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Draft proposed UNCTAD biennial programme plan for the period 2018–2019*

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* The present document is being issued unedited.





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Overall orientation

1. The main objective of the programme implemented by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the International Trade Centre (ITC) is to assist developing countries, especially the least developed countries, and countries with economies in transition in integrating beneficially into the global economy in support of inclusive and sustainable growth and development. Through its work to promote development-centred globalization, UNCTAD will help to implement the global development agenda, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and will assist developing countries in meeting their development goals, including poverty eradication, improving the well-being of citizens, addressing the opportunities and challenges created by globalization and contributing to the achievement of all relevant Sustainable Development Goals. The specific development needs of Africa, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States, other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies, countries with economies in transition and middle-income countries, according to their needs, should also be addressed at both research and technical assistance levels in accordance with the Nairobi Maafikiano and other given mandates.

2. In order to attain the foregoing objectives, UNCTAD, within its mandate, will:

(a) Conduct research and analysis on long-standing and emerging trade and development issues.

(b) Build consensus around efforts to promote policies and strategies conducive to inclusive and sustainable development.

(c) Support countries in implementing development strategies aimed at integrating into the global trading system and economy and achieving sustainable growth and development.

3. ITC will contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals through fulfilling its mandate (to improve the international competitiveness of small and medium-sized enterprises from developing countries, especially least developed countries, and countries with economies in transition).

4. In the context of deepening interdependence among all countries, UNCTAD will maintain its unique orientation and commitment to development through those three pillars, while remaining responsive and accountable to all Member States. The Conference will also continue efforts to enhance its efficiency, effectiveness, transparency and accountability, including through results-based management and ensuring a member State-driven process through the intergovernmental machinery. Results-based management should be continuously enhanced and applied as a flexible management tool, whereby it offers a cost-effective means of advancing initiatives and development outcomes.

5. The programme is guided by the quadrennial sessions of the Conference, the Trade and Development Board and its subsidiary bodies, and the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, including the decisions adopted at the twelfth, thirteenth and fourteenth sessions of the Conference. The fourteenth session of the Conference decided that UNCTAD should contribute to the implementation and follow-up to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and that, in accordance with paragraph 88 of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the important role of UNCTAD will be strengthened as the focal point in the United Nations for the integrated treatment of trade and development and interrelated issues in the areas of finance, technology, investment and sustainable development. The Conference is responsible for subprogrammes 1 to 5, while ITC is responsible for subprogramme 6.

6. As many development challenges are closely interconnected, UNCTAD contributes to effective responses to these challenges through the integrated treatment of trade, finance, investment, technology and sustainable development and the promotion of such an approach for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. As sustainable and inclusive outcomes in an interdependent world involve collective responses at the multilateral level, UNCTAD has a key role to play in the United Nations system for building consensus around more development-centred globalization, and moving towards a more equitable global economic environment, which contributes to sustained, inclusive and sustainable growth, increased productive capacities for economic structural transformation, sustainable debt management, job creation, poverty eradication and stronger multilateralism for trade and development.

7. UNCTAD will pursue its subprogrammes in support of the main objective of the programme. Subprogramme 1 examines development strategies in a globalizing world economy and related issues and provides statistical monitoring and support of trade and development issues. Subprogrammes 2 and 4 contribute to the building of productive capacity and international competitiveness. Subprogramme 3 and the trade logistics component of subprogramme 4 contribute to the maximization of gains resulting from globalization for development in international trade and trade negotiations. Subprogramme 5 covers the development strategies of economies in Africa, least developed countries and countries in special situations, including small island developing States, landlocked developing countries and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies. Sectoral concerns of those countries will also be addressed by other subprogrammes in coordination and cooperation with subprogramme 5.

8. ITC will pursue subprogramme 6, which addresses the operational aspects of trade promotion and export development. Its strategic vision is to foster inclusive and sustainable growth and development through trade and international business development. In paragraph 68 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, international trade is explicitly recognized as a means to achieve the global goals: "International trade is an engine for inclusive economic growth and poverty reduction, and contributes to the promotion of sustainable development." The role of the private sector for development is also recognized in the 2030 Agenda. Within this context, the strategic challenges of ITC are to strengthen the integration of the business sector into the global economy, improve the performance of trade and investment support institutions for the benefit of enterprises and improve the international competitiveness of enterprises.

9. UNCTAD will give due account to cross-cutting issues such as good governance at all levels, freedom, peace and security, respect for human rights, including the right to development, gender equality and women's empowerment, youth and an overall commitment to just and democratic societies, which are essential to all countries to attain sustainable and equitable growth and development.

10. Throughout its programme of work, UNCTAD will make efforts to mainstream cross-cutting issues related to gender equality and the empowerment of women, the promotion of sustainable development, and full and productive employment.

11. UNCTAD will also strengthen its cross-divisional coordination, in particular with respect to training and capacity-building programmes. UNCTAD and ITC will increase their use of evaluation surveys to seek feedback from relevant stakeholders from across all subprogrammes in order to measure the improved capacity of stakeholders to address trade and development issues as a result of UNCTAD and ITC assistance.

12. UNCTAD will contribute to the implementation of the outcomes of relevant global conferences and to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular its means of implementation, through support for global partnerships for development, financing for development, domestic resource mobilization, investment, addressing debt, trade, commodities and systemic issues, global economic decision-making, economic cooperation among developing countries, sustainable development and science and technology for development.

