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Trade and Development Board Trade and Development Commission Third session Geneva, 6–10 June 2011 Item 6 of the provisional agenda Promoting and strengthening synergies among the three pillars

Progress report on the implementation of the provisions of the Accra Accord related to key trade and development issues

Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

Executive summary

Paragraph 201 of the Accra Accord (UNCTAD/IAOS/2008/2) stipulates that the role of Commissions is to, *inter alia*, promote and strengthen synergies among the three pillars of UNCTAD – consensus-building, research and analysis, and technical assistance. To assist the Trade and Development Commission, the secretariat has prepared this progress report on its implementation in 2010 of the provisions of the Accra Accord related to trade and development issues, namely paragraphs 89, 90 and 94–106 under section C of sub-theme 2 on "Key trade and development issues and the new realities in the geography of the world economy", and paragraph 170 of sub-theme 3 on "Enhancing the enabling environment at all levels to strengthen productive capacity, trade and investment: mobilizing resources and harnessing knowledge for development". Support specific to least developed countries (LDCs) is also reported. There is close synergy promoted among the three in most areas of work, with one or two pillars emphasized in some, depending on the nature of work involved. More detailed information can be found in the *DITC Activity Report 2010*.

The fifty-seventh session of the Trade and Development Board conducted an 1. evaluation and review of UNCTAD's implementation of the Accra Accord (22-24 and 27-28 September 2010). The President's summary of the debate on Sub-theme II (TD/B/57/8) reflected that member States expressed satisfaction with the work of the Division on International Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities in implementing mandates under sub-theme 2 of the Accra Accord. They recognized and appreciated the high quality and large amount of work accomplished under the three pillars. In their agreed outcome, they encouraged the secretariat to continue implementing the Accra Accord, bearing in mind the need to, inter alia: (a) address new economic realities and related trade and development challenges, including those resulting from the global financial and economic crisis, and climate change; (b) support developing countries in addressing the development impact of their engagement in multiple trade arrangements and negotiations, particularly addressing the evolution of the international trading system; (c) continue technical assistance on accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO) and developing capacitybuilding in trade and trade negotiations; and (d) continue to play its role in developing and implementing projects under Aid for Trade.

2. Paragraph 89 of the Accra Accord states: "UNCTAD's contribution on trade and development should continue through analytical, consensus-building and technical assistance work in the areas of international trade in goods, services and commodities and the international trading system as provided below. UNCTAD should enhance its work on the linkages between trade and internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including the Millennium Development Goals. UNCTAD should continue to cooperate closely with other international organizations and foster coordination of system-wide United Nations activities in the area of trade and development."

3. UNCTAD chairs the Trade Cluster of the Executive Committee of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations comprising UNCTAD, the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), and United Nations regional commissions. The cluster aims to bring coherence and common approaches among United Nations entities engaged in normative, analytical and technical work in trade and development. The cluster shared information on current trade programmes of members, and discussed and coordinated drafting of the programme budgets for 2012–2013. It also initiated work on a joint publication on trade and development aspects of the green economy as a contribution to preparations by the United Nations for the Rio+20 summit. The publication will be produced with the United Nations University.

4. UNCTAD initiated cooperation with the International Labour Organization (ILO) to undertake a study on trade and employment interface with a focus on the agriculture sector. UNCTAD contributed towards the World Bank's effort in the elaboration of its strategy on trade.

5. Paragraph 96 of the Accra Accord states: "UNCTAD should also:

"…

"(d) Strengthen its work on the linkages between trade and internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including the Millennium Development Goals, including poverty reduction and gender equality."

6. UNCTAD's work on international trade fosters dialogue and builds consensus among member States on policies, institutions and strategies to enhance the participation of developing countries in international trade and the trading system in a manner that also

results in development gains and the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). UNCTAD contributed to raising awareness of successful strategies and trade policies to address the impact of the global financial and economic crisis on international trade, poverty alleviation, employment creation and economic recovery.

