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TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD Commission on Investment, Technology and Related Financial Issues Seventh session Geneva, 20–24 January 2003

## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE UNCTAD SECRETARIAT $^{\ast}$

1. The Commission took note of the secretariat documents and activities report 2002. It recognized and commended the contributions of the secretariat in research and policy analysis, as well as capacity-building, particularly in the follow-up to the Doha work programme in the area of investment and technology, including the successful cooperation with the WTO secretariat in implementing UNCTAD's technical assistance programme.

2. The secretariat, in line with paragraph 21 of the Doha Declaration, should continue its post-Doha technical assistance and capacity-building work in the areas of policy analysis and development, human resource capacity-building and institutional capacity-building, including in cooperation with other international organizations. Furthermore, the secretariat should facilitate an ongoing exchange of information and experiences among investment negotiators. The secretariat should also continue its in-depth analysis of which policies and measures can help developing countries attract and benefit more from FDI as a means for development, including through investment policy reviews, the *World Investment Report* and related work. The secretariat should also complement its analytical work in this area with the provision of technical and capacity-building assistance, which should include helping countries, upon request, to modernize relevant laws when applicable. Furthermore, the Commission encourages the secretariat to pursue its efforts to assist in the development of inter-enterprise relations.

<sup>\*</sup> As adopted by the Commission at its closing plenary meeting on 24 January 2003.

3. The Commission welcomes the interface between policy makers and investment promotion practioners in the format of a joint session with the World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (WAIPA). It invites WAIPA to contribute to the preparatory process for UNCTAD XI.

4. In view of the importance of the investment policy reviews covering member States, the Commission encourages the secretariat to devote sufficient time to this exercise, where appropriate, during the session to enable presentation of the above reviews and the exchange of national experiences.

5. The Commission welcomes closer cooperation and joint programmes, where appropriate, with other international and regional organizations active in the field of investment and encourages the Regional Commissions to participate in the work of the Commission as well, thereby enhancing the Commission's role as a forum for exchange among member States and intergovernmental agencies on issues related to investment.