13. UNCTAD will also contribute to the implementation of other relevant global conferences, including the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development and its follow-up, the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020, the outcomes and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the outcomes and the Declaration of Principles and the Plan of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014-2024, the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway, the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want" and, as appropriate, the Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. UNCTAD will also promote further implementation of the World Trade Organization (WTO) ministerial declarations, in particular the ministerial declaration of the Tenth Ministerial Conference of WTO.

14. As a lead agency of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) Inter-Agency Thematic Cluster on Trade and Productive Capacity, UNCTAD will contribute to the implementation of the Aid for Trade initiative, enhance the role of trade and development and interrelated issues in United Nations development assistance plans, such as United Nations development assistance frameworks and national development strategies, undertake joint operations at the country level and enhance related inter-agency cooperation in system-wide initiatives.

15. In the implementation of the programme of work of UNCTAD under the different subprogrammes, the following should be taken into consideration:

(a) The relevance of the technical cooperation programmes provided to developing countries as a cross-cutting issue to be monitored by the secretariat.

(b) As the work on results-based management is an ongoing process and follows relevant United Nations guidelines, the overall results-based management approach will be revised on the basis of the outcome of this process.

Subprogramme 1 Globalization, interdependence and development

Component 1 Global economic governance and sustainable development strategies

Objective of the Organization: To enhance economic policies and strategies at all levels for sustained growth, inclusive and sustainable development, full employment and decent work for all, debt and development finance issues, including concerted efforts on domestic, regional and international resource mobilisation for development, and poverty eradication in developing countries, especially the least developed countries, including through North-South cooperation, complemented but not substituted by South-South and triangular cooperation

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		Performance measures			
Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement		2018- 2019	2016- 2017	2014- 2015
(a) Improved understanding of	(i) Number of statements at, inter alia,	Target	40	40	35
the global economic environment and of policy choices for inclusive	intergovernmental meetings, by policymakers and beneficiaries indicating	Estimate		40	40
and sustained development at the national, regional and international levels	the usefulness of UNCTAD research and analysis for the national policymaking process	Actual			41
	(ii) Number of citations in the media on	Target	550	550	500
	the growth-oriented macroeconomic and financial policy choices advocated in	Estimate		550	550
	UNCTAD research	Actual			727
b) Enhanced understanding of	(i) Number of institutions and countries	Target	106/68	106/68	106/68
the interplay between successful domestic and international resource mobilization for development, debt sustainability and of the policy choices for a durable solution to financing for development challenges and to the debt problems of developing countries	having used the capacity-building services of the Debt Management and Financial Analysis System programme	Estimate		106/68	106/68
		Actual			106/68
	intergovernmental meetings by	Target	30	n.a.	n.a.
		Estimate		n.a.	n.a.
		Actual			n.a.
	(iii) Number of citations in the media on	Target	50	n.a.	n.a.
	financing and debt policy choices and reform proposal advocated by UNCTAD	Estimate		n.a.	n.a.
	research(iv) Percentage of stakeholders indicating	Actual			n.a.
		Target	60	n.a.	n.a.
	the usefulness of participating in the Debt Management Conference	Estimate		60	n.a.
		Actual			n.a.
(c) Improved Palestinian	Number of Palestinian and international	Target	11	11	11
policymaking and institutional capacities, and strengthened	development and policy initiatives and institutions responding to UNCTAD	Estimate		11	11
international cooperation for alleviating the adverse economic and social conditions imposed on the Palestinian people and for building an independent Palestinian State	research findings, recommendations and technical cooperation activities on assistance to the Palestinian people	Actual			11

16. Component 1 of the subprogramme, under the responsibility of the Division on Globalization and Development Strategies, will focus on:

(a) Identifying specific needs and measures arising from the interdependence among trade, finance, investment, technology and macroeconomic policies, from the point of view of their effects on development.

(b) Contributing to a better understanding of coherence between international economic rules, practices and processes and national policies and development strategies.

(c) Contributing to research and analysis on:

(i) The prospects of and impact on trade and development, at both the national and international levels, resulting from the global economic and financial crisis and its aftermath;

(ii) The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and how it can enable the pursuit of stable and inclusive development paths;

(iii) The changes to the global economic landscape, with a view to facilitating the bridging of development gaps;

(iv) The challenges to short and long-term debt sustainability in developing countries and to sustainable domestic and international financial resources mobilisation for development and the SDG implementation.

(d) Supporting developing countries in their efforts to formulate development strategies and practical policy options and recommendations at all levels to meet the challenges of globalization and of SDG implementation.

(e) Intensifying interaction and communication with Governments, policymakers, universities and think tanks in Member States, including the dissemination of the work of UNCTAD.

(f) Including cross-cutting issues of gender equality and the empowerment of women, and the promotion of sustainable development and full and productive employment.

17. The objective will be pursued through research and policy analysis, consensusbuilding and technical assistance, including with other international organizations, on the basis of:

(a) Timely and forward-looking research and analysis regarding macroeconomic, financial, and development policies, taking into account the relevant outcomes of global conferences and summits on development.

(b) Research and analysis on short- and long-term debt and development finance issues, including domestic and international resource mobilization.

(c) The role of UNCTAD, as one of five major institutional stakeholders, in the Financing for Development Follow-up process and SDG means of implementation.