7. The second session of the Trade and Development Commission, (3–7 May 2010) discussed successful trade and development strategies adopted by countries and the international community for mitigating the impact of the global economic and financial crisis, based on the secretariat's background note (TD/B/C.I/7). It also discussed effective tourism strategies, policies and regulation needed to maximize the economic and development benefits of tourism in developing countries, based on the secretariat's background note (TD/B/C.I/8). The Commission appreciated UNCTAD's analytical work. It reaffirmed that UNCTAD played an important role in assessing and building consensus on possible new trade and growth paths, including from different country situations.

8. UNCTAD substantively contributes to the Inter-agency and Expert Group on MDG Indicators (IAEG) of the United Nations Secretariat. The IAEG prepared the Millennium Development Goals Report 2010 and the United Nations Secretary–General's annual report to the General Assembly (A/65/1Supplement No. 1) on the implementation of the Millennium Declaration. UNCTAD, in close collaboration with WTO and the International Trade Commission (ITC), continuously provides data and analysis for the update of MDGs indicators on market access, namely, Indicator 8.6 (Proportion of total developed country imports from developing countries and least developed countries, admitted free of duty) and Indicator 8.7 (Average tariffs imposed by developed countries on agricultural products and textiles and clothing from developing countries).

9. UNCTAD provided analytical and statistical inputs to the United Nations MDG GAP Task Force Report 2010 entitled "Millennium Development Goal 8: The Global Partnership for Development at a Critical Juncture" (Sales No. E.10.I.12). The report reviewed the state of the global MDG partnership in 2010 and recommended steps to intensify it to increase the probability of universal attainment of the MDGs by 2015.

10. Paragraph 90 of the Accra Accord states: "UNCTAD should:

"(a) Continue to monitor and assess the evolution of the international trading system and of trends in international trade from a development perspective, and in particular analyse issues of concern to developing countries, placing greater emphasis on practical solutions."

11. Each year, the United Nations General Assembly discusses progress and issues in international trade and development. In support of such deliberations, UNCTAD prepares the annual United Nations Secretary–General's report on *International Trade and Development*. The 2010 report (A/65/211) examined the impact of post-crisis development strategies on sustainable growth, structural transformation and the need for building diversified productive capabilities. UNCTAD serviced the relevant discussions of the United Nations General Assembly (sixty-fifth session) and the negotiations by member States on a resolution on international trade (A/RES/65/142).

12. The fifty-seventh session of the Trade and Development Board (16 September 2010) conducted a comprehensive review of the "Evolution of the international trading system and of international trade from a development perspective: The impact of the crisis-mitigation measures and prospects for recovery". The deliberations were facilitated by the secretariat's background note (TD/B/57/3). Participants reaffirmed, as reflected in the President's Summary (TD/B/57/8), that UNCTAD should continue to play an important role in monitoring and analyzing the evolution of the post-crisis global economy and the

future of the international trading system, the different development policy options, and supporting developing countries in post-crisis growth strategies and proactive trade policy.

13. Several analytical reports on emerging trade and trading system issues were produced, including (a) Assessment of the impact of trade policy reforms in the acceding countries: the gender dimension distribution (UNCTAD/DITC/TNCD/2010/6); (b) How the poor are affected by international trade in India: an empirical approach (UNCTAD/DITC/TNCD/2010/7); (c) Export structure and economic performance in developing countries: evidence from nonparametric methodology (UNCTAD/ITCD/TAB/41); and The role of competition advocacy, merger control and the effective enforcement of law in times of economic trouble (TD/RBP/CONF.7/6).

