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Item 3 of the provisional agenda  
**Review of the proposed UNCTAD**  
**Biennial Programme Plan for the period 2016–2017**

## **Proposed UNCTAD Biennial Programme Plan for the period 2016–2017**

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1. The main objective of the programme implemented by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the International Trade Centre (ITC) is to assist developing countries, especially the least developed countries (LDCs) and countries with economies in transition, in integrating beneficially into the global economy in support of inclusive and sustainable growth and development. Through its work promoting development-centred globalization, UNCTAD will help implement the global development agenda and will assist developing countries in meeting their development goals, including poverty eradication, to improve the well-being of their citizens and address the opportunities and the challenges created by globalization. In particular, in line with the priorities of the organization, UNCTAD will further enhance its efforts to support the development of Africa across all its sectoral areas of expertise.
2. In order to attain the foregoing objectives, UNCTAD, within its mandate and available resources, will take the following action:
  - (a) Conduct research and analysis on both long-standing and emerging trade and development issues;
  - (b) Build consensus around efforts to promote national and international policies and strategies conducive to inclusive and sustainable development;
  - (c) Support countries in implementing their development strategies aimed at integrating countries into the global trading system and economy and the achievement of sustainable levels of growth and development.
3. In the context of deepening interdependence among all countries, UNCTAD will maintain its unique orientation and its commitment to development through those three pillars, while remaining responsive and accountable to all Member States. In this regard, UNCTAD will continue efforts to enhance its efficiency, effectiveness, transparency and accountability including through effective results-based management as set forth by the United Nations.
4. The programme is guided by the quadrennial sessions of the Conference, the Trade and Development Board and its subsidiary bodies, and the Commission on Science and Technology for Development. The decisions adopted at the twelfth and thirteenth sessions of the Conference are the basis of the programme of work. The outcomes of the fourteenth session of the Conference, to be held in 2016, will be incorporated as appropriate. UNCTAD remains the focal point in the United Nations for the integrated treatment of trade and development, and interrelated issues in the areas of finance, technology, investment and sustainable development. UNCTAD is responsible for subprogrammes 1 to 5.
5. Given that many development challenges are closely interconnected, UNCTAD's approach contributes to responding effectively to these challenges through the integrated treatment of trade, finance, investment, technology and sustainable development and through its contribution to a development agenda in a post-2015 framework that improves these responses. Moreover, because sustainable and inclusive outcomes in an interdependent world involve collective responses at the multilateral level, UNCTAD is one of the appropriate bodies of the United Nations system for building a consensus around more development-centred globalization, which would lead to faster and more stable growth, economic diversification, sustainable debt management, job creation, poverty reduction and sustainable and inclusive development.
6. UNCTAD will pursue the five subprogrammes to support its overall objective of helping developing countries and economies in transition to integrate beneficially into the international trading system and achieve inclusive and sustainable growth and development.

The principal task of subprogramme 1 of UNCTAD is the examination of development strategies in a globalizing world economy and related issues. Subprogrammes 2 and 4 will aim at contributing to the building of productive capacity and international competitiveness, while subprogramme 3 and the trade logistics component of subprogramme 4 will aim at contributing to the maximization of gains resulting from globalization for development in international trade and trade negotiations in goods and services, and commodities. The development strategies of economies in Africa, LDCs and countries in special situations, including small-island developing States (SIDS), landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies, will be covered under subprogramme 5. Sectoral concerns of those countries will also be addressed by other subprogrammes in coordination and cooperation with subprogramme 5.

7. Throughout its programme of work, UNCTAD will make efforts to mainstream cross-cutting issues related to gender equality and the empowerment of women, the promotion of sustainable development, and full and productive employment. It will also strengthen its cross-divisional coordination, in particular with respect to training and capacity-building programmes.

8. UNCTAD will make contributions, within its mandates, to the implementation of the outcomes of relevant global conferences. Notably, it will contribute to the achievement of internationally agreed development goals in the framework of a post-2015 development agenda, in particular those goals related to global partnerships for development, financing for development, domestic resource mobilization, investment, debt, trade, commodities, systemic issues and global economic decision-making, economic cooperation among developing countries, sustainable development and science and technology for development.

9. UNCTAD will also contribute to the implementation of specific actions requested in the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development; the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development and its follow-up; the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020; the outcomes and the Plan of Implementation agreed at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg; the outcomes and the Geneva Declaration of Principles and Plan of Action of the World Summit on the Information Society; the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries; and the outcomes of the midterm review of the Almaty Programme of Action in 2008 and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States. In addition, UNCTAD will assist in furthering the implementation of the internationally agreed goals set out in the Doha Ministerial Declaration of the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization (WTO). UNCTAD will make contributions, within its mandates, to the implementation of General Assembly resolution 66/288, which endorses the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), entitled “The future we want”.