(d) The furtherance of consensus-building with regard to macroeconomic and development policies, for developing countries.

(e) Support for the development of local teaching and research capacities on trade and development issues in developing countries.

(f) Continue to work with universities and research institutes, especially those located in developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

(g) Technical assistance, training and support for developing countries in building national capacities for effective debt management, in cooperation, where appropriate, with the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and other stakeholders.

(h) An assessment of the prospects of, and the obstacles to, economic development in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, and the provision of effective operational activities, with a view to alleviating the adverse economic and social conditions imposed on the Palestinian people.

(i) Research and analysis of trends and prospects for South-South integration and cooperation, including triangular cooperation, in the areas of trade, finance, investment and technology.

(j) Assessing, including through research and analysis on a regular basis, and promoting consensus on how development cooperation and partnerships, including those involving South–South cooperation, can further contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in developing countries.

(k) Contributing to discussions on the modernization of the measurement of official development assistance.

Subprogramme 1 Globalization, interdependence and development

Component 2 Statistical monitoring and support

Objective of the Organization: To strengthen the linkages between economic and development policy and decision making through the provision of high quality and timely statistics and support services on trade, investment, debt, macroeconomics, finance (including debt sustainability), globalization and sustainable development

		Performance	measures		
Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement		2018- 2019	2016- 2017	2014- 2015
(a) Improved access to and use of reliable and timely statistics and indicators highlighting the interlinkages between trade, investment, debt, macroeconomics, finance, including debt sustainability, globalization and development to support decision- making on economic policies and development strategies and monitoring of Sustainable Development Goals	Percentage of users reporting satisfaction with UNCTAD statistical products	Target Estimate Actual	60%	n.a. 60%	n.a. n.a. n.a.

18. Component 2 of subprogramme 1, under the responsibility of the UNCTAD Statistical Service, and in coordination with all UNCTAD Divisions, will assist all developing countries, to improve their compilation and dissemination of official statistics and make available a wide range of data, including UNCTAD's current statistical products, to inform and assist decision making. UNCTAD Statistical Service will operate as a cross-cutting function reporting directly to the Office of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to provide a conducive environment for the reinforcement of statistical work mandated by the Nairobi Maafikiano (TD/519/Add.2). The work of the component will focus on:

(a) Strengthening the role of UNCTAD as a key source of information and statistics on a range of statistics and statistical indicators dealing with trade, investment, debt, macroeconomics, finance, debt sustainability, globalization and sustainable development.

(b) Enhancing the quality of UNCTAD statistics by implementing the United Nations Statistical Quality Assessment Framework, ensuring best international standards are adopted and a common quality standard across all UNCTAD statistical products is applied.

(c) Contributing to research and development by providing high quality and timely statistics and through the provision of statistical advice and expertise.

(d) Facilitating the exchange of information on key development issues, through the free dissemination a range of statistical products tailored to different audiences, making key information accessible to everyone, irrespective of statistical expertise.

(e) Providing technical assistance and capacity-building programmes for statistical experts, government officials, academia and policy-makers in developing countries, in coordination and cooperation with relevant partners.

(f) Supporting the efforts of developing countries to develop their national statistical systems and improve statistical literacy in cooperation with other UN statistical agencies and international organisations.

Subprogramme 2 Investment and enterprise

Objective of the Organization: To ensure inclusive growth and sustainable development through investment and enterprise development for the enhancement of productive and capacity-building, industrialization, economic diversification, job creation and progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals

			Performance	measures		
Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat		Indicators of achievement		2018- 2019	2016- 2017	2014- 2015
(a) Improved ability of	(i)	Number of investment stakeholders	Target	240	240	180
countries to address key and emerging issues related to	reporting improved capacity to address key issues related to investment as a result	Estimate		240	230	
nvestment and investment policies of UNCTAD assistance hat promote development	NCTAD assistance	Actual			193	
r r	(ii)	Number of statements by Member	Target	40	37	35

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		Performance measures				
Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement		2018- 2019	2016- 2017	2014- 2015	
	States indicating that they have implemented tools and methodology provided by UNCTAD in the area of international investment	Estimate Actual		37	35 31	
	including related to responsible and sustainable investment					
	(iii) Percentage of stakeholders	Target	60%	n.a.	n.a.	
	indicating the usefulness of participating in the World Investment Forum	Estimate		60%	n.a.	
		Actual			n.a.	
b) Enhanced ability of eveloping countries and countries	(i) Number of developing countries and countries with economies in transition	Target	42	42	35	
vith economies in transition in	implementing strategies, policies and	Estimate		40	40	
designing and implementing strategies and policies to attract investment and enhance its contribution to inclusive growth and the Sustainable Development	recommendations for attracting investment and enhance its contribution to inclusive growth and the Sustainable Development Goals as a result of UNCTAD assistance	Actual			36	
Goals	(ii) Number of developing countries and countries with economies in transition demonstrating improved investment- related performance on the basis of various benchmark indicators, following UNCTAD assistance	Target	32	30	28	
		Estimate		30	28	
		Actual			30	
c) Enhanced capacity to	(i) Number of statements by Member	Target	170	160	80	
ddress key and emerging issues elated to international investment	States indicating that they pursue activities in support of the sustainable development	Estimate		160	155	
greements and their development imension, as well as their ormulation and implementation	dimension of international investment agreements, following UNCTAD assistance	Actual			91	
	(ii) Number of investment stakeholders	Target	100	n.a.	n.a.	
	sharing experiences and best practices on the sustainable dimension of international	Estimate		100	n.a.	
	investment agreements	Actual			n.a.	
d) Enhanced understanding of	(i) Number of countries implementing	Target	32	32	23	
nterprise development issues and bility to boost productive capacity	UNCTAD policy measures and tools in the design of policies aimed at	Estimate		32	30	
nclusive growth and sustainable evelopment through enterprise evelopment policies	strengthening entrepreneurship and the competitiveness of their firms	Actual			34	
	(ii) Number of countries using	Target	30	30	25	
	guidance and tools developed by UNCTAD in the areas of accounting,	Estimate		30	28	
	corporate sustainability, SDG corporate reporting, MSMEs and entrepreneurship promotion, and business linkages.	Actual			26	

