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Bangkok, 29 April – 3 May 2002

**DRAFT REPORT OF THE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD ON ITS
NINETEENTH SPECIAL SESSION – MID-TERM REVIEW**

Bangkok, Thailand, 29 April – 3 May 2002

Rapporteur: Mr. Federico Perazza Scapino (Uruguay)

Note for delegations

This draft report is a provisional text circulated for clearance by delegations. Requests for amendments to statements by individual delegations should be communicated by **Wednesday, 8 May 2002** at the latest, to:

UNCTAD Editorial Section, Room E.8104, Palais des Nations, Geneva, Fax No. 907 0056, Tel. No. 907 5656/1066.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PLENARY OF THE BOARD

A. Mid-Term Review

1. For its consideration of this item, the Board had before it the following documentation:

“Review of the efficiency and functioning of the intergovernmental machinery” (TD/B(S-XIX)/4);

“Stocktaking in respect of the implementation of the commitments and work programme agreed to in the Bangkok Plan of Action” (TD/B(S-XIX)/3);

“Interactive debates and policy dialogue in the context of opportunities and challenges of new policy developments of importance since UNCTAD X” (TD/B(S-XIX)/2).

“Trade and investment in Asia and the Pacific: Recent trends and emerging issues” (TD/B(S-XIX)/5).

Opening statements

2. The **Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand** welcomed participants on behalf of the host Government. Thailand had been honoured to host UNCTAD X, and it wished to reaffirm its commitment to the continuing success of UNCTAD and its objectives. The Mid-term Review would examine progress on the implementation of the Bangkok Plan of Action and assess all the major global events since UNCTAD X that impacted on development. It would also provide a good opportunity to discuss a wide range of issues and explore policy alternatives for tackling the challenges of world development.

3. UNCTAD played a very important role in presenting the interests of the developing countries to the more developed countries in a multilateral framework. It was important for member States of UNCTAD to demonstrate their full commitment to UNCTAD and ensure its successful continuity up to UNCTAD XI. The results of the Mid-term Review would also be useful for the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg later in the year.

4. The **Deputy Secretary-General of UNCTAD** said that the Mid-term Review process had been thorough, substantive and rich, and provided a clear example of UNCTAD’s capacity to change and adjust priorities and working methods. At UNCTAD X, the interactive debates among all development partners had helped to highlight the growing convergence of ideas on the development process and some divergent positions on the impact of globalization. Many developing countries had indicated their difficulties in managing the development process in a rapidly globalizing and changing international economic environment and the constraints they faced. There was a general consensus that, while

globalization could be a powerful force for growth, not all countries had benefited from it. Many weak economies, particularly LDCs, remained marginalized. Policy changes required to cope with globalization had unleashed forces that generated uncertainty, intensified the incidence of poverty and were difficult to control through unilateral actions. Under these conditions, expecting developing countries to further open their markets without providing effective multilateral support or giving them possibilities to export their way out of underdevelopment and poverty would be a self-defeating strategy. These debates and interactions had inspired the consensus on the Bangkok Plan of Action, which reinforced the unique role of UNCTAD in the integrated treatment of trade and development-related issues.

5. The Mid-term Review provided an opportunity not only to monitor the organization's performance and impact but also to reinforce its core competencies, learn from shortcomings and adjust to new developments and priorities. The outcomes so far indicated that significant progress had been made in implementing the diverse mandates agreed at UNCTAD X. For the remainder of the inter-conference period, the secretariat would pay special attention to the specific areas for improvement identified, while making adjustments to accommodate activities to which member States attached great importance.

6. The outcomes of the major conferences since UNCTAD X had substantial implications for UNCTAD's work. The secretariat had prepared a road map for the implementation of the Third United Nations Programme of Action for the LDCs, including the specific areas of work to be undertaken by UNCTAD. The outcomes of the WTO Ministerial Conference at Doha set new challenges for UNCTAD in supporting developing countries in the current and forthcoming negotiations. The secretariat had prepared technical cooperation and capacity-building projects to be implemented in consultation with member countries and in collaboration with other relevant organizations. It had also conducted an internal review of technical assistance, and in the autumn the Working Party of the Board would discuss the outcome of the evaluation of UNCTAD's capacity building activities.

7. Finally, while much had been achieved, there was still work to be done to further specify aspects of the outcome of the review and to implement them.