10. As a lead agency of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, with regard to the inter-agency thematic cluster on trade and productive capacity, UNCTAD will contribute to the implementation of Aid for Trade; enhance the role of trade and development and interrelated issues in United Nations development assistance plans, such as United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks and national development strategies; undertake joint operations at the country level, as appropriate; and enhance inter-agency cooperation in system-wide initiatives in those areas.

## Subprogramme 1

### Globalization, interdependence and development

**Objective of the Organization:** To promote economic policies and strategies at all levels for sustained growth, inclusive and sustainable development, full employment and decent work for all, and poverty eradication in developing countries, especially LDCs

Expected accomplishments of the secretariat	Indicators of achievement
<p>(a) Increased understanding of the global economic environment and of policy choices for inclusive and sustained development at the national, regional and international levels</p>	<p>(a) (i) Increased number of statements at, inter alia, intergovernmental meetings by policymakers and beneficiaries indicating the usefulness of UNCTAD research and analysis for the national policymaking process</p> <p>(a) (ii) Increased number of citations in the media on the growth-oriented macroeconomic and financial policy choices advocated in UNCTAD research</p> <p>(a) (iii) Number of UNCTAD activities, including publications and workshops, that promote South–South cooperation</p> <p>(a) (iv) Increased number of universities and research centres using the services of the UNCTAD Virtual Institute</p>
<p>(b) Progress towards a durable solution to the debt problems of developing countries by fostering better understanding of the interplay between successful development resource mobilization, debt sustainability and effective debt management</p>	<p>(b) (i) Increased number of institutions/countries having used the capacity-building services of the Debt Management and Financial Analysis System programme</p> <p>(b) (ii) Increased number of international and national policy positions and initiatives in the area of debt and development resource mobilization incorporating contributions from UNCTAD</p>
<p>(c) Improved access to reliable and timely statistics and indicators highlighting the interlinkages between globalization, trade and development for decision-making, at the national and international levels, on economic policies and development strategies</p>	<p>(c) Increased number of users of, and countries and territories using, statistical indicators developed and maintained by UNCTAD</p>
<p>(d) Improved Palestinian policymaking and institutional capacities, and strengthened international cooperation for alleviating the adverse economic and social conditions imposed on the Palestinian people and for building an independent Palestinian State</p>	<p>(d) Number of Palestinian development and policy initiatives and institutions responding to UNCTAD research findings, recommendations and technical cooperation activities</p>

## Strategy

11. The subprogramme is under the responsibility of the Division on Globalization and Development Strategies. In its work, the Division will focus on the following objectives:

(a) Identifying specific needs and measures arising from the interdependence among trade, finance, investment, technology and macroeconomic policies, from the point of view of their effect on development;

(b) Contributing to a better understanding of coherence between international economic rules, practices and processes, on the one hand, and national policies and development strategies, on the other;

(c) Continuing to contribute to research and analysis by the United Nations on the prospects of, and impact on, developing countries at both national and international levels in matters of trade and development, in light of the global economic and financial crisis and its aftermath and the post-2015 development agenda;

(d) Promoting an enabling economic environment at all levels for poverty eradication and an appropriate balance between growth, fairness and social protection;

(e) Supporting developing countries, especially LDCs, LLDCs, SIDS and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies, in their efforts to formulate development strategies adapted to the challenges of globalization including, at the national level, intensification of cooperation between public and private sectors and economic cooperation among developing countries;

(f) Intensifying its interaction and communication with Governments, policymakers, universities and think tanks in Member States, including dissemination of UNCTAD's work;

(g) In that context, UNCTAD will also continue to support the development efforts of middle-income countries according to their needs in facing specific challenges of sustainable development and poverty reduction.

12. The objective will be pursued through research and policy analysis, consensus-building and technical assistance, while enhancing synergies and promoting complementarities with the work of other international organizations, based on:

(a) Timely and forward-looking research and analysis regarding macroeconomic and development policies as well as on debt issues and their impact on the mobilization of resources, taking into account the relevant outcomes from global conferences and summits on development;

(b) The formulation of practical policy options and recommendations for appropriate development strategies at the national, regional and international levels to take advantage of the opportunities and meet the challenges of globalization, including related assistance to regional cooperation organizations;

(c) The furtherance of consensus-building with regard to macroeconomic and development policies suited to the specific conditions of developing countries;

(d) Support to the development of local teaching and research capacities in developing countries and academic networking;