19. The subprogramme, under the responsibility of the Division on Investment and Enterprise, will assist all developing countries, in particular those in Africa and the least developed countries, as well as landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies, and countries with economies in transition and middle-income countries, according to their needs, in designing and implementing policies aimed at enhancing productive capacities, industrialization, economic diversification and job creation and promoting effective progress towards achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development through investment and enterprise development in line with the Addis Ababa Action Agenda. To that end, the subprogramme will:

(a) Strengthen the role of UNCTAD as the major source of information on international investment.

(b) Facilitate consensus and the exchange of information on key investment and enterprise development issues, including towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as best practices among stakeholders on investment and enterprise for development, including through UNCTAD's World Investment Forum and other global platforms.

(c) Help developing countries, at their request, to strengthen their capacity to formulate and implement integrated policies, promote enterprise development, including women and youth empowerment issues, develop an enabling environment and participate in discussions related to international investment and enterprise development.

(d) Support efforts by developing countries, in particular African countries, the least developed countries, as well as landlocked developing countries, small island developing States, other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies, countries with economies in transition and middle-income countries, according to their needs, to build productive capacities and internationally competitive firms, in cooperation with ITC.

(e) Provide training and capacity-building programmes.

Subprogramme 3 International trade and commodities

Objective of the Organization: To ensure the effective, qualitative and beneficial participation of all countries in international trade, including through addressing the special needs and challenges of commodity-dependent developing countries

		Performanc	e measure	5	
Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement		2018- 2019	2016- 2017	2014- 2015
(a) Enhanced implementation of measures by developing countries, in particular least developed countries and countries with economies in transition, to integrate beneficially into the international trading system and to create an enabling environment for	(i) Number of actions (such as the implementation of policy recommendations) taken by countries and institutions receiving UNCTAD assistance to enhance their participation in regional and multilateral trade agreements, cooperative frameworks and partnerships, including South-South trade negotiations and WTO accession	Target Estimate Actual	20	20 20	n.a. n.a. n.a.

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		Performance measures			
Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement		2018- 2019	2016- 2017	2014- 2015
sustainable development, through	processes				
mproved understanding of trade policymaking and enhanced	(ii) Number of actions (such as the	Target	18	18	n.a.
national capacity	implementation of policy recommendations) taken by developing countries to integrate	Estimate		18	16
	trade, productive capacity, employment and development concerns into their best-fit national trade and services policies	Actual			15
b) Strengthened trade and	(i) Number of beneficiaries indicating	Target	300	n.a.	n.a.
ade-related decision-making of the usefulness of UNCTAD Trade Analysis eveloping countries, in particular and Information System, related statistical	Estimate		300	n.a.	
hose in Africa and the least leveloped countries, as well as andlocked developing countries,	indicators, trade analysis training and trade policy research publications for sustainable development	Actual			n.a.
mall island developing States and other structurally weak, vulnerable	(ii) Number of specific actions (such as	Target	8	8	8
nd small economies, and countries vith economies in transition and	nd small economies, and countries changes to regulations and increased	Estimate		8	8
with economies in transition and middle-income countries, according to their needs, and implementation of measures to address the trade and development impact of subsidies, tariff and non- tariff measures tariff measures to tariff measures to tariff measures to tariff measures to tariff measures t		Actual			8
c) Improved capacity of	(i) Number of commodity-dependent	Target	16	16	13
ommodity-dependent developing ountries to address trade and	developing countries adopting policy measures and tools recommended by	Estimate		16	14
levelopment problems associated with the commodity economy and o seize opportunities emerging	UNCTAD in designing policies aimed at the diversification of export earnings and promoting value-added production	Actual			13
rom commodity trade and nhanced international and regional	(ii) Percentage of stakeholders reporting	Target	75%	n.a.	n.a.
ooperation	improved understanding of the challenges and policy options relating to commodity	Estimate		70%	n.a.
	production and trade in countries with economies that are dependent on commodities, with the aim of diversifying their production, including by increasing the added value of their commodities as a result of UNCTAD research and capacity-building activities				n.a.
d) Enhanced adoption,	Number of developing countries and	Target	21	19	17
mprovement and enforcement of ational and regional competition	countries with economies in transition that have adopted, revised or implemented	Estimate		21	17
and consumer protection legislation n developing countries and countries with economies in ransition	asumer protection legislation loping countries and es with economies in loping countries in loping countries and es with economies in loping countries and es with economies in loping countries and loping countries and l				17
e) Enhanced design and	Number of developing countries and	Target	36	36	34

