative of the European Union; the representative of Nepal, speaking on behalf of the Least Developed Countries Group; the representative of Zimbabwe, speaking on behalf of the African Group; the representative of Panama, speaking on behalf of the Group of Latin America and Caribbean Countries (GRULAC); the representative of the United States of America; the representative of Tunisia; the representative of Japan; the representative of China; the representative of Mexico; the representative of Egypt; the representative of Cuba; the representative of Bangladesh; the representative of the Russian Federation; and the representative of Belarus.
3. The Secretary-General stated that the upcoming UNCTAD XIII in Doha was going to be one of the most significant conferences that the United Nations system would hold since the global economic and financial crisis. He noted that issues of capacity-building needed to be linked to the creation of decent jobs, and that harnessing the knowledge and expertise of all participants at the Conference was essential. Dr. Supachai warned that unemployment levels had increased by 3 per cent on average throughout most countries, and that more alarming developments were on the horizon in this regard. The issue of sustainability through inclusive growth, together with environmental considerations, would need to be at the heart of the coming discourse on trade and development. He added that there were great discrepancies which persisted between countries. The Secretary-General ended by stressing that multilateral processes must continue strongly and collectively,

reflecting global unity and an inclusive multilateral system, in order to achieve common goals.

4. Several delegates noted the document “Review of management and administration in the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)” (JIU/REP/2012/1), prepared by the United Nations Joint Inspection Unit (JIU). At the request of several delegations, the item “Deliberations on Joint Inspection Unit Report and further institutional matters” was included in the provisional agenda, in the document “Supplementary list to the provisional agenda” (TD/443/Add.2). A verbal presentation of the JIU Review at UNCTAD XIII in Doha was also requested. While there was consensus that this was a subject important to all the membership, several delegations indicated that they would not be in a position to engage in discussing such an important subject until they had received the final report in the required languages with sufficient delays for consideration by their capitals.

5. Many delegates felt that the negotiations for the outcome document for UNCTAD XIII were not proceeding quickly enough.

## **II. Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work of the session**

(Agenda item 1)

6. The Board adopted the provisional agenda contained in document TD/B(S-XXV)/1 (see annex I).

## **III. Organization of the work of the thirteenth session of the Conference**

(Agenda item 2)

### **Selection, by drawing by lot, of the country that will head the seating pattern at the thirteenth session of the Conference**

(Agenda item 2(a))

7. In accordance with established practice, Papua New Guinea was drawn by lot to be first in the alphabetical order to be used for seating arrangements at UNCTAD XIII.

## **IV. Substantive preparations for the thirteenth session of the Conference**

(Agenda item 3)

8. The President of the Trade and Development Board, speaking in his official capacity as Chair of the Preparatory Committee on the substantive preparations for UNCTAD XIII, presented to the Board a report on the progress of substantive preparations for the Conference. He noted that the Committee had held a series of meetings since its establishment by the Trade and Development Board at the Board’s fifty-eight session in September 2011, and was scheduled to continue meeting until 13 April 2012. He noted that very few paragraphs had been agreed upon, and called on member States to work constructively together to ensure a successful outcome for UNCTAD XIII. He said that the host country, Qatar, had shown a commitment to the process, and expressed his hope that member States would not disappoint their hosts. He noted that new approaches were needed

to expedite the negotiations. He also presented the report of the hearing with civil society, which took place on 7 March 2012. The Board took note of the President's report on the substantive preparations for the thirteenth session of the Conference.

## **V. Institutional, organizational, administrative and related matters**

(Agenda item 4)

### **A. Preparations for the review, by the thirteenth session of the Conference, of the lists of States annexed to General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX)**

(Agenda item 4(a))

9. The membership of UNCTAD currently stands at 194, as reflected in document TD/INF.222. The list will be forwarded to the Conference for its endorsement.

### **B. Designation of intergovernmental bodies for the purposes of rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the Board**

(Agenda item 4(b))

10. There were no additional intergovernmental bodies for consideration by the Board.

### **C. Designation of non-governmental organizations for the purposes of rule 77 of the rules of procedure of the Board**

(Agenda item 4(c))

11. There were no additional non-governmental organizations for consideration by the Board.

### **D. Provisional calendar of meetings for the remainder of 2012 and draft schedule of meetings for 2013**

(Agenda item 4(d))

12. The Board approved the calendar of meetings for the remainder of 2012 and the draft schedule of meetings for 2013 as contained in document TD/B(S-XXV)/CRP.1.

## **VI. Adoption of the report of the Trade and Development Board**

(Agenda item 6)

13. The Board authorized the Rapporteur to prepare the report on its twenty-fifth special session under the authority of the President.

## Annex I

### **Agenda for the twenty-fifth special session of the Trade and Development Board**

1. Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work of the session
2. Organization of the work of the thirteenth session of the Conference:
  - (a) Selection, by drawing by lot, of the country that will head the seating pattern at the thirteenth session of the Conference;
  - (b) Outstanding organizational matters.
3. Substantive preparations for the thirteenth session of the Conference
  - Report of the Preparatory Committee
4. Institutional, organizational, administrative and related matters:
  - (a) Preparations for the review, by the thirteenth session of the Conference, of the lists of States annexed to General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX);
  - (b) Designation of intergovernmental bodies for the purposes of rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the Board;
  - (c) Designation of non-governmental organizations for the purposes of rule 77 of the rules of procedure of the Board;
  - (d) Provisional calendar of meetings for the remainder of 2012 and draft schedule of meetings for 2013.
5. Other business
6. Adoption of the report of the Trade and Development Board

## Annex II

### Attendance<sup>1</sup>

1. Representatives of the following States members of the Trade and Development Board attended the session:

Algeria	Indonesia
Angola	India
Argentina	Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Austria	Iraq
Azerbaijan	Ireland
Bahrain	Israel
Bangladesh	Jordan
Barbados	Kazakhstan
Belarus	Kenya
Benin	Kuwait
Botswana	Kyrgyzstan
Brazil	Lebanon
Burkina Faso	Lesotho
Cape Verde	Libya
Chad	Lithuania
Chile	Madagascar
China	Malaysia
Colombia	Mali
Congo	Malta
Côte d'Ivoire	Mauritania
Croatia	Mauritius
Cuba	Mexico
Cyprus	Mongolia
Czech Republic	Morocco
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Mozambique
Denmark	Myanmar
Djibouti	Nepal
Dominican Republic	Netherlands
Ecuador	Nigeria
El Salvador	Oman
Estonia	Panama
Ethiopia	Peru
Finland	Philippines
France	Poland
Germany	Portugal
Ghana	Qatar
Greece	Republic of Korea
Honduras	Russian Federation
Hungary	Saudi Arabia
	Senegal

<sup>1</sup> For the list of participants, see TD/B(S-XXV)/Inf.1.

Serbia	Tunisia
Singapore	Uganda
Solomon Islands	United Arab Emirates
South Africa	United Kingdom
Spain	United States of America
Sudan	Uruguay
Swaziland	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
Sweden	Viet Nam
Thailand	Yemen
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Zambia
	Zimbabwe

2. The following intergovernmental organizations were represented at the session:

African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States  
European Union  
Organisation internationale de la Francophonie  
Organization of the Islamic Conference  
South Centre

3. The following specialized agencies and related organizations were represented at the session:

World Intellectual Property Organization  
World Trade Organization

4. The following non-governmental organizations were represented at the session:

*General category*

International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development  
Ingénieurs du monde

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