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Commission on Investment, Technology and Related Financial Issues Ad Hoc Expert Meeting on Advocacy for Investment Policies with Particular Reference to the Development Dimension Geneva, 23–24 November 2006

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ANNOTATIONS I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

- 1. Election of officers
- 2. Adoption of the agenda
- 3. Advocacy for investment policies with particular reference to the development dimension
- 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 Ad Hoc Expert Meeting elect a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson-cum-Rapporteur.

Item 2: Adoption of the agenda

2. The provisional agenda is reproduced in section I above. A detailed programme will be made available one week before the meeting.

Item 3: Advocacy for investment policies with particular reference to the development dimension

- 3. At its tenth session, in March 2006, the Commission on Investment, Technology and Related Financial Issues decided to convene an Ad Hoc Expert Meeting on Advocacy for Investment Policies with Particular Reference to the Development Dimension in pursuit of the mandate contained in the São Paulo Consensus of June 2004. In its paragraph 53, the São Paulo Consensus states that UNCTAD should support efforts of developing countries and economies in transition to attract and benefit more from FDI, including by helping them to formulate and implement investment policies and by assisting with relevant legislation and regulations in line with their development strategies. In the same paragraph, UNCTAD is also invited to provide assistance to national investment promotion agencies.
- 4. Investment promotion agencies (IPAs) are institutions that are responsible for the promotion of inward direct investment to a given geographical region. Many of these are public sector institutions, though some of them are organized as semi-private or private sector institutions as well. Mandates of IPAs call for them to play an active role in promoting and developing a favourable investment climate in their respective countries and regions, and they are therefore key actors in policy advocacy efforts aimed at the improvement of investment-related regulations and procedures. With this in mind, in the background note prepared for the Ad hoc Expert Meeting, the UNCTAD secretariat particularly highlighted best practices and experiences of IPAs in advocacy for investment policies.
- 5. The Ad Hoc Expert Meeting provides an opportunity for various actors, particularly IPAs, to examine different issues related to policy advocacy work and to endeavour to formulate a number of recommendations on how they can achieve further success in this area with a view to attracting more FDI and thus achieving economic growth and sustainable development.

Documentation

TD/B/COM.2/AHM.1/2 "Policy advocacy in investment promotion. Issues note by the UNCTAD secretariat"

Item 4: Adoption of the report of the Meeting

6. The report of the Ad Hoc Expert Meeting will be submitted to the Commission on Investment, Technology and Related Financial Issues at its next session (Geneva, 5–9 March 2007). The Expert Meeting may wish to authorize the Rapporteur, under the authority of the Chairperson, to prepare the final report after the conclusion of the Meeting.

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