



**United Nations Conference
on Trade and Development**

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Trade and Development Board

Sixtieth session

Geneva, 16–27 September 2013

Item 2 of the provisional agenda

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

Provisional agenda and annotations

Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

The provisional agenda for the sixtieth session of the Trade and Development Board is reproduced in chapter I below. The secretariat's annotations, contained in chapter II, are intended to provide essential background information covering the provisional agenda items, together with a brief description of the relevant documentation.

A checklist of documents relating to all agenda items will be issued at the beginning of the session.

I. Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work of the session
3. High-level segment: Beyond the curve: UNCTAD and new patterns of growth for trade and development
4. Interdependence: Towards new patterns in global growth
5. UNCTAD's contribution to the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries: Second progress report
6. Economic Development in Africa: Intra-African trade: Unlocking private sector dynamism
7. Evolution of the international trading system and its trends from a development perspective
8. Development strategies in a globalized world: Growing domestic and regional demand for balanced and sustainable growth
9. Investment for development: Global value chains and development
10. UNCTAD's contribution to the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields
11. Technical cooperation activities:
 - (a) Review of the technical cooperation activities of UNCTAD
 - (b) Report on UNCTAD assistance to the Palestinian people
12. Matters requiring action by the Board in the follow-up to the thirteenth session of the Conference:
 - (a) Follow-up to the Joint Inspection Unit report and the agreed conclusions of the twenty-sixth special session of the Trade and Development Board on 6 July 2012
 - (b) Report of the UNCTAD Public Symposium
13. Other matters in the field of trade and development:
 - (a) Progressive development of the law of international trade: Forty-sixth annual report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law
 - (b) Report of the Trade and Development Commission
14. Report of the Working Party on the Strategic Framework and the Programme Budget
15. Institutional, organizational, administrative and related matters:
 - (a) Report by the President of the Advisory Body set up in accordance with paragraph 166 of the Bangkok Plan of Action on the implementation of courses by the secretariat in 2012–2013 and their relevant impact; and the appointment of members of the Advisory Body for 2014
 - (b) Designation of intergovernmental bodies for the purposes of rule 76 of the Rules of Procedure of the Trade and Development Board

- (c) Designation of non-governmental organizations for the purposes of rule 77 of the Rules of Procedure of the Trade and Development Board
 - (d) Review of the calendar of meetings
 - (e) Membership of the Working Party for 2014
 - (f) Review of the lists of States contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX)
 - (g) Administrative and financial implications of the actions of the Board
16. Adoption of the report on credentials
 17. Provisional agenda for the sixty-first session of the Board
 18. Other business
 19. Adoption of the report

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

1. The provisional agenda of the sixtieth session of the Trade and Development Board was approved at the consultations of the President of the Trade and Development Board on 17 May 2013.

Item 1

Election of officers

2. The Rules of Procedure of the Trade and Development Board are contained in document TD/B/16/Rev.4 and Corr.1.
3. In accordance with rules 18 and 19 of the Rules of Procedure, the Bureau of the Board consists of 12 members: the President, 10 Vice-Presidents and the Rapporteur, i.e. four members from list A (Africa/Asia), four from list B, two from list C and two from list D, as referred to in the annex to General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX), as amended.
4. In accordance with the cycle of rotation that has been in operation since the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD IX), the President of the Board for the sixtieth session will be a representative of one of the States in list A (Asia) and the Rapporteur will be a representative of one of the States in list B. The 10 Vice-Presidents will therefore be as follows: three from list A (Africa/Asia); three from list B; two from list C; and two from list D.

Item 2

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

Agenda

5. The provisional agenda for the session is reproduced in chapter I above.

Organization of work

6. In order to accommodate the suggestions made by delegations, meetings of the session of the Board have been organized in such a way as to ensure that no two meetings will take place simultaneously. They have been designed with a view to ensuring effective

participation by delegations, particularly small delegations, and also to making the most efficient use of the conference resources of the United Nations.

Establishment of sessional committees

7. In accordance with rule 62 of its Rules of Procedure, the Board may wish to set up two sessional committees. It is proposed to allocate agenda item 5 to Sessional Committee I and agenda item 6 to Sessional Committee II.