(e) Technical assistance, training and support for developing countries in building national capacities related to effective debt management in cooperation, where appropriate, with the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and other stakeholders;

(f) Assistance to developing countries to improve the capacity of their national statistical systems in the area of trade and development through advisory services for

policymakers and statistical and information services in support of the UNCTAD work programme;

(g) Assessment of the economic development prospects of the Occupied Palestinian Territory and of obstacles to trade and development and the provision of effective operational activities, with a view to alleviating the adverse economic and social conditions imposed on the Palestinian people;

(h) Research and analysis of trends and prospects for South–South integration and cooperation, including triangular cooperation, in the areas of trade, finance, investment and technology, their interdependence and the consequences for policymaking, including at the macroeconomic and sectoral levels. These activities aim to inform policymaking for economic development.

## Subprogramme 2 Investment and enterprise

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**Objective of the Organization:** To ensure inclusive growth and sustainable development through investment and enterprise development for enhancing productive capacity-building, industrialization and economic diversification, and job creation of all developing countries, in particular those in Africa and LDCs, as well as LLDCs, SIDS and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies, and other middle-income countries, according to their needs, and countries with economies in transition

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<b>Expected accomplishments of the secretariat</b>	<b>Indicators of achievement</b>
(a) Improved ability to address key and emerging issues related to investment and its interaction with official development assistance, trade and regional integration and promote sustainable development	(a) (i) Increased number of investment stakeholders responding to evaluation surveys and reporting improved capacity to address key issues related to investment
	(a) (ii) Increased number of statements by Member States indicating that they have implemented policy recommendations and utilized methodology provided by UNCTAD in the area of international investment
(b) Increased ability of all developing countries and countries with economies in transition in designing and implementing strategies and policies to attract and benefit from investment for sustainable development	(b) (i) Increased number of developing countries and countries with economies in transition benefiting from UNCTAD assistance, including investment policy reviews and e-tools, and implementation of strategies, policies and good practices for attracting and benefiting from foreign investment for sustainable development and inclusive growth
	(b) (ii) Increased number of developing countries and countries with economies in transition benefiting from UNCTAD assistance, demonstrating improved performance on the basis of various benchmark indicators, monitored by UNCTAD

Expected accomplishments of the secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(c) Increased capacity to address key and emerging issues related to international investment agreements and their development dimension, as well as their formulation and implementation	(c) (i) Increased number of statements by policymakers and other international investment agreements stakeholders reporting on the sustainable development dimension of international investment agreements  (c) (ii) Increased international sharing of experiences and best practices on key issues relating to the negotiation and implementation of investment treaties and the feedback from policymakers and other international investment agreement stakeholders
(d) Enhanced understanding and ability to boost productive capacity through enterprise development policies aimed at (i) stimulating enterprise development, particularly related to small and medium enterprises, entrepreneurship and business linkages; (ii) promoting best practices in corporate social responsibility and accounting; (iii) establishing competitive and well-regulated insurance markets	(d) (i) Increased number of countries using UNCTAD policy measures and tools in the design of policies aimed at strengthening entrepreneurship and the competitiveness of their firms  (d) (ii) Increased number of countries using guidance and tools developed by UNCTAD in the areas of accounting, enterprise development, insurance, business linkages, e-tourism and corporate reporting

### Strategy

13. The subprogramme is under the responsibility of the Division on Investment and Enterprise. The subprogramme will assist all developing countries, in particular those in Africa and LDCs, as well as LLDCs, SIDS and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies, and countries with economies in transition and middle-income countries, according to their needs, in designing and implementing active policies at both the national and international levels aimed at enhancing their productive capacity, industrialization and economic diversification, job creation and effective progress towards post-2015 sustainable development goals through investment and enterprise development. To that end, the subprogramme will follow a coherent approach consisting of:

(a) Strengthening UNCTAD's role as the major source of comprehensive information about and analysis of international investment, including through enhanced communication and sharing of good policy practices, so as to enable policymakers to make better-informed decisions;

(b) Helping developing countries, at their request, to strengthen their capacity to formulate and implement integrated policies, develop an enabling environment and participate in discussions related to international investment;

- (c) Supporting efforts by developing countries, middle-income countries and countries with economies in transition to build productive capacities and internationally competitive firms;
- (d) Providing training and capacity-building programmes for local institutions.