14. Analytical inputs were provided to the preparation of several joint outputs with other international and regional organizations including:

(a) *World Economic Situation and Prospects 2011*, published jointly with DESA and United Nations regional commissions;

(b) *Tariff Profiles 2010*, published jointly by UNCTAD, WTO and ITC;

(c) International Trade after the Economic Crisis: Challenges and New Opportunities (UNCTAD/DITC/TAB/2010/2), joint JETRO (Japan External Trade Organization)–UNCTAD study;

(d) "Identification of potential supply chains in textiles and clothing sector in South Asia", jointly prepared with the Commonwealth Secretariat and Centre for WTO Studies of India (forthcoming);

(e) "Strengthening the achievement of the African common market and economic community", jointly prepared with the African Union (AU) Commission (forthcoming).

15. Paragraph 90 of the Accra Accord states: "UNCTAD should:

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"(b) Continue its work on developments in the post-Doha work programme of particular concern to developing countries;

"(c) Help develop capacities in developing countries and countries with economies in transition to establish their own negotiating priorities, and their capacity to negotiate and implement bilateral, regional and multilateral trade agreements;

"**.**..

"(f) Promote coherence and consistency of regional trade agreements with the multilateral trading system;

"(g) Support and strengthen regional cooperation mechanisms."

16. UNCTAD participated in and contributed to regular meetings of WTO bodies. These included the General Council, the Goods Council and its subsidiary bodies, the Services Council, the Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) Council, the Committee on Trade and Development, the Sub-Committee on LDCs, the Committee on Regional Trade Agreements, Working Parties on WTO accession, and the Trade Policy Review body.

17. UNCTAD assisted Geneva- and capital-based trade negotiators and policymakers from developing countries in their preparations for multilateral trade negotiations under the Doha Round, particularly on modalities for agriculture and non-agricultural market access (NAMA), non-tariff measures, services, trade facilitation, rules, TRIPS and development

issues including aid for trade. Capacity-building support was extended to developing countries, contributing to their greater preparedness and technical capacities with regard to the Doha agenda. Similar assistance was provided to regional groupings including African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP), the African Union (AU), LDCs and members of the Islamic Development Banks. For example, on a regular and continuous basis, Geneva-based trade negotiators of ACP States were supported, either individually or collectively through their membership to the AU, LDCs, landlocked developing countries (LLDCs), small and vulnerable economies, in various areas of Doha negotiations. This was implemented in collaboration with the ACP Office in Geneva.

18. UNCTAD also assisted developing countries and their regional integration groupings in strengthening and consolidating their trade and economic integration processes, building resilience to global shocks and enhancing internal trade, investment and productive capacity development.

19. Substantive support was provided in 2010 to Ministerial, high-level and technical events for regional groupings and countries including:

(a) International workshop on Regional Trade Agreements (Casablanca, 15–16 February);

(b) Conference on Regional Trade and Integration Arrangements (London, 15 March);

(c) Conference on European Union (EU) trade policy toward developing countries (Brussels, 16 March);

(d) Workshop on NAMA Negotiations for African Countries (Nairobi, 12–14 April);

(e) Sixth Arab Conference on WTO and Doha negotiations (Amman, 20–22 April);

(f) Ministerial meeting on trade capacity for African LDCs (Lusaka, 10–12 May);

(g) International seminar on proliferation of regional trade agreements and their impact on the multilateral trading system (Abu Dhabi, 17–19 May);

(h) Trade Policy Workshop for Parliamentarians of East African Community (Arusha, 27-28 May);

(i) Meeting of International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation to discuss the Road Map on enhancing intra-OIC trade (Baku, 21-22 June);

(j) Intensive training course of the Islamic Development Bank on trade negotiating skills (Dakar, 5–8 July);

(k) Sixth session of AU Conference of Ministers of Trade (Kigali, 29 October–3 November);

(1) Continued assistance to India on WTO negotiations, and negotiations of free trade agreements.