Reports of the Chairpersons of pillars I–III

8. The representative of the **United States of America**, speaking **on behalf of the Chairperson of pillar I** of the Mid-term Review on the intergovernmental machinery, said that the goal of pillar I had not been to overhaul the intergovernmental machinery of UNCTAD but to improve its functioning so that it could better respond to new events and meet the requirements of its member States. He recommended to the Board that it take note of part I of document TD/B(S-XIX)/4, containing the Chairman's summary of the general objectives of the review undertaken under this pillar, as well as the problems and achievements pointed out by delegations. With regard to part II of the same document, which was submitted to the Board for adoption, it was suggested not to convert the Board's sessional committee on least developed countries (LDCs) into a Standing Committee but to entrust it with coordinating, reviewing and monitoring UNCTAD-wide activities in this area and to convene an executive session of the Board to discuss the *Least Developed Countries*

Report. Suggestions were also made on how to improve the focus of Commissions and enhance the terms of reference and coherence of expert meetings. Two issues remained unresolved. The Board, at its forty-ninth session, would have to consider the issue of having two regular sessions each year instead of one, and a long-term solution would have to be found before the end of 2002 to the issue of predictable financing of the participation of experts from developing countries and countries in transition.

9. The representative of the **United Kingdom**, speaking in her capacity as **Chairperson of pillar II** on stocktaking, said that the outcome reflected an open and interactive programme-by-programme review. Research and analysis were regarded as generally satisfactory, though there had been mixed reactions to some publications and more effective dissemination was called for. There was a paucity of feedback on the impact of recommendations made by intergovernmental meetings, and linking intergovernmental debate with research and technical cooperation, or focussing on relevant policy areas, could ensure the best impact. Technical cooperation activities had received much positive feedback, and the internal review of technical cooperation procedures was welcome. The better use of indicators and the implementation of evaluation outcomes could further improve quality. The implementation of paragraph 166 of the Bangkok Plan of Action had been disappointing, and fresh efforts were called for. Other issues that had been examined included the implementation of the decision to set up a subprogramme on Africa, the best way to implement UNCTAD's work on LDCs, and the progress achieved on cross-cutting issues. Suggestions had been made to improve the effectiveness of the indicators of achievement, but these suggestions needed further discussion.

10. The Mid-term Review would help deploy resources most effectively and direct UNCTAD's fund-raising efforts to areas of greatest need. The work programme should be in line with resources. While UNCTAD's extrabudgetary resources remained steady, its regular budget resources had been significantly reduced. Posts had been transferred to the new Office of the High Representative for Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States.

11. The Millennium Summit and Declaration had set out shared goals for international development efforts, the Third UN Conference on LDCs had reaffirmed the importance of the issues dealt with by UNCTAD, the Fourth WTO Ministerial Meeting had significant implications for UNCTAD's work, and the International Conference on Financing for Development had placed at the centre stage the issues that formed the basis of the Bangkok Plan of Action. Operationalizing the New Partnership for Africa's Development was a high priority for the region and its development partners.

12. Areas of emphasis leading to UNCTAD XI included addressing the immediate needs of developing countries arising from the Doha outcomes and other negotiations and enhancing supply capacities to improve developing countries' competitiveness and help them to integrate into the global economy. This work should be carried out in close cooperation with other organizations, in response to demand and in support of national development strategies.

13. The outcome of work in pillar II reflected delegations' frank and constructive comments. One delegation whose comments had arrived after the deadline had wished to shorten the text on the outcome of the Monterrey Conference and to elaborate more on the issue of resource constraints. Finally, focusing on the impact of activities based on a self-assessment was innovative. The outcome of the stocktaking could serve as an input to future discussions and contribute to the reform process recently launched by the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

14. The representative of **Thailand**, speaking in his capacity as **Chairperson of pillar III** on the interactive debates, said that the theme and structures of the high-level interactive debates and policy dialogues had been defined with the assistance of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD. An issues paper had been prepared by the UNCTAD secretariat (TD/B(S-XIX)/2), not as an exhaustive summary of all possible issues to be raised but as a catalyst to promote discussion. Informal discussions on the paper in Geneva had highlighted a number of concerns. As the Mid-term Review fell between a number of major international conferences, it represented an opportunity for stocktaking and moving forward on issues raised at those conferences, including those linked to UNCTAD's own work programme. There was a need to examine more carefully success stories and the lessons these might hold for other developing countries. The role of governance had been raised, though some believed that domestic institutional reforms should be the focus, while others insisted that the governance of the international economy, and particularly the role of multilateral financial and trading rules and institutions, were the key issues. Finally, more attention should be given to the distinct challenges facing LDCs.