		Performance measures				
Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement		2018- 2019	2016- 2017	2014- 2015	
mplementation by developing		Estimate		36	34	
countries, in particular those in Africa and the least developed countries, as well as landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies, and countries with economies in transition and middle-income countries, according to their needs, of trade, environment and sustainable development objectives and creative economy strategies at all levels	have designed and implemented policies, programmes, normative initiatives and institutional arrangements to harness opportunities for trade in environmentally preferable products, including biotrade and creative industries, with assistance from UNCTAD	Actual			34	
f) Strengthened capacity of leveloping countries, in particular	Percentage of stakeholders participating in country-based activities confirming	Target	70%	n.a.	n.a.	
east developed countries and	improved capacity to identify and to address	Estimate		60%	n.a.	
ountries with economies in ransition, to design and implement rade policies that allow women to benefit more from the opportunities rising from international trade	gender-specific trade barriers and gender- specific obstacles on the supply side	Actual			n.a.	

20. The subprogramme, under the responsibility of the Division on International Trade and Commodities, through the three pillars of the work of UNCTAD, will promote inclusive and sustainable growth and development and poverty eradication, based on the international trade in goods, services and commodities, the international trading system and the linkages between trade and internationally agreed development goals. The subprogramme will address persistent and emerging development challenges, with special emphasis on women's economic empowerment, access to decent and productive employment, food security and poverty eradication, and assess their implications for the development prospects of developing countries, least developed countries and countries with economies in transition, including at the national policymaking level. It will continue to improve cooperation and enhance synergies with other international organizations and foster the coordination of system-wide United Nations activities in the area of international trade. It will also strengthen the communication and dissemination aspects of its work. The subprogramme will assist all developing countries in promoting the effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda through trade and development.

21. The subprogramme will focus on:

(a) Monitoring and assessing the evolution of the international trading system and its trends from a development perspective, with particular attention to its potential contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals.

(b) Monitoring and providing information on all forms of protectionism, including subsidies and disguised trade barriers, in cooperation with WTO and other relevant institutions.

(c) Providing technical assistance and capacity-building to developing countries and countries with economies in transition in the area of multilateral and regional trade negotiations, formulation of trade policy frameworks and services policy reviews and other related trade policy aspects.

(d) Providing and reinforcing technical assistance and capacity-building to developing countries, in particular least developed countries, and countries with economies in transition before, during and in the follow-up of the process of accession to WTO.

(e) Examining ways to improve the utilization of trade preferences and assess the impact on development of the Enabling Clause of the Uruguay Round Protocol to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994 under WTO.

(f) Assist the least developed countries in making use of existing initiatives and programmes such as duty-free and quota-free schemes, preferential rules origin for those countries and the least developed countries services waiver.

(g) Assisting developing countries, in particular least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, African countries, as well as countries with economies in transition and structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies, in integrating into the multilateral trading system.

(h) Continuing and reinforcing its work on trade in services, services data and statistics, and analysis of trade and services for development.

(i) Continuing its works on research and analysis, within its mandate, on enhancing the impact of migration and migrants' remittances on development.

(j) Supporting countries in enhancing the contribution of the creative economy to inclusive and sustainable development.

(k) Assisting developing countries, in particular least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States, African countries, countries with economies in transition and structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies, in achieving economic diversification and structural transformation, including increased participation in and upscaling of manufacturing and global supply chains.

(l) Continuing its work on trade and development aspects of intellectual property, while acknowledging that the World Intellectual Property Organization has the lead on intellectual property rights issues within the United Nations system.

(m) Continuing its work on issues related to South–South cooperation and integration and triangular cooperation, including through the Global System of Trade Preferences among Developing Countries.

(n) Supporting developing countries in the formulation and implementation of national trade policy and regulatory frameworks and their integration into national development strategies and macroeconomic policies, thus contributing to an enabling environment at all levels for inclusive and sustainable development.

(o) Promoting the use of effective competition and consumer policies with a view to achieving domestic and international competitiveness and dealing with anticompetitive practices. (p) Addressing issues at the interface between trade and environment, including climate change, in the context of the promotion of sustainable development in its three dimensions: economic, social and environmental.

(q) Undertaking research and technical cooperation on environmental sustainability and on addressing the nexus between trade, development and environment.

(r) Addressing issues of technology transfer at the interface between trade and environment, including climate change, on mutually agreed terms and seizing trade and investment opportunities relating to that issue.

(s) Addressing challenges and opportunities in the promotion of sustainable development and poverty eradication, including tools and insights available to achieve those goals.

(t) In cooperation with other relevant international organizations and other stakeholders, support developing countries, in particular small island developing States, in the advancement of Sustainable Development Goal 14 in the design and implementation of regional and/or national economic development strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources, seeking to promote sustainable trade in ocean-based sectors, including through the analysis of fisheries subsidies that lead to overcapacity and overfishing and subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and the challenges they pose to developing countries, particularly in connection with the conservation of marine resources and food security.

(u) Promoting a better understanding among developing countries, in particular least developed countries, of the links among trade, gender and development and supporting national capacities to formulate policies and measures aimed at enabling women to derive greater benefit from international trade and at achieving gender equality, including through supporting the establishment of institutions that support women's economic empowerment.