Item 3

High-level segment: Beyond the curve: UNCTAD and new patterns of growth for trade and development

8. Under this agenda item, the panellists will examine the new geography of global production, trade and finance that has emerged over the past two decades. The global financial crisis has further accentuated these changes. The timing, pace and mode of exiting from crisis-related policies will have a significant impact on growth, trade and development for all countries. National, regional and international policies will have their impact on a smooth and development-friendly recovery. In this process, monetary and fiscal policies, as well as the rules governing financial and international financial systems, will undergo shifts and changes, and the role of industrial policies will also be important. Developing countries have started to seek alternative development strategies, focusing on both domestic demand and sectoral diversification for the generation of linkages and growth in productivity. Nevertheless, the use of industrial policy to address post-crisis economic challenges is likely to differ across various groups of countries. The systematic treatment by UNCTAD of these topics over the years highlights its potential contribution to elaborating appropriate development strategies for the future.

Documentation

TD/B/60/7

Beyond the curve: UNCTAD and new patterns of growth
for trade and development

Item 4

Interdependence: Towards new patterns in global growth

9. Deliberations by the Trade and Development Board under this agenda item will provide an opportunity to review how the performance of the world economy has evolved since 2012. This analysis will be placed within a longer-term perspective showing the rising importance of several developing countries and regions as additional drivers of global economic growth.

10. Special attention will be given to the policies that developed, developing and transition economies should adopt to recover sustained growth rates without reproducing the domestic and global imbalances that led to the financial and economic crisis of 2008–2009.

11. As a background document for the Board's deliberations, chapter I of the *Trade and Development Report 2013* reviews current trends in the world economy, the implications of global economic interdependence for developing countries, the scope for countercyclical and structural policy measures and the need for a concerted response to global economic challenges.

*Documentation*UNCTAD/TDR/2013
and Overview*Trade and Development Report, 2013: Adjusting to the
changing dynamics of the world economy***Item 5****UNCTAD's contribution to the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries: Second progress report**

12. Under this item the Trade and Development Board will deliberate on the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020 with a focus on productive capacity (the first priority area of the Programme of Action). Building the productive capacities of least developed countries was regarded as an indispensable element for their development. An integral part of the effort to develop productive capacities in the countries concerned is the need to measure where least developed countries currently stand in building their productive capacities and specify benchmarks against which such capacities can be assessed. As part of its contribution to the implementation of the Programme of Action, and in accordance with paragraph 65(e) of the Doha Mandate, the UNCTAD secretariat is making continued efforts to develop quantifiable indicators on productive capacities with a view to providing an “operational methodology and policy guidance on how to mainstream productive capacities in national development policies and strategies in [least developed countries]”. To assist the discussions of the Board on the item, the secretariat will prepare a background document in the form of a synthesis of its ongoing work on developing indicators and benchmarks of productive capacities in least developed countries as an important vehicle to place productive capacities at the centre of national development policies and strategies.

Documentation

TD/B/60/8

UNCTAD's contribution to the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries: Measuring and benchmarking productive capacities in least developed countries

Item 6**Economic Development in Africa: Intra-African trade: Unlocking private sector dynamism**

13. The Board under this agenda item will consider the report Economic Development in Africa: Intra-African trade: Unlocking private sector dynamism, which examines how to strengthen the private sector to boost intra-African trade. The report argues that for African countries to reap the expected gains from intra-African trade and regional integration, they will need to place the building of productive capacities and domestic entrepreneurship at the heart of the policy agenda for boosting intra-African trade. In this context, the report recommends that governments in Africa should promote intra-African trade in the context of developmental regionalism. In particular, it stresses the need for a shift from a process and linear approach to integration, which focuses on elimination of trade barriers, to a more development-based approach to integration, which pays as much attention to the building of productive capacities and private sector development as to the elimination of trade barriers.