### Subprogramme 3 International trade

#### Component 1 International trade in goods and services

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**Objective of the Organization:** To ensure the effective, qualitative and beneficial participation of all countries in international trade in order to build more inclusive and sustainable development outcomes

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Expected accomplishments of the secretariat	Indicators of achievement
<p>(a) Strengthened understanding of trade policymaking and enhanced national capacity of developing countries, in particular LDCs and countries with economies in transition, on measures needed to integrate their economies beneficially into the international trading system and to create an enabling environment for sustainable development</p>	<p>(a) (i) Increased number of specific identifiable actions taken by countries and institutions receiving UNCTAD assistance to enhance their participation in regional and multilateral trade agreements, cooperative frameworks and partnerships, including South–South trade negotiations and WTO accession processes</p> <p>(a) (ii) Increased number of specific identifiable actions taken by developing countries to integrate trade, productive capacity, employment and development concerns into their best-fit national trade and services policies</p>
<p>(b) Enhanced capacity of developing countries, in particular those in Africa and LDCs, as well as LLDCs, SIDS and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies, and countries with economies in transition and middle-income countries, according to their needs, in trade and trade-related decision-making and in addressing the trade and development impact of non-tariff measures</p>	<p>(b) (i) Increased number of users benefitting from the Trade Analysis and Information System, the World Integrated Trade Solution, the Agriculture Trade Policy Simulation Model, the Transparency in Trade initiative and trade analysis training and research</p> <p>(b) (ii) Number of specific actions taken by Member States, at the national, regional or multilateral levels, aimed at streamlining or harmonizing non-tariff measures in international trade with the assistance of UNCTAD</p>
<p>(c) Enhanced capacity of developing countries and countries with economies in transition to prepare and implement national and regional competition laws and</p>	<p>(c) (i) Increased number of developing countries establishing or revising and implementing national and/or regional (including South–South) competition and</p>

Expected accomplishments of the secretariat	Indicators of achievement
consumer protection regulations	consumer protection legislation and institutional frameworks based on the sharing of best practices and peer reviews with regard to the implementation of such policies
(d) Strengthened capacity of developing countries, in particular those in Africa and LDCs, as well as LLDCs, SIDS and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies, and countries with economies in transition and middle-income countries, according to their needs, to design and implement mutually supportive trade, environment, climate change, sustainable development and creative economy objectives in development strategies at all levels	(c) (ii) Increased number of countries using the UNCTAD Model Law on Competition and volunteering for peer reviews of competition law and policy  (d) (i) Increased number of developing countries and countries with economies in transition designing and implementing policies, programmes, normative initiatives and institutional arrangements with a view to taking advantage of trade and creative economy opportunities and promoting their sustainable development objectives
(e) Strengthened capacity of developing countries, in particular LDCs and countries with economies in transition, to design and implement trade policies that allow women to benefit more from the opportunities arising from international trade	(d) (ii) Increased number of developing countries and countries with economies in transition participating in the green economy and other models in the context of sustainable development, including sustainable biotrade and biofuels initiatives  (e) (i) Number of countries able to assess the impact of trade policy on women and to design and implement trade and complementary policies aimed at maximizing economic opportunities for women

### Strategy

14. The subprogramme is under the responsibility of the Division on International Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities. Through the three pillars of UNCTAD's work, the subprogramme promotes inclusive and sustainable growth and development and poverty alleviation, based on international trade in goods, services and commodities and the international trading system and on the linkages between trade and internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including those arising from the post-2015 development agenda. The subprogramme will in particular address persistent and emerging development challenges and assess their implications for the development prospects of developing countries, LDCs and countries with economies in transition, including at the national policymaking level. The subprogramme will deal with, inter alia, issues such as women's economic empowerment, access to decent employment, food security and poverty alleviation and will analyse the role of trade policy and trade rules as enablers of sustainable and inclusive development. The subprogramme will continue to improve close cooperation and enhance synergies and complementarities with other international

organizations and foster the coordination of system-wide United Nations activities in the area of international trade in goods and services, and commodities. It will strengthen the communication and dissemination efforts of its work.

15. The work of UNCTAD under the subprogramme will include:

(a) Monitoring and assessing the evolution of the international trading system and trends in trade policy and international trade, including South–South trade, from a development perspective; placing greater emphasis on practical solutions, including policy options and successful strategies for maximizing trading opportunities; mitigating the adverse impacts of global economic crises and building resilient economies;

(b) Monitoring all forms of protectionism, in cooperation with WTO and other relevant institutions, and making information on trade policy measures publicly and freely available to Member States in cooperation with other relevant institutions;

(c) Enhancing the capacity of developing countries and countries with economies in transition to establish negotiating priorities, to negotiate and implement bilateral, regional and multilateral trade agreements and to optimize development gains;

(d) Continue to monitor and assess the evolution of the international trading system and its trends from a development perspective;