Statements

15. The **Minister of Trade and Industry of Kenya** said that the outcome of the three pillars was balanced and should form a good basis for discussion. The most urgent issue was the need for additional resources for UNCTAD to carry out its mandate effectively, in particular technical cooperation activities relating to policy analysis, human resources development and institutional capacity building. At the adoption of the Bangkok Plan of Action, a number of measures to be taken by the international community had been discussed, including in respect of ODA, debt and investment. He was encouraged by the commitments on ODA made since then, including the pledges at Monterrey, but generally disappointed with the progress made. He congratulated Denmark, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway and Sweden for meeting the targets set with a view to attaining the Millennium Declaration goal of reducing extreme poverty by half by 2015.

16. The main thrust of Kenya's policy framework was poverty alleviation through employment creation and sustainable development. Obstacles such as low investment flows, high indebtedness and suspension of aid had made progress difficult.

17. On international trade, developing countries had not reaped benefits arising from the implementation of the Uruguay Round Agreements. A number of issues covered in the Bangkok Plan of Action still had to be addressed, including meaningful market access, stringent sanitary and phytosanitary measures, competitiveness, insufficient transitional

periods, concretisation of special and differential treatment, and more focused financial and technical assistance. The technical assistance and capacity building promises and other commitments made at Doha must be translated into realities.

18. The need to promote and develop appropriate technology had also been discussed at Bangkok. Very little had been done in this area, however, and the technological divide remained wide. This required urgent attention.

19. Future challenges were clearly defined in the Millennium Declaration and echoed in the NEPAD and the Monterrey Consensus. Development partners were urged to support these initiatives, in particular those aiming to reduce extreme poverty.

20. The ghastly acts of terrorism at Nairobi and Dar-es-Salaam in August 1998 and the United States on 11 September 2001 had not only resulted in the loss of innocent lives but had also impacted international trade negatively. Kenya, being a major tourist destination, had suffered from loss of tourism revenues. Kenya always remained fully cooperative with the international community in combating terrorism. Peace, security and stability were required for trade and to take full advantage of the globalization process.

21. The representative of **Egypt**, speaking on behalf of the **Group of 77 and China**, highlighted the need for dialogue and cooperation between all members of the international community to overcome the uncertainty that was adversely affecting development in developing countries. In this context, UNCTAD should remain a key player in the integrated treatment of trade and development issues. The activities of the three pillars of the Mid-term Review had been very useful in deepening of the development partners' awareness of each other's priorities, views, hopes and aspirations. All UNCTAD members were committed to strengthening UNCTAD's role. The Group of 77 and China looked forward to implementing the outcomes of the three pillars. Finding predictable long-term sources of financing for experts from developing countries before the established deadline was of fundamental importance for her Group. With regard to the stocktaking exercise, the outcome of pillar II addressed issues of great interest to the Group of 77 and China that needed to be further explored. One of them, namely the long-term sustainability of the training courses foreseen under paragraph 166 of the Bangkok Plan of Action, was of particular importance.

22. The Group of 77 and China looked forward to UNCTAD XI. They invited the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to submit a draft agenda and a timetable for the preparatory process in early 2003. The tabling of proposals on modifying the intergovernmental machinery of UNCTAD should be limited to a maximum of 21 days after the launching of the preparatory process. Suggestions for changes should also indicate the objectives, implications and potential impact of the changes. In addition to preparatory meetings, frequent informal meetings should be held during the preparatory process. The Group of 77 and China shared the view of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD that the Bangkok Plan of Action, being a very comprehensive and well-balanced document, should remain a source of guidance for future work. Finally, the question of UNCTAD's resource base should be given serious thought so as to enable it to fulfill its mandate and respond fully to the needs of developing countries.