Documentation

TD/B/60/4	Economic Development in Africa: Intra-African trade: Unlocking private sector dynamism (overview)
UNCTAD/ALDC/AFRICA/2013	<i>Economic Development in Africa Report 2013: Intra-African Trade: Unlocking Private Sector Dynamism</i>

Item 7**Evolution of the international trading system and its trends from a development perspective**

14. Paragraph 18(d) of the Doha Mandate of the thirteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD XIII) mandates UNCTAD to “continue to monitor and assess the evolution of the international trading system and its trends from a development perspective”. In response to this mandate, the Trade and Development Board under this agenda item will deliberate on recent trends in international trade flows in goods and services; important developments in the international trading system; and the contribution that international trade can make to addressing the eradication of poverty within the context of sustainable development in the framework of the post-2015 United Nations development agenda.

Documentation

TD/B/60/2	Evolution of the international trading system and its trends from a development perspective
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Item 8**Development strategies in a globalized world: Growing domestic and regional demand for balanced and sustainable growth**

15. Deliberations by the Trade and Development Board under this agenda item will focus on the need for active policies to strengthen domestic and regional markets on the demand side, and productive upgrading and diversification on the supply side, as the driving principles underpinning long-term development strategies. The current financial and economic crisis is more than just a cyclical episode; it represents a breaking point after which it will be neither possible nor desirable to return to pre-crisis growth patterns. In many cases, development strategies will have to be refocused: countries will have to strengthen domestic and regional consumption and investment, which in turn will generate demand for imports and trade. Global or (at minimum) regional coordination is important for the sustainability of this process.

16. The background information for the deliberations of the Board under this item is contained in chapters II–IV of the *Trade and Development Report 2013*, which address the evolution of the structure of global demand over the past decades, the new challenges and opportunities this opens to developing and transitional countries, and the conditions needed for domestic and regional demand to become a major engine of growth, support productive diversification and increase resilience to external shocks.

Documentation

UNCTAD/TDR/2013
and Overview

*Trade and Development Report, 2013: Adjusting to the
changing dynamics of the world economy*

Item 9**Investment for development: Global value chains and development**

17. With the rise of global value chains, a trade–investment nexus permeates and defines today’s global economy. The vast preponderance of global trade is ultimately governed by transnational corporations, which orchestrate and coordinate global value chains through foreign direct investment, non-equity modes (such as services outsourcing, contract farming and contract manufacturing) and cross-border transactions with independent firms. For developing countries there are both opportunities and risks associated with global value chains. Developing countries need to carefully weigh the pros and cons of participation in global value chains and the costs and benefits of proactive policies to promote global value chains or development strategies led by global value chains, in line with their specific situation. Some countries may decide not to promote them; others may not have a choice. In reality, most are already involved in global value chains to a degree. Policy matters to make global value chains work for development.

18. The Board session will also provide an opportunity for a briefing by the secretariat on the latest developments regarding trends in and policies on foreign direct investment.

19. The meeting will therefore discuss how to maximize the benefits and minimize the risks associated with global value chains. The overview of the *World Investment Report 2013*, which aims to offer policy options for countries to maximize the benefits and minimize the risks associated with value chain activities within the framework of sustainable development, will serve as the document for this agenda item, and the full report will be the background document that will inform the debate.

Documentation

UNCTAD/WIR/2013
and Overview

*World Investment Report 2013: Global value chains:
Investment and trade for development*

Item 10**UNCTAD’s contribution to the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields**

20. In its resolution 57/270 B, the General Assembly stressed the need to make maximum use of existing United Nations mechanisms for the purpose of reviewing the implementation of commitments made within the United Nations system in key areas of development. In this regard, it invited the Trade and Development Board to contribute, within its mandate, to the implementation and review of the progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits, under its relevant agenda items.

21. Paragraph 11 of the Accra Accord states that:

UNCTAD, within its mandate, should make a contribution to the implementation and follow-up to the outcomes of relevant global conferences. It should continue to contribute to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals. With all aspects of its work it will help to implement the global development agenda and pave the way to 2015. It should also contribute to the implementation of specific actions requested in the 2005 World Summit, the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010, the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation agreed at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, and the Declaration of Principles and the Plan of Action of the World Summit on the Information Society. It should also contribute to furthering the implementation of the internationally agreed goals in the Doha Ministerial Declaration and other relevant decisions.