20. UNCTAD extended substantive support to ACP States and their regional groupings that enhanced awareness and understanding on the developmental implications of economic partnership agreements (EPA) negotiations. UNCTAD also strengthened national and regional capacities to design and implement policy, regulatory and institutional frameworks to maximize the development potential of EPAs, enhance ACP regional integration processes and ensure coherence between these and the Doha Round negotiations. Substantive contribution was made to various consultative events organized by the ACP,

AU, Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and the Commonwealth Secretariats, including: EPA Negotiations Coordination Meeting (Abuja, 20–21 May 2010), and EPA Negotiations Coordination Meeting (Lusaka, 7–8 October 2010).

21. UNCTAD enhanced expertise and knowledge in Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) on services negotiations and services assessments and preparations for (a) regional negotiations with a view to developing regional frameworks on services trade; (b) participation in WTO General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) negotiations; and (c) addressing the challenges associated with parallel negotiations as between regional services negotiations and negotiations on EPAs. UNCTAD contributed to various national and regional consultative workshops. For details on events relating to trade in services see paragraph 44.

22. Substantive contributions were provided to UNCTAD's "Paragraph 166" and Virtual Institute courses in 2010, including on the Doha Round and trade in services to the regional course for Western Asia (Beirut, 18 October–5 November); and for the short courses for Geneva representatives on migration and development (26 March) and on regional trade agreements between developed and developing countries (16 April). Upon request, training on trade issues was provided to visiting students.

23. Paragraph 90 of the Accra Accord states: "UNCTAD should:

"…

"(d) Intensify its trade and trade-related technical cooperation and capacity-building activities. It should strengthen its contribution to the Enhanced Integrated Framework for Trade-related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries and the Joint Integrated Technical Assistance Programme (JITAP)."

24. UNCTAD's trade and trade-related technical assistance and capacity-building activities cover four thematic clusters: (a) capacity-building for trade negotiations and commercial diplomacy; (b) trade analysis capacities and information systems; (c) competition policy and consumer protection; and (d) trade, environment and development. The assistance provided is discussed under the relevant Accra Accord paragraph. Expenditures on technical cooperation under the four clusters in 2009 amounted to \$5.456 million, representing 14.1 per cent of total UNCTAD expenditure – this level of expenditure was expected to be maintained in 2010. In addition, UNCTAD contributes to the implementation of the Enhanced Integrated Framework in selected LDCs such as Rwanda.

25. Paragraph 90 of the Accra Accord states: "UNCTAD should:

"…

"(e) Continue to provide and strengthen technical support to and cooperation with developing countries, according to their level of development, particularly LDCs and countries with economies in transition, prior to, during and in the follow-up to their WTO accession process."

26. UNCTAD's WTO accession programme assists 22 acceding countries out of the 30 currently negotiating or preparing their accession process, including all LDCs (Afghanistan, Bhutan, Comoros, Ethiopia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Sudan, Yemen, Samoa, and Sao Tome and Principe) as well as recently acceded countries. The support activities addressing the different phases of the accession process – before, during and after accession – are highly resource-intensive. Support is provided to acceding countries in adjusting their trade policy regimes to render them consistent with WTO agreements while reflecting their development objectives. Hands-on assistance was provided on the preparation of the

Memorandum on the Foreign Trade Regime and other accession-related documents. Simulation exercises were conducted to prepare the negotiating teams for meetings of their Working Party and with their trading partners.

27. In 2010, advisory services and capacity-building activities were undertaken for São Tome and Principe (26–29 January); Syrian Arab Republic (1–3 March, 14–16 June and 28–30 November); Algeria (30–31 March); Lao People's Democratic Republic (10–14 May, 1–3 November); Cambodia (16–18 May); Serbia (30 June); Azerbaijan (19–23 July); Bhutan (13 August); Islamic Republic of Iran (20–24 September); and Yemen (4–5 December). Intensive training sessions and technical consultations were organized for Islamic Republic of Iran key trade negotiators (20–24 September), and Yemeni officials (11 June and 12 October). Information sessions were organized for the Yemeni delegation comprising parliamentarians and business people on key issues in the multilateral trading system and the WTO accession process (19 October, Geneva). UNCTAD also prepared analytical studies for acceding countries, including on "Assessment of the impact of trade policy reform in countries acceding to the World Trade Organization: the gender dimension" (UNCTAD/DITC/TNCD/2010/6).