23. The representative of **Spain**, speaking on behalf of the **European Union (EU)**, said that a number of key international events had taken place since UNCTAD X, such as the Millennium Assembly, the Third UN Conference on LDCs, the launching of NEPAD, the Doha Ministerial Conference of the WTO, and the Financing for Development Conference. The Doha Declaration, which specifically referred to UNCTAD in connection with investment and competition policy, provided a unique opportunity for all international bodies working in the area to join forces. The EU encouraged the secretariats of both UNCTAD and WTO to work together to avoid duplication and promote synergies. He referred to EU's Everything but Arms initiative, its generalized scheme of preferences (GSP), its commitment to reach the 0.7 per cent target of GNP for official development assistance, and its Economic Partnership Agreements with African, Caribbean and Pacific countries to be launched in September 2002.

24. The mandate of UNCTAD and its role in development had increased in importance as a result of the events that had taken place, and its work programme needed to be adjusted accordingly. For example, WTO should not provide all technical assistance in relation to trade negotiations and capacity building. UNCTAD should use the niches in which it had comparative advantage, such as analysis and technical cooperation in investment, competition, investment/trade links, national trade reforms, enterprise development and institution building. In this context, the EU expected UNCTAD to reaffirm its contribution to programmes like JITAP and the Integrated Framework.

25. With regard to the outcome of the Mid-term Review, he expressed general satisfaction, although in relation with pillar I, much remained to be done. Analysis, technical assistance and consensus building should be better linked with each other, and the EU looked forward to UNCTAD XI as a conference that would result in an even more coherent reform of the intergovernmental machinery. In relation to pillar II, UNCTAD should refocus its efforts around supporting developing countries in international trade negotiations and fostering their competitiveness to enable them to take full advantage of opportunities. It was also necessary to refine the benchmarks of efficiency so as to obtain adequate feedback. As for priority issues, in addition to good governance, they should include horizontal topics such as poverty reduction, gender equality and cooperation with the civil society.

26. The representative of **Bangladesh**, speaking on behalf of the **least developed countries**, considered that the intergovernmental machinery in place since 1996 had proved beneficial for UNCTAD's work. He hoped the outcome of pillar I would further strengthen linkages between the Board, Commissions and expert meetings. He appreciated the agreement to devote more attention to LDC issues and to convene an executive session to discuss the *LDC Report* and substantive issues, and hoped that the secretariat would make adequate preparations. A long-term solution to financing participation in expert meetings should be found before the end of 2002.

27. The major conferences organized since UNCTAD X had made certain commitments in favour of LDCs, and he awaited an inventory of the benefits to be effectively derived from these outcomes. LDCs being a priority and cross-cutting issue, every division of the

UNCTAD secretariat had a special contribution to make. Specific tasks assigned at the most recent Commission sessions should be completed soon.

28. The Brussels Programme Action had resulted in a readjustment in UNCTAD's work. While he endorsed the new direction, UNCTAD would remain responsible for substantive and analytical work in support of LDCs, and the *LDC Report* should continue to be published annually. At Brussels the international community had renewed its commitment to assisting LDCs, but ODA continued to decline in real terms and was well short of internationally agreed targets. The LDCs' share of world trade had declined from 3 per cent in 1950 to 0.4 per cent in 2000, and UNCTAD must work to enhance market access for them.

29. The WTO post-Doha work programme had placed an additional burden on LDCs. While UNCTAD's technical assistance was more critical than ever before, its resource level was declining. He welcomed UNCTAD's post-Doha Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Plan, which should be funded from extrabudgetary sources. In this effort, greater emphasis should be placed on institution building and long-term capacity building.

30. Assistance was also required to overcome supply-side bottlenecks. The Integrated Framework pilot scheme needed to be expanded and targeted at supply-side issues. He hoped development partners would make generous contributions to the LDC Trust Fund.

31. Achieving the Millennium Summit goal of halving poverty by 2015 depended on LDCs playing their rightful role in the globalization process. UNCTAD had a critical role to play in building consensus in international policies of aid, debt relief, trade and private capital flows. He hoped that the Board's deliberations would provide a clear direction for UNCTAD XI, building upon the Bangkok Plan of Action.