22. Similarly, paragraphs 18 and 18(n) of the Doha Mandate state that “UNCTAD should continue to work within its mandate – through its three pillars, delivering meaningful results, utilizing available resources, while enhancing synergies and promoting complementarities with the work of other organizations. In this regard, UNCTAD should implement and follow up, as appropriate, relevant outcomes from global conferences and summits on development”.

23. The Board is expected to respond to the request addressed to it by the General Assembly in paragraph 27(a) of resolution 57/270 B on the basis of a note prepared by the UNCTAD secretariat.

Documentation

TD/B/60/9	Progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits, and UNCTAD’s contributions
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Item 11

Technical cooperation activities:

(a) Review of the technical cooperation activities of UNCTAD

24. The Board will review the technical cooperation activities undertaken in 2012, as well as developments in UNCTAD’s technical cooperation – in particular, matters of capacity-building related to trade and investment, and issues related to progress in the implementation of decision 478 (L) of the Board regarding technical cooperation. In considering this item, the Board will have as supporting background information the outcome of the sixty-fifth session of the Working Party on the Strategic Framework and the Programme Budget, due to be held from 2 to 4 September 2013, and a review of technical cooperation activities undertaken in 2012.

Documentation

TD/B/WP/253	Review of the technical cooperation activities of UNCTAD and their financing
TD/B/WP/253/Add.1	Review of the technical cooperation activities of UNCTAD and their financing – Annex I: Review of activities undertaken in 2012 (English only)

Documentation

- TD/B/WP/253/Add.2 Review of the technical cooperation activities of UNCTAD and their financing – Annex II: Statistical tables (English only)
- TD/B/WP/255 Report of the Working Party on the Strategic Framework and the Programme budget on its sixty-fifth session

(b) Report on UNCTAD assistance to the Palestinian people

25. UNCTAD's report on assistance to the Palestinian people will follow the same pattern of the previous years. It will provide the Trade and Development Board with a briefing on recent economic developments in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. The main message is that with the persistence of Israeli restrictions on mobility, loss of land and productive resources and bleak peace process horizons, gross domestic product decelerated, and poverty and unemployment soared in 2012. These conditions are expected to deteriorate further. The report sheds light on the Palestinian fiscal crisis and provides estimates on the extent and impact of leakage of Palestinian fiscal revenue to Israel. The report also highlights the scope and rationale of UNCTAD technical cooperation activities to the Palestinian people in 2012 and the resource limitations to implement such activities.

Documentation

- TD/B/60/3 Report on UNCTAD assistance to the Palestinian people: Developments in the economy of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Item 12**Matters requiring action by the Board in the follow-up to the thirteenth session of the Conference:****(a) Follow-up to the Joint Inspection Unit report and the agreed conclusions of the twenty-sixth special session of the Trade and Development Board on 6 July 2012**

26. The Conference at its thirteenth session in Doha (UNCTAD XIII) decided that the annual sessions of the Trade and Development Board would consider and evaluate progress on the implementation of decisions in relation to the Joint Inspection Unit report and take action, as appropriate. The Trade and Development Board at its fifty-ninth session considered a workplan for enhancing the management and administration of UNCTAD, which was developed in accordance with the agreed conclusions of the twenty-sixth special session of the Trade and Development Board held on 6 July 2012. At the fifty-ninth session, the Board requested the secretariat to enhance the management and administration of UNCTAD through the implementation of the workplan presented at the session, as contained in document TD/B/59/CRP.2, and based on the deliberations of the Board. The Board also requested a comprehensive progress report on implementation at its sixtieth session in September 2013. The secretariat will report on the implementation of the workplan for enhancing the management and administration of UNCTAD.