28. UNCTAD cooperates and maintains close contacts with the WTO secretariat. Several joint advisory missions, and workshops in Geneva and in some acceding countries, have been undertaken with the WTO and other agencies – including the World Bank, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific) ESCAP, ITC and UNDP as well as agencies participating in the Enhanced Integrated Framework for LDCs.

29. UNCTAD's WTO accession programme was positively evaluated by independent evaluators and commended by the Working Party, including at its fifty-sixth session and by the fifty-seventh session of the Trade and Development Board during its evaluation and review of UNCTAD's implementation of the Accra Accord.

30. Paragraph 90 of the Accra Accord states: "UNCTAD should:

"…

"(h) Examine ways of improving the utilization of trade preferences and of making preference schemes more predictable, and continue its work on the issue of erosion of preferences."

31. UNCTAD continued to enhance awareness among developing countries on ways to better utilize the GSP preferences and other preferential schemes through regular provision of information on a dedicated website, administrative support on certificate of origin, collection of data, publication of handbooks on the GSP schemes and newsletters, and technical cooperation and capacity building services.

32. A training session on GSP schemes and rules of origin was held for Iranian trade officials (22 September 2010). UNCTAD ensured the dissemination of relevant information through updating and revising GSP Handbooks of individual GSP schemes, such as the United States, preparing related studies and issuing GSP newsletters covering recent developments in the schemes. It continued updating of the UNCTAD GSP database based on the data submitted by GSP donor countries.

33. Paragraph 90 of the Accra Accord states: "UNCTAD should:

"…

"(i) Assist developing countries, in particular LDCs, in integrating trade and development concerns into their national development plans and poverty reduction strategies."

34. The UNCTAD/United Kingdom DFID/India Project on Strategies and Preparedness for Trade and Globalization in India supported the integration of trade into national and sector development plans. These included assistance in terms of negotiations of WTO Doha Round negotiations and free trade agreements, training of officials in trade issues, facilitating stakeholder consultations on trade issues, conducting analyses on linkages between trade and poverty, and assisting trade support institutions. Several advisory missions were undertaken to India (28 September–2 October, 19–22 October, 16–17 November 2010).

35. Rwanda, drawing upon UNCTAD's support, adopted a new trade policy that is being mainstreamed into its national development plan. UNCTAD also contributed to One UN country programmes in Bhutan, Botswana, Mozambique and Rwanda in regard to building of competition policy and law.

36. Paragraph 90 of the Accra Accord states: "UNCTAD should:

"...

"(j) Assist structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies in their efforts to integrate into the multilateral trading system and to address their exposure to internal and external economic shocks."

37. In 2010 UNCTAD contributed to activities addressing the needs of structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies including:

(a) Regional Workshop on Trade Policy for Pacific Parliamentarians (Apia, 31 May–5 June);

(b) Small States Biennial Conference (London, 28–29 July);

(c) Regional Workshop for Parliamentarians on trade policy issues for Caribbean States (Saint Kitts and Nevis, 25–26 November).

38. UNCTAD is cooperating with Commonwealth Secretariat to produce trade policy guide training manuals for Parliamentarians in sub-Saharan Africa, Pacific and the Caribbean.

39. Paragraph 94 of the Accra Accord states: "UNCTAD should strengthen its comprehensive work on services, trade and development by:

"(a) Enhancing its analysis of the capacity of developing countries and countries with economies in transition to increase their participation in global services production and trade;

"(b) Assisting developing countries and countries with economies in transition in establishing regulatory and institutional frameworks and cooperative mechanisms to support strengthening of their domestic services capacity and its efficiency and competitiveness;

"(c) Providing support in national services assessment and policy reviews;

"(d) Examining issues relating to the liberalization of trade in services and its development impact, including at the regional level;

"(e) Giving attention to multilateral rule-making in services, taking into account the interests and concerns of developing countries;

"(f) Fostering recognition of qualifications and standards;

"(g) Providing support to multilateral and regional negotiations on services; and

"(h) Strengthening services data and statistics."