32. The representative of the **United Kingdom** said that his country was supporting a broad range of technical assistance activities at UNCTAD. In face of the increasing need for assistance after the WTO Doha Ministerial Meeting in support of trade negotiations and to realize the potential of trade as an engine for growth and poverty reduction, his country was providing finance for: capacity building on competition policy (£200,000, with a further phase being considered); a services and development capacity-building project (US\$ 500,000); and a programme on trade and environment to be implemented jointly with the NGO FIELD (£1 million). He hoped that activities assisted earlier, such as the Agricultural Trade Policy Simulation Model, had become useful. His country was committed to funding a further phase of UNCTAD's WTO Accession Trust Fund. Funding for a number of activities in the area of investment, including the possible financing of participation in expert meetings on investment issues in the current year, was under discussion. He welcomed UNCTAD's commitment to work together with other agencies, and announced that a second contribution had been made to the Trust Fund for the Integrated Framework for Trade-related Technical Assistance for LDCs (£1 million).

33. The representative of **Norway** stressed that, since 2000, important commitments with implications for UNCTAD's work had been made at a series of international conferences. The Mid-term Review should redefine UNCTAD's priorities and adjust its programmes to

make it more relevant for the implementation of the new agendas set at these conferences. In particular, the fight against poverty should be put at the centre of the work programme on trade and development. UNCTAD should keep the focus of its activities on LDCs in terms of both analysis and technical assistance. In cooperation with the WTO and the International Trade Centre (ITC), it should contribute to enhancing developing countries', and in particular LDCs', participation in multilateral trade negotiations, to improving their supply capacities, and to activities in the fields of investment and competition, where its name was specifically mentioned in the Doha Declaration. There was a broad consensus on development cooperation that underlined national responsibility for development and recognized the necessity of support by an enabling international environment.

34. The outcomes of pillars I and II provided the basis for necessary improvements. Norway attached great importance to the full and immediate implementation of the guidelines agreed to under pillar I. Regarding pillar II, there was a divergence of views on the usefulness of various publications, and the secretariat should look into the matter. UNCTAD's technical assistance should be based on its areas of comparative advantage, and developing countries', particularly LDCs', participation in global trade negotiations and the multilateral trading system was one such area. Coordinating mechanisms with other agencies in the implementation of JITAP and the Integrated Framework should be strengthened. UNCTAD's agenda in the two coming years was challenging and would demand continued dialogue among all stakeholders. The approaches, focus and priorities would need to be constantly updated, and not just in UNCTAD but in the development community as a whole.

35. The representative of **Cuba** expressed his Government's reservations about the trend of having too many ministerial meetings at the United Nations where previous decisions were only rubber-stamped. The definitive decisions on how to change the intergovernmental machinery of UNCTAD should be taken at UNCTAD XI, though he agreed with the suggestions designed to increase the efficiency of UNCTAD's intergovernmental machinery and refocus its objectives. He called on Governments to pay increased attention to the recommendations of UNCTAD's Commissions and of the Trade and Development Board. The activities that the WTO had initiated as a result of the Doha programme for development should be linked with the work done at UNCTAD. UNCTAD's expert meetings were highly relevant, as they constituted the backbone for technical assistance to Governments on development policies and strategies. Finally, he called for a definitive solution to the problem of predictable financing for experts from developing countries, one possibility being the use of the regular budget.

36. The representative of the **Organization of African Unity** (OAU) welcomed the documentation on the three pillars of the Mid-term Review. The spirit of cooperation manifest therein augured well for the implementation of the work programme until UNCTAD XI. UNCTAD remained the principal organ of the United Nations on trade, investment and development issues. Its experience in injecting the development dimension into the economic policy debate was appreciated. Moreover, its various technical cooperation programmes were the crown jewels of the United Nations system-wide technical cooperation activities.

37. The outcomes of pillars I and II represented road maps on the way towards a more efficient organization. They highlighted the need for an efficient intergovernmental machinery and for the provision of adequate resources on a predictable basis. Under pillar III, she recognized the changing dynamics of the international economic arena and looked forward to finding ways to factor in new developments into the work programme of UNCTAD.

38. In Africa, the decision by the heads of State to turn the OAU into the African Union reflected the desire to enter into a new era of prosperity and peace on the continent. She was confident that UNCTAD would take on board the implementation of NEPAD.

39. The representative of **Switzerland** said that, at the Third UN Conference on LDCs, attention had been drawn to the LDCs' needs, at the Fourth WTO Ministerial Conference, commitments had been made to make trade play its role in development, and the Financing for Development Conference had revealed the importance of domestic and international private sector resources. These outcomes would have an impact on UNCTAD's work.

