



**United Nations Conference  
on Trade and Development**

Distr.: General  
22 January 2013

Original: English

---

**Trade and Development Board**  
**Trade and Development Commission**  
**Multi-year Expert Meeting on Commodities and Development**  
Fifth session  
Geneva, 20–21 March 2013  
Item 2 of the provisional agenda

## **Provisional agenda and annotations**

### **I. Provisional agenda**

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
3. Recent developments and new challenges in commodity markets, and policy options for commodity-based inclusive growth and sustainable development
4. Adoption of the report of the meeting

## II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

### Item 1

#### Election of officers

1. It is recommended that the expert meeting elect a Chair and a Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur.

### Item 2

#### Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

2. The provisional agenda for the fifth session of the multi-year expert meeting is reproduced in chapter I above. The expert meeting will have two days to complete its work (20–21 March 2013). The provisional schedule of meetings for the two days is attached to this document. The detailed programme will be available at the latest one week before the start of the meeting.

#### *Documentation*

TD/B/C.I/MEM.2/21 Provisional agenda and annotations

### Item 3

#### Recent developments and new challenges in commodity markets, and policy options for commodity-based inclusive growth and sustainable development

3. The topic for the four next sessions (the fifth to eighth sessions, years 2013–2016, respectively) of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Commodities and Development was decided at the fifty-fifth executive session of the Trade and Development Board in 2012. The terms of reference of this fifth session, as approved at the extended Bureau meeting on 30 November 2012, are as follows:

(a) Monitor the developments, opportunities and challenges in commodity markets, giving due attention to those commodity sectors that are relevant to commodity-dependent developing countries (CDDCs);

(b) Review policies and strategies that propel commodities as an engine of sustainable and inclusive growth and development. In this context, the expert meeting would critically look at the following issues:

(i) Policy options that increase the participation of value chains; improve diversification, value addition and standards compliance; improve competitiveness, including managerial acumen and marketing skills; reduce transaction costs along commodity supply chains; and increase returns;

(ii) Policy tools that support CDDCs and improve institutional capacity-building, governance and transparency, research and development, agricultural extension services and training, commodity finance (including warehouse receipt systems) and market information services.

#### *Expected outcome of the fifth session*

4. The discussion on this topic, which will include presentations by experts from relevant international organizations and commodity bodies, as well as representatives of the private sector and civil society, will serve to put into focus – and inform UNCTAD member States about – the salient developments in key commodity sectors and markets from a development perspective. The discussions will provide a context for appraising the opportunities and challenges arising from the new developments in the commodity markets

and provide policy options for commodity-based inclusive growth and sustainable development.

*Documentation*

TD/B/C.I/MEM.2/22 Recent developments and new challenges in commodity markets, and policy options for commodity-based inclusive growth and sustainable development

5. To facilitate the discussion, the UNCTAD secretariat will prepare a background note entitled “Recent developments and new challenges in commodity markets, and policy options for commodity-based inclusive growth and sustainable development”. The document will review recent developments in key commodity markets, including agriculture, energy, and minerals, ores and metals. It will highlight price trends and driving forces of price movements. It will also identify some emerging developments in the global commodity economy that are set to change the commodity landscape and pose new challenges for CDDCs. The note will conclude with policy recommendations to address these challenges and ensure inclusive growth and sustainable development in the CDDCs.

**Item 4**

**Adoption of the report of the meeting**

6. The report of the expert meeting will be submitted to the Trade and Development Commission at its next session. The expert meeting may wish to authorize the Rapporteur, under the authority of the Chair, to prepare the final report after the conclusion of the meeting.

**Input from experts: trade and development implications of recent developments in commodity markets and policy support for commodity-based inclusive growth and sustainable development**

Experts nominated by member States are encouraged to submit brief papers (approximately five pages) as contributions to the work of the meeting. The papers should be submitted to the UNCTAD secretariat in advance of the meeting and will be made available at the meeting in the form and language in which they are received. Papers, which should draw on the experts' experience, may address one or more of the following issues:

(a) What have been the drivers of price trends in recent years in commodity markets and what are the opportunities and challenges faced by CDDCs stemming from these trends?

(b) What are the economic, social and environmental impacts of climate change on the commodity sector development? What are the possible policy options to address climate change and ensure sustainable development of the commodity economy?

(c) How could CDDCs effectively utilize the opportunities offered by the rapid development of renewable energy? What is the appropriate policy framework to support the investment and the consumption of renewable energy?

(d) How could sustainable agriculture contribute to food security in CDDCs? How can governments promote sustainable agriculture?

For more information, contact:

Samuel Gayi  
Head, Special Unit on Commodities  
Office No. E-9030  
UNCTAD  
Palais des Nations  
CH-1211 Geneva 10  
Switzerland  
Tel.: +41 22 917 2131  
Fax.: +41 22 917 0509  
E-mail: [samuel.gayi@unctad.org](mailto:samuel.gayi@unctad.org)

## Provisional meeting schedule

<i>Wednesday</i> 20 March 2013	<i>Thursday</i> 21 March 2013
<p><i>(10 a.m.–1 p.m.)</i></p> <p>Plenary</p> <p>Opening statement</p> <p>Item 1 Election of officers</p> <p>Item 2 Adoption of the agenda and organization of work</p> <p>Item 3 Recent developments and new challenges in commodity markets, and policy options for commodity-based inclusive growth and sustainable development</p> <p>– Agricultural commodities</p> <p><i>(3 p.m.–6 p.m.)</i></p> <p>Item 3 (cont.) Recent developments and new challenges in commodity markets, and policy options for commodity-based inclusive growth and sustainable development</p> <p>– Minerals, ores and metals</p> <p>– Energy – oil, gas and coal</p>	<p><i>(10 a.m.–1 p.m.)</i></p> <p>Item 3 (cont.) Recent developments and new challenges in commodity markets, and policy options for commodity-based inclusive growth and sustainable development</p> <p>– Agricultural development for food security and inclusive growth</p> <p><i>(3 p.m.–5.30 p.m.)</i></p> <p>Item 3 (cont.) Recent developments and new challenges in commodity markets, and policy options for commodity-based inclusive growth and sustainable development</p> <p>– Addressing challenges of climate change (including renewable energy development)</p> <p><i>(5.30 p.m.–6 p.m.)</i></p> <p>Item 4 Adoption of the report of the meeting</p>