40. Customized research and technical assistance, including training, was extended to policymakers and negotiators in developing countries and country groupings such as LDCs, the African Group and the Andean Community, in defining national and regional strategies and polices to build services supply capacities and in preparing for GATS and other trade negotiations. A paper on "The contribution of tourism to trade and development" (TD/B/C.I/8) was prepared.

41. Advisory services were provided to developing countries regarding GATS negotiations in the area of temporary movement of natural persons supplying services (Mode 4), trade in labour-intensive services, skills development and recognition of qualifications. Assistance was also provided on building services supply capacities, promoting services policy formulation at the sectoral level and in overall terms, defining strategies for services negotiations at the national, regional and multilateral levels, and addressing the interface between regional services negotiations and GATS negotiations. In 2010 UNCTAD contributed to:

(a) Pan-Commonwealth Workshop on Multilateral Trade negotiations on Services and Trade in Services (Port Louis, 21–22 April);

- (b) National training workshop on Trade in Services (Brasilia, 5–7 May);
- (c) National workshop on Services (Gaborone, 31 May–4 June);
- (d) ALADI regional Workshop on Services (Montevideo, 1–3 October);

(e) G-20 International Conference of Ministers of Tourism (Buyeo, Republic of Korea, 11–13 October).

42. The second session of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Services, Development and Trade: the Regulatory and Institutional Dimension was held 17–19 March 2010. The deliberations were facilitated by the secretariat's background note (TD/B/C.I/MEM.3/5). The meeting discussed issues regarding the establishment of regulatory and institutional frameworks and cooperative mechanisms to strengthen domestic services capacity and its efficiency, competitiveness and export capacity.

43. UNCTAD conducted National Services Policy Reviews for selected individual countries (Nepal, Uganda and Kyrgyzstan,). The review provided beneficiary countries with the data and analysis necessary for making informed policy decisions for promoting national services economy. This guided national stakeholders in the conduct of an interactive multi-stakeholder consultative process to improve policy, regulatory and institutional frameworks, strengthen supply capacities, and identify new opportunities. UNCTAD received an increasing number of requests for services policy review. Work has started on services policy review for Rwanda and Lesotho.

44. UNCTAD continued its support to COMESA in implementing the COMESA Regulation on Trade in Services that was adopted on 4 June 2009 by COMESA's Council of Ministers. Subsequently, UNCTAD, in collaboration with the COMESA secretariat, drafted the Negotiating Guidelines for the COMESA Committee on Trade in Services, providing an analysis of COMESA members' commitments and offers under GATS, to enable a choice of sectors for further liberalization and prepared a draft model services schedule. The negotiating guidelines were adopted, priority sectors identified and the exchange of offers and negotiations is ongoing.

45. UNCTAD's technical and advisory support on services assessment and negotiations was provided to the SADC secretariat, the SADC Trade Negotiation Forum and SADC policymakers and trade negotiators in 2010. Such support was provided, *inter alia*, to (a) SADC Economic Partnership Agreement Working Group on Services and Investment (Johannesburg, 10–14 May); (b) COMESA Second Meeting of the Committee on Trade in

Services (Harare, 19–21 May); (c) Training Workshop on Trade in Services in collaboration with Botswana Ministry of Trade and Industry (Gaborone, 31 May – 4 June); (d) SADC Trade in Services Regional Workshop for Sectoral Technical Experts (Johannesburg, 7–9 June); (e) Fifteenth Meeting of the SADC Trade Negotiating Forum – Services (Johannesburg, 10 June); (f) SADC Economic Partnership Agreement Technical Working Group on Services and Investment (Gaborone, 30 August–3 September).