40. With a reformed intergovernmental machinery, it was hoped that expert meetings would allow the emergence of real savoir faire and that follow-up would be improved, that Commissions would treat substantive aspects of development policies and provide priorities to the secretariat better than before, and that the Board would have more operational and focused discussions. At UNCTAD XI, an assessment would be made to see if there could be further improvements.

41. Regarding the Bangkok Plan of Action, its implementation was, in general, satisfactory. Indicators had helped significantly in evaluating the results of UNCTAD's activities. UNCTAD should define its comparative advantages in each area, and its resources should be allocated to priority areas. This would also facilitate the commitment of resources by donors, and in that connection Switzerland was considering contributing to the implementation of the post-Doha programme in the area of investment and to other technical cooperation activities.

42. The representative of the **Common Fund for Commodities** (CFC) stressed the importance of commodities for development, and recalled that UNCTAD had been asked to enhance its support for developing countries in this area in close collaboration with CFC. Supply capacities, value chains and value addition, diversification as an avenue for industrialization, technology transfer and price risk management were crucial issues in this respect. Although non-oil commodity prices were at very low levels and were expected to remain so at least until 2015, improving the commodity sector would provide a powerful contribution to meeting the goals set by the international community. Efforts needed to be intensified for the implementation of recommendations relating to commodities adopted at the Third UN Conference on LDCs. CFC, which was keen to collaborate with UNCTAD, international commodity bodies and other international organizations, would continue to support LDCs to enhance and diversify their export base and build institutional and human capacities. Support to stimulate sustainable development was also provided to other developing countries

B. Organizational matters

Opening of the session

43. The nineteenth special session of the Trade and Development Board was opened on 29 April 2002 at UNCC-ESCAP, Bangkok, Thailand, by Mr. Ali Said Mchumo (United Republic of Tanzania), President of the Board.

Inaugural ceremony

44. At an inaugural ceremony on 30 April 2002, addresses were delivered by H.E. Dr. Thaksin Shinawatra, Prime Minister of Thailand; H.E. Dr. Surakiart Sathirathai, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand; Mr. Rubens Ricupero, Secretary-General of UNCTAD; and Mr. Kim Hak-Su, Executive Secretary of ESCAP. A statement of appreciation was made by H.E. Mr. Ali Said Mchumo (United Republic of Tanzania), President of the Trade and Development Board.

45. The representative of Brazil announced his country's offer to host UNCTAD XI in 2004, and the President of the Board welcomed the offer on behalf of the Board.

Officers

46. The officers of the Board were as elected at the forty-eighth session of the Board, as follows:

President:	Mr. Ali Said Mchumo (United Republic of Tanzania)
Vice-Presidents:	Mr. Iouri Afanassiev (Russian Federation)
	Mr. Toufik Ali (Bangladesh)
	Mr. Federico Alberto Cuello Camilo (Dominican Republic)
	Mr. Douglas M. Griffiths (United States of America)
	Mrs. Eleanor M. Fuller (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)
	Mr. Virasakdi Futrakul (Thailand)
	Mr. Nathan Irumba (Uganda)
	Mr. Toshiyuki Iwado (Japan)
	Mr. Kalman Petocz (Slovakia)
	Mr. Jacques Scavee (Belgium)
Rapporteur:	Mr. Federico Perazza Scapino (Uruguay)

Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work of the session

47. At the opening meeting, the agenda was adopted, as follows:

1. Procedural matters:
 - (a) Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work of the session
 - (b) Report on credentials
2. Mid-term Review
 - (a) Review of the efficiency and functioning of the intergovernmental machinery
 - (b) Stocktaking in respect of the implementation of the commitments and work programme agreed to in the Bangkok Plan of Action
 - (c) Interactive debates and policy dialogue in the context of opportunities and challenges of new policy developments of importance since UNCTAD X:
 - (i) Assessment of global economic developments and their impact since UNCTAD X
 - (ii) Development challenges of the future
3. Institutional, organizational, administrative and related matters:
 - Administrative and financial implications of the actions of the Board
4. Other business
5. Adoption of the report of the Board

High-level interactive debates and policy dialogues

48. In the course of the session, two high-level interactive debates and policy dialogues were held on the following topics:

- Assessment of global economic developments and their impact since UNCTAD X: Economic policy and challenges after Bangkok;
- Development challenges of the future: Rethinking development strategies, reshaping globalization.