(e) Providing developing countries, in particular LDCs, and countries with economies in transition that are acceding to WTO with technical assistance and capacity-building prior to, during and in the follow-up to the accession process, depending on their level of development and needs;

(f) Examining ways to improve the utilization of trade preferences;

(g) Assisting developing countries, in particular LDCs, as well as countries with economies in transition and structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies in their efforts to integrate into the multilateral trading system;

(h) Assisting developing countries and countries with economies in transition in their efforts to increase participation in global services production and trade, including in undertaking service policy reviews and establishing effective regulatory and institutional frameworks;

(i) Continuing research and analysis within its mandate on the impact of migration on development and on enhancing the impact of migrants' remittances on development;

(j) Supporting countries in effectively enhancing the contribution of the creative economy to inclusive economic growth and sustainable development;

(k) Assisting developing countries, in particular LDCs and countries with economies in transition, in their efforts to successfully achieve economic diversification and structural transformation, including their increased participation and upscaling in manufacturing and global supply chains;

(l) Continuing its work on trade and development aspects of intellectual property, while acknowledging that the World Intellectual Property Organization has the lead on intellectual property rights issues within the United Nations system;

(m) Facilitating economic cooperation among developing countries and South–South trade, including through the Global System of Trade Preferences among Developing Countries;

(n) Strengthening analytical capacity for trade policymaking and negotiations and integrating trade and development concerns into national trade policies that would

contribute to productive capacity, inclusiveness, the empowerment of women and employment creation, in particular for LDCs;

(o) Addressing the trade and development impacts of non-tariff measures, particularly through comprehensive research and analysis, partnerships with other related international organizations for data collection on trade policy measures including non-tariff measures and designing innovative methods of quantifying impacts of trade policy measures, including non-tariff measures, on international trade;

(p) Promoting the use of effective competition and consumer policies for achieving domestic and international competitiveness and for dealing with anticompetitive practices, including through the sharing of best practices and carrying out of peer reviews and the strengthening of consumer protection legislation;

(q) Addressing issues at the interface between trade and environment in the context of fostering sustainable development, and resilience to climate change, including through technology transfers, and seizing trade and investment opportunities related to climate change, the sustainable use of biodiversity, renewable energy and organic agriculture;

(r) Addressing challenges and opportunities of the green economy and other models in the context of sustainable development, poverty eradication and resilience to climate change;

(s) Promoting a better understanding among developing countries, in particular LDCs, of the links between trade, gender and development and of the policies and measures that may be used to enable women to benefit more from international trade, with a view to achieving gender equality, poverty alleviation and inclusive development objectives;

(v) Developing and implementing trade and trade-related technical cooperation and capacity-building activities including through multi-donor programmes such as Aid for Trade, the Enhanced Integrated Framework and United Nations Development Assistance Framework;

(w) Sharing best practices on cooperation and partnerships for trade and development that can strengthen the achievement of a post-2015 development agenda;

(x) Undertaking research and analysis on public–private partnerships in the development context, with the aim of mapping out best practices and models.

## **Component 2 Commodities**

**Objective of the Organization:** To harness development gains and to deal with the trade and development problems of the commodity economy and of commodity dependence

### **Expected accomplishments of the secretariat**

### **Indicators of achievement**

(a) Improved capacity of commodity-dependent developing countries to address trade and development problems associated with the commodity economy and to seize opportunities emerging from commodity trade and enhanced international and regional cooperation

(a) Increased number of commodity-dependent developing countries adopting policy measures and tools recommended by UNCTAD in designing policies aimed at the diversification of export earnings

### Strategy

16. Component 2 of the subprogramme is under the responsibility of the Special Unit on Commodities, which carries out its work as an autonomous unit on commodities, in accordance with the decisions of UNCTAD's twelfth and thirteenth quadrennial Conferences.

17. With the guidance and leadership of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD, the Unit will contribute more effectively to the efforts of developing countries to identify and implement appropriate policies, at national, regional and international levels, to address the impacts of volatility of commodity prices on developing countries and to formulate strategies and policies to respond to the challenges and the opportunities of commodity markets and assist developing countries, in particular those in Africa, middle-income countries and countries with economies in transition, LDCs, LLDCs, SIDS and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies, through all three pillars of the work of UNCTAD, including on the achievement of internationally agreed development goals of a post-2015 development agenda. The component will continue to play a key role, with appropriate coordination with other international and regional actors, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other relevant United Nations organizations and international commodity bodies, in the following areas:

- (a) Addressing the trade and development problems associated with the commodity economy;
- (b) Monitoring developments and challenges in commodity markets and addressing links between international commodity trade and national development, particularly with regard to poverty reduction;
- (c) Continue work on commodities, food security and investment in agriculture, taking into account the special needs of Africa, LDCs and net food-importing developing countries, in cooperation with other relevant organizations;
- (d) Continue its existing work in the area of agriculture in the context of commodities to help developing countries achieve more sustainable and strengthened agricultural production, food security and export capacity. This work should take into account the needs of small-scale farmers and the empowerment of women and youth;
- (e) Continue its work in the area of non-food commodities, particularly in minerals, metals and energy products. The focus will be on policies and strategies for sustainable resources management including resource rents extraction and use, local content value addition, energy access, energy efficiency and energy security in developing countries;
- (f) Assisting commodity-dependent developing countries in their efforts to:
  - (i) Develop national commodity strategies, including the mainstreaming of commodity policies into their broad-based national and regional development strategies, including national poverty reduction strategies;
  - (ii) Build supply-side capacities in order to achieve competitiveness;
  - (iii) Increase beneficial participation, including moving up commodity value chains and diversifying commodity sectors;
  - (iv) Comply with international trade standards, particularly non-tariff measures such as food standards and technical regulations;
  - (v) Increase gainful participation in regional and international forums (e.g. the Global Commodities Forum) to network and gain access to commodity information systems;

- (vi) Take advantage of export opportunities for commodities in emerging markets;
- (vii) Establish effective marketing systems and support frameworks for small commodity producers, including economically viable safety net programmes;
- (viii) Develop commodity financing and risk management schemes;
- (ix) Align development policies with the multilateral trading system towards beneficial integration into the global division of labour and global or regional value chains in the area of commodities;
- (g) Promoting intergovernmental cooperation in the field of commodities and building consensus regarding ways to integrate commodity policies into:
  - (i) National, regional and international development and poverty reduction strategies;
  - (ii) Trade-related policies and instruments for resolving commodity problems;
  - (iii) Investment and financial policies for gaining access to financial resources for commodity-based development.

#### **Subprogramme 4 Technology and logistics**

**Objective of the Organization:** To strengthen science, technology and innovation, including information and communications technologies for inclusive development; to support inclusive growth and development through efficient, resilient and sustainable trade logistics services and transit transport systems; and to promote training and capacity-building programmes for local institutions with a view to enhancing the economic development and competitiveness of developing countries and economies in transition

<b>Expected accomplishments of the secretariat</b>	<b>Indicators of achievement</b>
(a) Improved efficiency and sustainability of trade logistics of developing countries and some economies in transition	<p>(a) (i) Increased number of specific, identifiable actions taken by developing countries and countries with economies in transition to improve trade logistics, such as actions to cut transport and transaction costs; improve effective transit systems, sustainable transport efficiency and connectivity; and establish a supportive legal framework, with the assistance of UNCTAD</p> <p>(a) (ii) Increased number of measures adopted by developing countries and economies in transition using the Automated System for Customs Data to further improve the efficient management of their customs administration, with the assistance of UNCTAD</p> <p>(a) (iii) Increased number of developing countries and some countries with economies in transition having improved</p>

Expected accomplishments of the secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(b) Improved awareness and adoption of national and international policies in the area of science, technology and innovation, as well as information and communications technology	<p>trade logistics performance on the basis of benchmark indicators related to logistics and business efficiency, with the assistance of UNCTAD</p> <p>(b) (i) Increased number of specific actions taken by developing countries and economies in transition to implement programmes aimed at enhancing the contributions of science, technology and innovation and information and communications technology to development, with the assistance of UNCTAD</p> <p>(b) (ii) Increased number of cooperation initiatives at the subregional, regional and international levels in the areas of science and technology and information and communications technology, with the assistance of UNCTAD</p>
(c) Better understanding, at the national level, of policy options and best practices in science and technology for development and information and communications technologies for development	<p>(c) (i) Increased number of countries benefiting from UNCTAD assistance through capacity-building activities in these areas of work</p> <p>(ii) Increased number of developing countries integrating science, technology and innovation, including information and communications technologies, into national development strategies, United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks and poverty reduction strategy papers</p>
(d) Enhanced capacities in developing countries and countries with economies in transition in the areas of trade and investment and interrelated issues	(d) Number of specific actions taken by developing countries and countries with economies in transition to strengthen the capacities of human resources and local institutions in the areas of trade and investment and related issues, as a result of UNCTAD assistance