(v) Developing and implementing trade and trade-related technical cooperation and capacity-building activities, including through multi-donor programmes such as the Aid for Trade initiative, the Enhanced Integrated Framework and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework.

(w) Sharing best practices on partnerships for trade and development that can strengthen the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

(x) Undertaking research and analysis on public-private partnerships for development.

(y) In collaboration with WTO, ITC and other relevant partners, consolidating its work on databases on non-tariff measures, continuing its research on and analysis of trade policy measures and the impact of non-tariff measures on the trade and development prospects of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, and continuing its participation in the Transparency in Trade initiative.

22. In the area of commodities; the work under this subprogramme will contribute to the efforts of developing countries to identify and implement appropriate policies, at all levels, to monitor commodity prices and address the impacts of excessive volatility of those prices on them, and to formulate strategies and policies to respond to the challenges and opportunities of commodity markets, such as risk management instruments and diversification. It will also assist developing countries, in particular those in Africa, middle-income countries, countries with economies in transition, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies, including with regard to the achievement of

internationally agreed development goals. In preparing its reports related to commoditydependent developing countries, UNCTAD will assess the trade and development-related implications of the Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Sustainable Development Goals. UNCTAD will monitor developments and challenges in commodity markets and address links between international commodity trade and development. The component will continue to play a key role, with appropriate coordination with other relevant international and regional actors, in:

(a) Addressing the trade and development problems associated with the commodity economy and the links between international commodity trade and development, in particular poverty eradication; continuing to support commodity-dependent developing countries, particularly the least developed countries, through policy reviews, dialogues and technical assistance in maximizing the developing benefits of links between commodity production and trade.

(b) Working in the areas of commodities, food security and investment in agriculture and fisheries, taking into account in particular the special needs of Africa and the least developed countries, in cooperation with other relevant organizations.

(c) Continuing work in the area of agricultural commodities to help developing countries to achieve more sustainable and strengthened agricultural production, food security and export capacity, taking into account the needs of small-scale farmers and the empowerment of women and youth; continuing to support cotton-producing developing countries in particular the least developed countries, in their specific needs and challenges.

(d) Continuing work in the area of non-food commodities, in particular minerals, metals and energy products, with a focus on policies and strategies for sustainable resource management.

(e) Assisting commodity-dependent developing countries in their efforts

(i) Develop national commodity strategies, including the mainstreaming of commodity policies into their broad-based national development strategies, such as poverty reduction strategies;

(ii) Build supply-side capacities in order to achieve competitiveness;

to:

(iii) Align development policies with the multilateral trading system with a view to participating in, including moving up, global or regional commodity value chains and diversifying commodity sectors;

(iv) Comply with international trade standards, particularly non-tariff measures such as food standards and sanitary and phytosanitary measures;

(v) Take advantage of export opportunities for commodities in emerging markets;

(vi) Establish effective marketing systems and support frameworks for small commodity producers;

(vii) Develop commodity financing and risk management schemes;

(viii) Strengthen their capacity to reduce the short-term negative effects of price volatility, through instruments for market risk management, particularly in the case of net food-importing developing countries.

(f) Promoting intergovernmental cooperation in the field of commodities and building consensus regarding ways to integrate commodity policies into:

(i) National, regional and international initiatives;

(ii) Trade-related policies and instruments for the resolution of commodity problems;

(iii) Investment and financial policies for gaining access to financial resources for commodity-based development.

Subprogramme 4 Technology and logistics

Objective of the Organization: To strengthen inclusive growth and development through science, technology and innovation, including information and communications technology for development; efficient, resilient and sustainable trade logistics services; and training and capacity-building programmes

		Performance measures			
Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement		2018- 2019	2016- 2017	2014- 2015
(a) Improved efficiency and	(i) Number of actions (such as policies	Target	22	22	21
sustainability of trade logistics of developing countries and some	and plans) taken by developing countries, countries with economies in transition and	Estimate		21	22
leveloping countries and some countries with economies in ransition countries with economies in transition and relevant institutions, with the assistance of UNCTAD, to improve transport, logistics, trade and port efficiency, including by reducing transport costs, improving transit and trade facilitation, transport connectivity, strengthening sustainable and resilient transport systems, implementing the Trade Facilitation Agreement of the World Trade Organization and establishing a supportive legal framework	Actual			21	
	countries with economies in transition increasing the efficiency of their customs administration (e.g., through a reduction in	Target	22	22	22
		Estimate		22	22
		Actual			22
	(iii) Number of developing countries and	Target	5	5	5
	some countries with economies in transition having improved trade logistics	Estimate		5	5
	performance on the basis of benchmark indicators related to logistics and business efficiency, with the assistance of UNCTAD	Actual			5
(b) Improved understanding and	Number of specific actions (such as policy	Target	30	30	29
adoption, at the national and international levels, by developing	or regulatory changes) taken by developing countries and countries with economies in	Estimate		30	30
countries and countries with economies in transition of policy options and best practices in science, technology and innovation	transition to implement programmes aimed at enhancing the contributions of science, technology and innovation and information				31

