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Item 4(b) of the provisional agenda

DESIGNATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL
ORGANIZATIONS FOR THE PURPOSES OF RULE 77
OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE BOARD

Application by the Service Centre for Development Cooperation (KEPA)

Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

1. The UNCTAD secretariat has received an application from the Service Centre for Development Cooperation (KEPA), requesting its inclusion by the Trade and Development Board in the list provided for in rule 77 of the Board's rules of procedure.
2. Having reviewed the information provided, the secretariat is of the opinion that, while not exactly corresponding to all requirements of Board decision 43 (VII) with regard to paragraph 8 on international structure, the organization clearly has an international outreach and would make a useful contribution to the work of UNCTAD. Therefore, subject to the concurrence of the Bureau of the Trade and Development Board, the secretariat recommends that KEPA be classified in the General Category under the provision of paragraph 12 (a) of Board decision 43 (VII).
4. The Board may wish to take action on this application at its twenty-sixth executive session in the light of the recommendation of the Bureau.
5. Information on KEPA is annexed hereto.

This document is at this stage intended for the information of States members of UNCTAD and its distribution is, therefore, restricted for their exclusive use. It is proposed that the document be de-restricted in due course.

Annex

***BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE SERVICE CENTRE
FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION***

History

1. The Service Centre for Development Cooperation (KEPA) was founded in 1985 to implement the Finnish volunteer programme and to give service and support to the activities of Finnish NGOs in development cooperation. In 1995, KEPA undertook an extensive evaluation of the Finnish volunteer programme in Mozambique, Nicaragua and Zambia. After the evaluation, the programme was transformed into a broader development cooperation programme and new countries were added.

Aims and objectives

2. According to its Declaration of Principles, the principal objective of KEPA is to encourage, support and organize Finnish civil society to participate in actions that promote global responsibility. The main instrument for achieving this goal is the Partnership Programme through which KEPA increases the awareness of global issues in Finnish civil society; improves its ability to act by organizing information, training, and campaigns for and in cooperation with Finnish NGOs; and strengthens civil society in developing countries through their own field activities as well as through building cooperation networks between Finnish and southern NGOs. The basic values of KEPA's Partnership Programme and its other activities are global responsibility and international solidarity in the following areas: sustainable development, environmental protection, justice, tolerance, equality, desire for peace, human rights and democracy.

Membership

3. KEPA has 185 member organizations, made up of Finnish non-governmental organizations working in the field of development cooperation or otherwise engaged with issues concerning developing countries and globalization.

Structure

4. The highest decision-making body of KEPA is the Board which currently consists of 14 members and 8 vice-members. The members of the Board are appointed at its annual meeting in November for a term of one year. All members are Finnish citizens. Members' meetings take place twice a year (spring and autumn). The Board has set up working groups on the following: international financial institutions; trade policy; cultural issues; administrative issues; and KEPA's southern programmes. The Board has also delegated certain powers to the Executive Director, the Unit Directors and the Resident Representatives in KEPA's southern field offices in Mozambique, Nicaragua and Zambia. KEPA also has liaison offices in: Dominican Republic, India, Indonesia, Thailand,

Uganda, and United Republic of Tanzania. KEPA is a network for cooperation which promotes both northern and southern cooperation partnerships.

Financial resources

5. Financing is derived principally from the Government of Finland, although some activities are funded from development cooperation funds of the European Union. The annual budgets for 1997, 1998 and 1999 were USD4.9 million, USD5.1 million and USD5.5 million respectively.

Publications

6. The organization publishes: *Kumppani*, a magazine on global issues bi-monthly (in Finnish); a monthly newsletter (in Finnish), its reports (mainly in Finnish); and a quarterly *KEPA Bull&In*, an international bulletin (in English).

Liaison

7. Liaison with the Secretary-General of UNCTAD will be maintained by the Executive Director, Mr. Folke Sundman.

Address

8. Sörnäisten Rantatie 25
00100 Helsinki
Finland
Tel: 358 9 584 23 213
FAX: 358 9 584 23 200
E mail: kepa@kepa.fi
Web page: www.kepa.fi

9. The working languages of KEPA are: Finnish, Swedish, English, Spanish and Portuguese.