Documentation

TD/B/60/5	Progress report on the implementation of the workplan for enhancing the management and administration of UNCTAD
JIU/REP/2012/1	Review of management and administration in the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
TD/B(S-XXVI)/CRP.1	UNCTAD Management Response to the Joint Inspection Unit Review of Management and Administration in the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
TD/B(S-XXVI)/2	Report of the Trade and Development Board on its twenty-sixth special session
TD/B/59/CRP.2	Workplan for enhancing the management and administration of UNCTAD
TD/B/59/7	Report of the Trade and Development Board on its fifty-ninth session (decision 516 (LIX))

(b) Report of the UNCTAD Public Symposium

27. The report of the fourth UNCTAD Public Symposium, which took place from 24 to 25 June 2013, will be before the Board for its consideration.

Documentation

TD/B/60/6	Report on the fourth UNCTAD Public Symposium – New economic approaches for a coherent post-2015 agenda
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Item 13

Other matters in the field of trade and development:

(a) Progressive development of the law of international trade: Forty-sixth annual report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law

28. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 2205 (XXI), the report of the forty-sixth session of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law will be before the Board.

Documentation

A/68/17	Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on its forty-sixth session
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(b) Report of the Trade and Development Commission

29. The report of the Trade and Development Commission on its fifth session will be before the Board for its consideration.

Documentation

TD/B/C.I/31	Report of the Trade and Development Commission on its fifth session
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Item 14

Report of the Working Party on the Strategic Framework and the Programme Budget

30. The report of the Working Party on its sixty-fifth session will be before the Board for its consideration.

Documentation

TD/B/WP/255 Report of the Working Party on the Strategic Framework and the Programme Budget on its sixty-fifth session

Item 15

Institutional, organizational, administrative and related matters:

- (a) **Report by the President of the Advisory Body set up in accordance with paragraph 166 of the Bangkok Plan of Action on the implementation of courses by the secretariat in 2012–2013 and their relevant impact; and the appointment of members of the Advisory Body for 2014**

31. In accordance with Board decision 466 (XLVII), the President of the Advisory Body will inform the Board about the activities of the Advisory Body and about the implementation of paragraph 166 of the Bangkok Plan of Action. The Board will be invited to appoint members of the Advisory Body for 2014, on the basis of the recommendations of the regional groups.

- (b) **Designation of intergovernmental organizations bodies for the purposes of rule 76 of the Rules of Procedure of the Trade and Development Board**

32. The UNCTAD secretariat has received no applications requesting inclusion in the list provided for in rule 76 of the Rules of Procedure of the Board. A list of the approved intergovernmental organizations is contained in document TD/B/IGO/LIST/10.

- (c) **Designation of non-governmental organizations for the purposes of rule 77 of the Rules of Procedure of the Trade and Development Board**

33. The UNCTAD secretariat has received no applications requesting inclusion in the list provided for in rule 77 of the Rules of Procedure of the Board. A list of the approved non-governmental organizations is contained in document TD/B/NGO/LIST/15.

- (d) **Review of the calendar of meetings**

34. The Board will have before it the calendar of meetings for the remainder of 2013 and for 2014.

In-session documentation

- (e) **Membership of the Working Party for 2014**

35. The Board will be required to approve the membership of the Working Party for 2014 on the basis of nominations from the regional groups.

In-session documentation

(f) **Review of the lists of States contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX)**

36. The Board will have before it, as appropriate, the updated membership list of UNCTAD and the Board.

Documentation

TD/B/INF.228 Membership of UNCTAD and membership of the Trade and Development Board

(g) **Administrative and financial implications of the actions of the Board**

37. The Board will be informed during the session of the administrative and financial implications of any proposals before it.

In-session documentation, if required

Item 16
Adoption of the report on credentials

38. In accordance with rule 17.2 of the Rules of Procedure, the Bureau of the Board will examine the credentials and submit its report to the Board.

In-session documentation

Item 17
Provisional agenda for the sixty-first session of the Board

39. The draft provisional agenda for the sixty-first session of the Board will be prepared by the secretariat. The Board may wish to refer consideration of this item to the consultations of the President of the Board with the Bureau and coordinators.

Item 18
Other business

Item 19
Adoption of the report

40. In accordance with paragraph 195 of the Accra Accord, the report of the Board to the General Assembly will contain negotiated outcomes on Africa, least developed countries and technical cooperation, as well as Chair's summaries and negotiated outcomes addressed to the secretariat.