### Strategy

18. The subprogramme is under the responsibility of the Division on Technology and Logistics. The effective implementation of the work programme under the subprogramme will help to improve the technological capacity, competitiveness in international trade and overall development of developing countries, especially those in Africa and LDCs, as well as LLDCs, SIDS, other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies, and middle-income countries, according to their needs, and it will also assist transit developing countries, with their special challenges related to designing and implementing resilient and sustainable transport infrastructure and services, by:

(a) Improving trade logistics policies; strengthening transport operations management, systems and connections; supporting the design and implementation of coherent sustainable freight transport and enhancing transit infrastructure and transit systems;

(b) Further addressing the special trade, investment and development needs of LLDCs including through continuing its support for effective implementation of the Almaty Ministerial Declaration and the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries, taking into account the challenges of the transit developing countries in this programme of action;

(c) Assisting in particular SIDS and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies in the design and implementation of policies, taking into account their specific trade logistics challenges;

(d) Assisting in the development and the implementation of appropriate institutional and legal frameworks for the facilitation of trade and transport;

(e) Supporting the active participation of developing countries in transport and trade facilitation negotiations;

(f) Conducting research and analysis in the area of science, technology and innovation, focusing on making capacity in those areas an instrument for supporting national development, helping local industry, in particular small and medium-sized enterprises, to become more competitive and developing export diversification efforts of countries, including through the transfer of technology;

(g) Supporting LDCs by contributing to the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020 in trade and interrelated issues in the areas of technology and sustainable development;

(h) Carrying out research and providing technical assistance in information and communications technologies to developing countries, including by contributing to the Partnership on Measuring Information and Communications Technologies (ICT) for Development, as well as by promoting e-business strategies and legislation;

(i) Contributing to the implementation of the World Summit on the Information Society action lines on capacity-building, an enabling environment, e-business and e-science, in cooperation with other relevant international organizations;

(j) Serving as the secretariat to the Commission on Science and Technology for Development;

(k) Fostering training and capacity-building aimed at policymakers and practitioners in the fields of trade and related areas of finance, technology, investment and sustainable development;

(l) Continuing its work on science, technology and innovation policy reviews and their follow-up, as an instrument for supporting national development and helping local industry become more competitive.

19. The subprogramme will also assist developing countries, within its mandates, in the achievement of internationally agreed development goals of a post-2015 development agenda and will enhance the dissemination and communication efforts of its work.

## Subprogramme 5

### Africa, least developed countries and special programmes

**Objective of the Organization:** To promote development of national policies and international support measures to build productive capacities for economic development and poverty reduction in Africa, LDCs and other groups of countries in special situations (LLDCs, SIDS and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies) and to progressively and beneficially integrate them into the global economy

Expected accomplishments of the secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Improved awareness of and dialogue on policy options to promote African economic development	(a) Number of Member States indicating the usefulness of UNCTAD research and analysis for the national policymaking process
(b) Improved awareness of and dialogue on policy options to address development problems of LDCs in the global economy, including those in the process of graduation from the list of LDCs	(b) Number of Member States indicating the usefulness of UNCTAD research and analysis for the national policymaking process
(c) Enhanced integration of trade policies and priorities in the national development plans of LDCs	(c) Number of LDCs that have made progress in mainstreaming trade policies and priorities into their national development plans and have implemented the action matrices of the Enhanced Integrated Framework
(d) Improved capacities of LLDCs, SIDS and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies to support their economic transformation and resilience-building efforts	(d) Number of LLDCs, SIDS and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies having benefited from UNCTAD analysis and advisory services and other forms of assistance on achieving structural progress

#### Strategy

20. The subprogramme is under the responsibility of the Division for Africa, Least Developed Countries and Special Programmes. In order to attain the objective, the subprogramme will focus on identifying and promoting understanding of the economic development problems specific to African countries, LDCs and other countries covered by the subprogramme, through policy analysis and research, and will play an advocacy role in promoting consensus in the international development community regarding the policy measures that best address those development problems. This will involve the identification of new issues and approaches, as well as greater interaction with research institutes in LDCs and with development partners. The subprogramme will also contribute to the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of relevant global conferences, particularly those on LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS, and to the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, including those set out in the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020 and in the programmes of action for LLDCs and SIDS, respectively, and the post-2015 development agenda. The subprogramme will assist African countries in their efforts to successfully achieve economic diversification and structural transformation, including their increased participation in manufacturing and creative industries and global supply chains. The special programmes under the subprogramme are aimed at:

- (a) Helping LLDCs to mitigate the adverse economic consequences of their geographical disadvantage by addressing their special trade, investment and development needs;
- (b) Helping SIDS to enhance their resilience to external shocks and making steady socioeconomic progress possible for most of them;
- (c) Instilling throughout UNCTAD a practice of devoting systematic attention to the problems of other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies;
- (d) Supporting African countries in their efforts to enhance intra-African trade in promoting regional integration aimed at achieving sustainable development.