		Performance measures				
Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement		2018- 2019	2016- 2017	2014 2015	
For development, including nformation and communications echnologies	development, with the assistance of UNCTAD					
c) Enhanced capacities in	Number of specific actions taken by	Target	10	10	10	
eveloping countries and countries <i>i</i> th economies in transition in the	developing countries and countries with economies in transition to strengthen the	Estimate		10	10	
reas of trade and investment and nterrelated issues with a view to enhancing their economic levelopment and competitiveness	skills and knowledge of human resources and local institutions in the areas of trade and investment and related issues, as a result of UNCTAD assistance	Actual			10	

23. The subprogramme, under the responsibility of the Division on Technology and Logistics, will help improve the technological capacity and efficiency in transport and trade logistics, to enhance competitiveness in international trade and overall development of developing countries, especially those in Africa and least developed countries, as well as landlocked developing countries, small island developing States, transit developing countries and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies, as well as middle-income countries, according to their needs, by:

(a) Assisting in the development and implementation of effective transport and trade logistics policies, strengthening transport operations management, enhancing maritime transport and port efficiency, improving transit and transport connectivity, supporting the design and implementation of sustainable and resilient freight transport systems, and assisting in the implementation of customs automation programmes.

(b) Supporting the development and implementation of appropriate institutional, regulatory and legal frameworks for the facilitation of trade and transport.

(c) Reinforcing support to developing countries to undertake trade facilitation reforms, including implementation of the Agreement on Trade Facilitation of the World Trade Organization, as well as their participation in transport-related and trade facilitation negotiations.

(d) Contributing to the implementation of international agreements and outcomes that recognize the role of transport and trade facilitation in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

(e) Addressing the special trade logistics, transit and transport, infrastructure needs of landlocked and transit developing countries and small island developing states, including by supporting the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action and the SAMOA Pathway.

(f) Assisting developing countries and contributing to policy dialogue and cooperation mechanisms in support of sustainable and resilient transport, climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction for transport infrastructure, services and operations, and the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources.

(g) Helping developing countries to participate effectively in international discussions on technology transfer and knowledge sharing, and to identify policy options and best practices; assisting developing countries in identifying ways and means to

operationalize technology transfer and undertake research on the impact of transfer of technology on trade and development.

(h) Supporting initiatives for, and policy dialogue on, the diffusion of scientific and technical knowledge and transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms, and access to and the acquisition of technology for developing countries, including the diffusion of environmentally sound technologies and corresponding know-how; identifying policy options and best practices; undertake research on the impact of transfer of technology on trade and development.

(i) Promoting effective international and national policies to help developing countries harness science, technology, innovation and entrepreneurship as an effective means of implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, through policy analysis, sharing of experiences and policy-oriented capacity-building such as the science, technology and innovation policy reviews and related training.

(j) Working on enhancing development gains from the digital economy and e-commerce through research and policy analysis, national information and communications technology policy reviews, capacity-building in the area of e-commerce legislation and improving access to data and statistics on the information economy to assess policies and measure impact, including through the Partnership on Measuring Information and Communications Technology for Development; facilitating multi-stakeholder dialogue on how to expand the benefits from e-commerce and digital trade in developing countries, including through the development of eTrade for All.

(k) Contributing to the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020 with respect to trade and interrelated issues in the areas of technology and sustainable development.

(1) Contributing to the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, including the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the Overall Review of the Implementation of the Outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society.

(m) Contributing to the implementation of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism to support the Sustainable Development Goals, and operationalization of the technology bank for the least developed countries.

(n) Serving as the secretariat of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development.

(o) Fostering training and capacity-building aimed at policymakers and practitioners in the fields of trade and related areas of finance, technology, investment and sustainable development.

(p) Assisting developing countries, within its mandates, in the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, and enhancing the dissemination and communication aspects of its work.

Subprogramme 5 Africa, least developed countries and special programmes

Objective of the Organization: To progressively and beneficially integrate Africa, least developed countries and other groups of countries in special situations (landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies) into the global economy through the development of

		Performance measures			
Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement		2018- 2019	2016- 2017	2014- 2015
(a) Greater awareness of and	Number of Member States reporting	Target	13	12	n.a.
lialogue on policy options to promote the economic	increased capacity as a result of UNCTAD research and analysis for the national	Estimate		12	10
levelopment of Africa	policymaking process	Actual			10
b) Greater awareness of and	increased capacity as a result of UNCTAD	Target	12	11	n.a.
lialogue on policy options to address development problems of		Estimate		11	9
the least developed countries in the global economy, including those approaching graduation from least developed country status	policymaking process	Actual			9
c) Strengthened institutional	Number of least developed countries	Target	15	n.a.	n.a.
apacities among the least eveloped countries to participate	reporting increased capacity as a result of UNCTAD trade-related assistance,	Estimate		15	n.a.
n international trade using existing nitiatives aiming at promoting productive capacity-building and make trade an engine of growth and development	including that under the Enhanced	Actual			n.a.
d) Improved institutional	Number of landlocked developing	Target	5	n.a.	n.a.
apacities of landlocked leveloping countries, small island	countries, small island developing States and other structurally weak, vulnerable	Estimate		5	n.a.
leveloping States and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies to promote their economic transformation and resilience-building efforts	and small economies reporting increased capacity as a result of UNCTAD analysis and advisory services and other forms of assistance on achieving structural progress	Actual			n.a.

national policies and international support measures to build productive capacities for economic development and poverty reduction

