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TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD  
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Item 7(b) of the provisional agenda

**INCLUSION OF A NATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION IN THE  
REGISTER IN CONFORMITY WITH DECISION 43 (VII) OF THE TRADE AND  
DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

**Centre for Community Economics and Development Consultants Society  
(CECOEDECON)**

**Note by the UNCTAD secretariat\***

1. The Centre for Community Economics and Development Consultants Society (CECOEDECON), a national non-governmental organization, has applied for inclusion in the Register of national organizations provided for under Board decision 43 (VII), sections III and IV.
2. In conformity with Board decision 43 (VII) and further to consultations with the member State concerned, the Secretary-General of UNCTAD has included CECOEDECON in the Register.
3. Information concerning CECOEDECON is annexed to this note

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\* This document was submitted on the above-mentioned date for technical reasons.

## **Annex**

### **Background information on the Centre for Community Economics and Development Consultants Society (CECOEDECON)**

#### **History**

1. The Centre for Community Economics and Development Consultants Society was founded in 1982 by a group of social workers who came to Chaksu Tehsil, near Jaipur, to join in relief operations in the wake of devastating floods in 1981. It was registered in 1982, under Rajasthan's societies registration act of 1958. The 1981 floods ruined entire crop fields and caused permanent damage to many villages in the area. Once the relief operations had come to an end, several committed social workers decided to continue working in the area in order to rehabilitate local communities and mitigate the long-term damage that the floods had caused.

#### **Aims and objectives**

2. The goal of the organization is to facilitate the process of empowerment of partner communities—small and marginal farmers, the landless, and deprived women and children—to enable them to take action independently and effectively to secure their long-term well being.

3. The organization works to fulfill its mission both directly and indirectly. Direct interventions include capacity-building initiatives with partner communities/groups to develop their organizational and technical potential and to address their most pressing developmental issues. In order to empower its various target groups effectively, CECOEDECON runs four programmes: institutional development; gender and development; national resource management; and health and child development.

#### **Members**

4. The organization has three kinds of membership: affiliates, general membership and life membership. The affiliates include large groups of farmers, women leaders and young people from different parts of the state of Rajasthan. These members participate actively in the programmes undertaken by the organization. The general members are those individuals who have a keen interest and track record in the development sector and who wish to be associated on a long-term basis. Members who have served the organization for a long time are offered life membership by the executive committee.

#### **Structure**

5. The Executive Committee of CECOEDECON is the governing body of the organization and consists of 11 members: a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and seven other members. It is primarily responsible for providing inputs related to programmes, design, monitoring and reviewing both the organization's finances and overall progress. The Committee is elected every three years and meets four to five times annually. The Secretary acts as the Chief Functionary of the organization on behalf of the Committee. He is responsible for administration, finance, legal matters, liaison and public relations.

6. The Executive Committee also appoints a Director, who is responsible for planning, monitoring, programme co-ordination, research, and training. Under his leadership, a Deputy Director for Policy is responsible for the development of networking and advocacy initiatives, and a second Deputy Director manages the operational aspects of the different programmes undertaken by the organization.

7. The general members of the organization elect the Executive Committee for three years. Current office holders are: Chairperson: Mr. Justice V.S. Dave (India); Vice-Chairperson: Dr. P.N. Mishra (India); Secretary: Mr. Sharad Joshi (India); Treasurer: Ms. Aparna Sahay (India).

### **Financial resources**

8. CECOEDECON's resources comprise membership dues, contributions from members, income generated through contracts, philanthropic contributions and sale of publications.

Total income	2001-2002:	US\$ 1,031,600
	2002-2003:	US\$ 835,549
	2003-2004:	US\$ 1,327,608

### **Relations with other international organizations**

9. CECOEDECON has no specific relations with international organizations, but it works actively with the Voluntary Action Network India (VANI), which has ECOSOC special consultative status.

### **Publications**

10. CECOEDECON publishes an annual Progress Report, ONYX, PRARAMPH (quarterly), and the Food Security Booklet (annually).

### **Liaison**

11. Mr. Sharad Joshi, Secretary of CECOEDECON, will maintain liaison with UNCTAD.

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### **Working language**

12. The working language of CECOEDECON is English.