21. Research outputs will be linked closely to the provision of advisory services, training, workshops, lectures and technical assistance activities, with a view to improving human and institutional capabilities and raising awareness of development partners to the specific needs of developing countries covered by this subprogramme and ways to meet those needs. The subprogramme will continue to address the special concerns and needs of Africa including by disseminating its research to relevant policymakers.

22. The subprogramme will continue to support the countries it covers in their efforts to benefit from their respective United Nations statuses and to integrate beneficially into the global economy with the view to reducing poverty and, with regard to LDCs, making progress towards the aim of enabling half the number of LDCs to meet the criteria of graduation by 2020. This will involve support aimed at enhancing productive capacities and building resilience to adverse external influences. In addition, the subprogramme will develop policy recommendations to support the implementation of smooth transition strategies of countries graduating from the list of LDCs. Technical cooperation outputs of the subprogramme will be focused on building capacities for national policymaking ownership, including improved national statistical capacity, which will draw on UNCTAD policy analysis and research work. Furthermore, technical cooperation activities will be aimed at effective participation in and delivery of trade-related technical assistance in the context of, inter alia, the Enhanced Integrated Framework and the Aid for Trade initiative. Whenever appropriate, these activities will be implemented in the framework of the Inter-Agency Cluster on Trade and Productive Capacity.

23. In addition, the subprogramme will contribute to the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020 and, within its mandate, to the midterm review of the Programme of Action. In this context, the subprogramme will increase its efforts to disseminate key findings of the annual *Least Developed Countries Reports* in LDCs and among their development partners. Furthermore, it will also contribute to the implementation of the successor programme to the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and the outcome of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States to be held in 2014, including the outcomes of their reviews and other regionally owned partnership programmes such as the New Partnership for Africa's Development. In order to ensure coherence and consistency, the subprogramme will coordinate and cooperate with other subprogrammes on the sectoral work relating to the groups of countries concerned. Moreover, the subprogramme will promote throughout UNCTAD efforts to gain analytical insights into the problems faced by other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies through the systematic coverage of such countries in relevant UNCTAD research and technical assistance.

**Legislative mandates***General Assembly resolutions*

1995 (XIX)	Establishment of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as an organ of the General Assembly
2297 (XXII)	International Trade Centre
55/2	United Nations Millennium Declaration
56/210	International Conference on Financing for Development
60/1	2005 World Summit Outcome
62/179	New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support
62/208	Triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
63/204	Report of the twelfth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
63/303	Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development
64/193	Follow-up to and implementation of the Monterrey Consensus and the outcome of the 2008 Review Conference (Doha Declaration on Financing for Development)
64/222	Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation
65/280	Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020
66/186	Unilateral economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries
67/148	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly
67/196	International trade and development
67/223	Promotion of ecotourism for poverty eradication and environment protection
67/224	Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017)
67/226	Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
67/227	South-South cooperation
<i>Trade and Development Board resolutions</i>	
TD/386	Plan of Action
TD/387	Bangkok Declaration: Global Dialogue and Dynamic Engagement

TD/412	Report of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on its eleventh session
TD/442	Report of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on its twelfth session
TD/B (S-XXIII)/7	Agreed outcome of the midterm review
TD/500/Add.1	Report on the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on its thirteenth session, the Doha Mandate

**Subprogramme 1**  
**Globalization, interdependence and development**

*General Assembly resolutions*

66/188	Addressing excessive price volatility in food and related financial and commodity markets
67/86	Assistance to the Palestinian People
67/197	International financial system and development
67/198	External debt sustainability and development
67/217	Towards a New International Economic Order

**Subprogramme 3**  
**International trade**

*General Assembly resolutions*

57/253	World Summit on Sustainable Development
66/190	Commodities
66/197	Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development
66/288	The future we want

**Subprogramme 4**  
**Technology and logistics**

*General Assembly resolutions*

60/252	World Summit on the Information Society
66/211	Science and technology for development
67/195	Information and communications technologies for development

*Economic and Social Council resolutions*

2012/5	Assessment of the progress made in the implementation and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society
2012/6	Science and technology for development

**Subprogramme 5**

**Africa, least developed countries and special programmes**

*General Assembly resolutions*

- 58/201           Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries
- 65/2             Outcome document of the High-level Review Meeting on the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Developing States
- 67/207           Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States
- 67/221           Smooth transition strategy for countries graduating from the list of least developed countries
- 67/222           Groups of countries in special situations: specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation
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