Strategy

24. The subprogramme, under the responsibility of the Division for Africa, Least Developed Countries and Special Programmes, will focus on identifying and promoting understanding of the economic development problems specific to African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States. It will play an advocacy role in promoting consensus in the international development community regarding policy measures that best address those development problems. This involves the identification of new issues and approaches, as well as greater interaction with research institutes in least developed countries and with development partners. The subprogramme will also contribute to the implementation of and the follow-up to the outcomes of relevant global conferences and to the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, including those set out in the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020 and in the programmes of action for landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, respectively, as well as in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The subprogramme will assist as many countries with special needs as possible in their efforts to successfully achieve economic diversification and structural transformation. It will seek to:

(a) Strengthen the focus on trade and development needs of the LDCs, in accordance with the Istanbul Programme of Action for the least developed countries for the Decade 2011-2020 and other relevant outcomes and support the Least Developed Countries in the quest for structural economic transformation as the most desirable avenue for structural progress toward graduation from LDC status.

(b) Help landlocked developing countries to implement priorities set out in the Vienna Programme of Action and in the Nairobi Maafikiano as well as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to address weak productive capacities and structural economic transformation and to mitigate the adverse economic consequences of their geographical disadvantage/

(c) Continue its work in assisting small island developing States to address persistent trade, investment and development challenges that they encounter, including through the implementation of the Small Island Developing States Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA Pathway).

(d) Continue to pay special attention to the problems of other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies.

(e) Continue to support Africa to address its special concerns and needs, including as articulated in the New Partnership for Africa's Development while reaffirming the importance of supporting Agenda 2063 of the African Union.

(f) Assist the least developed countries in making use of existing initiatives and programmes such as duty free and quota free schemes, preferential rules of origin for those countries and the least developed countries services waiver, as well as targeted assistance under initiatives such as the Enhanced Integrated Framework and Aid for Trade.

25. Research outputs will be geared to facilitating the provision of advisory services, training, workshops, lectures and technical assistance activities, with a view to improving human and institutional capabilities and raising the awareness of development partners regarding the specific needs of developing countries covered by the subprogramme. The latter will continue to address the special concerns and needs of Africa, including by disseminating its research to relevant policymakers. Special attention will be given to the gender dimension in addressing the inclusiveness of trade and other policies.

26. The subprogramme will continue to support countries with special needs in their efforts to benefit from their respective United Nations statuses, which should be a catalyst for structural economic transformation, resilience-building and poverty reduction. The subprogramme will also continue to support as many least developed countries as possible in their progress towards graduation from least developed country status and in ensuring a smooth transition from that status.

27. Technical cooperation outputs of the subprogramme will be focused on building capacities, in the LDC to effectively use the existing initiatives to improve their market access and productive capacities in goods and services as well as on effective participation in and the delivery of trade-related technical assistance in the context of, inter alia, the Enhanced Integrated Framework and the Aid for Trade initiative.

28. The subprogramme will seek to make UNCTAD a central player in the nexus of international efforts to bring as many least developed countries as possible nearer to graduation thresholds. Of particular importance in that UNCTAD role will be helping those countries in the quest for structural transformation and enhancing their ability to identify and implement the most appropriate responses to structural impediments, notably through productive capacity-building and resilience-building action. The subprogramme will also contribute to the implementation and outcomes of the Second United Nations Conference

on Landlocked Developing Countries and the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, in particular the commitments, within these programmes of action, to address key development issues such as the quest for sound economic specialization, structural transformation and vulnerability alleviation.

Legislative mandates

General Assembly resolutions

1995 (XIX)	Establishment of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as an organ of the General Assembly
2297 (XXII)	International Trade Centre
63/204	Report of the twelfth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
63/303	Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development
65/280	Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020
66/288	The future we want
67/226	Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
68/200	Unilateral economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries
68/219	Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence
69/15	SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway
69/137	Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014-2024
69/233	Promotion of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, for poverty eradication and environment protection
69/313	Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa Action Agenda)
70/1	Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
70/133	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly
70/187	International trade and development
70/218	Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017)
70/222	South-South cooperation

Trade and Development Board resolutions and reports

TD/442	Report of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on its twelfth session
TD/500/Add.1	Report of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on its thirteenth session: the Doha Mandate
TD/519/Add.2	Report of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on its fourteenth session: Nairobi Maafikiano

Subprogramme 1 Globalization, interdependence and development

General Assembly resolutions

66/188	Addressing excessive price volatility in food and related financial and commodity markets
69/227	Towards a New International Economic Order
70/12	Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People
70/108	Assistance to the Palestinian people
70/188	International financial system and development
70/190	External debt sustainability and development

Subprogramme 3 International trade

General Assembly resolutions

70/186	Consumer protection
70/191	Commodities
70/201	Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

Subprogramme 4 Technology and logistics

General Assembly resolutions

60/252	World Summit on the Information Society
70/125	Outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society
70/213	Science, technology and innovation for development

70/184 Information and communications technologies for development
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Economic and Social Council resolutions

2015/26	Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society
2015/27	Science, technology and innovation for development

Subprogramme 5 Africa, least developed countries and special programmes

General Assembly resolutions

67/221	Smooth transition for countries graduating from the list of least developed countries
67/222	Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation
68/18	Graduation of countries from the least developed country category
68/225	Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation
70/202	Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States
70/216	Follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries
70/295	New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support