

**Trade and Development Board**  
**Twenty-sixth special session**  
15, 20 June 2012  
Geneva

**General statements by member States**  
**Speaker: Sweden**

**Friday, 15 June 2012**

*Not checked against delivery\**

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Ministry for Foreign Affairs  
Sweden

**Statement at the UNCTAD TDB 26th special session, 15th  
June 2012**

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Mr. President, excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,

I would like to start by thanking the Joint Inspection Unit for its report and the UNCTAD management and secretariat for its response. Sweden would also like to align itself to the statement made by ambassador Zappia on behalf of the EU and its member states.

Sweden believes that UNCTAD has a **unique position** in the UN system to provide strong, coherent and effective support to developing countries in trade and economic development, helping them to channel their efforts through sound nationally owned development strategies to achieve the MDGs and other internationally agreed development goals.

But, in order to do so we need to have a **strong, transparent and accountable UNCTAD**. The report by the UN Joint Inspection Unit **provides a good basis** for our discussions in its review of UNCTADs strengths and weaknesses and we are pleased that we have an opportunity to talk about it these coming days and decide together the best way forward to strengthen and streamline UNCTAD in order to enable it to deliver on its mandate from Doha.

We hope that this Trade and Development Board will endorse a decision for the Secretariat to **prepare a Work Plan, with set target dates** and including management and strategic planning issues. We would also like to support the idea that this Work Plan could be discussed at the TDB meeting in September this year.

Here, **members as well as the secretariat need to take responsibility**. The secretariat by establishing and implementing a Work Plan and the members by making sure that UNCTAD stays a member-driven organization and supporting the secretariat in implementing the plan.

Mr President,

Sweden puts **results, transparency and accountability** at the very centre of development cooperation. This means that we all have to think over the ways in which we organise, prioritise and measure the outcome of development cooperation to adapt it to the world of the 21st century. If we cannot transparently and systematically report on how our development aid is spent, and what is achieved in the form of results, the credibility of development cooperation itself will be undermined.

As one of the main donors of voluntary contributions to UNCTAD technical cooperation activities we would therefore like to underline the importance of UNCTAD **developing a results framework** which demonstrates a clear results chain, with logical links between impacts, outcomes and outputs. In that respect we welcome the management's positive response in increasing efforts in this area and presenting a proposal for an improved RBM framework.

There should also be a **direct link between the annual report and the Results Framework**. UNCTAD should report annually on all levels of the results framework and clearly state where a results is at the impact, outcome or output level.

It is also important to **communicate results**. UNCTAD has worked actively with its communication platform and has improved it considerably but it could still get even better as regards communication of results. It is important that a clear public narrative on what has been achieved is set out. Improved communication and reporting on results (good and poor) should be mainstreamed in management processes and incentive structures as simply and cost-effectively as possible.

Mr President,

UNCTAD continues to play an important role as think-tank and forum for discussion on trade and development as related to its mandate. We are looking forward to the discussions these coming days and hope that we will agree on the way forward in order to achieve our common goal- **a stronger, more transparent and accountable UNCTAD**.

Thank you.