46. As a member of an inter-agency task for on Statistics of International Trade in Services, with the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), European Commission, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the United Nations Statistics Division, the World Tourism Organization and WTO, UNCTAD contributed to the Task Force on Services Statistics including its meeting in Beirut, Lebanon (22-24 March 2010).

47. Paragraph 95 of the Accra Accord states: "Without prejudice to the work undertaken in other forums and in cooperation with other organizations, UNCTAD, within its mandate and in relation to the contribution of migrants to development, should conduct research and analysis on the potential benefits and opportunities of trade, investment and developmental links between countries of origin of migrants and their communities abroad." Paragraph 170 states "Without prejudice to the work undertaken in other forums and in cooperation with other organizations, UNCTAD, within its mandate, should continue to analyse the potential of migrants' remittances to contribute to development. It should focus on ways to expand the access of migrants to financial services, maximize the benefits derived from such remittances and minimize the cost through appropriate policies, while respecting their character as private funds."

48. UNCTAD has emphasized the importance of potential benefits and opportunities of trade, investment and developmental links between countries of origin of migrants and their communities abroad. It prepared a report on "Impact of remittances on poverty in developing countries (UNCTAD/DITC/TNCD/2010/8). Work started on preparation of a single-year expert meeting on maximizing the development impact of remittances. It contributed to international policy deliberations, including under the Global Migration Group (GMG), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), World Bank and WTO. UNCTAD facilitated a panel on the GMG at the ninety-ninth session of the IOM Council (November–December 2010). UNCTAD's technical assistance and training activities, and intergovernmental deliberations, also addressed the contribution of migrants to development.

49. UNCTAD, as a member of GMG, cooperated actively with other GMG member organizations and member States on migration issues. Apart from regular participation in GMG meetings at the working and principals levels, UNCTAD (a) facilitated a session of the GMG Practitioners Symposium on "Overcoming barriers: Building partnerships for migration and human development" (Geneva, 27–28 May 2010); (b) contributed to the GMG Handbook on mainstreaming migration into development; and (c) prepared a GMG fact sheet on "Contribution of Migration to Development: the trade, investment and development linkages". UNCTAD is also part of the GMG working group on mainstreaming migration into development.

50. UNCTAD worked with other members of the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) to improve the policy and operational responses of the United Nations system and the international community to international migration. It participated in the preparatory meetings for and at the fourth GFMD (Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, 8–11 November 2010).

51. Paragraph 96 of the Accra Accord states: "UNCTAD should also:

"(a) Help strengthen the participation of developing countries in dynamic and new sectors of world trade."

52. National and regional workshops on enhancing effective participation in dynamic and new sectors of international trade were conducted in Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republish (October 2010). Several research and case studies on ways to strengthen participation of selected developing countries, particularly LDCs and African countries, in dynamic and new sectors of world trade, are being prepared, focusing on the factors that positively/negatively affect export diversification.

53. UNCTAD's Creative Economy Programme prepared the *Creative Economy Report* - 2010: *Creative economy* – *a feasible development option*. This publication is widely disseminated in both developed and developing countries with a view to informing Governments in policy formulation in this area.

54. Paragraph 96 of the Accra Accord states: "UNCTAD should also:

"...

"(b) Address the trade and development impact of non-tariff barriers;

"(c) Further improve and disseminate its analytical tools, such as the Trade and Development Index, and databases and software, such as TRAINS/WITS."

55. UNCTAD worked further on better understanding of the relevance and effects of non-tariff measures (NTMs) on trade. A publication was released which sums up a four-year multi-agency effort on NTMs – "Non-Tariff Measures: Evidence from Selected Developing Countries and Future Research Agenda". The publication also contains five country reports (Brazil, Chile, India, Thailand and the Philippines), where a firm-level survey was conducted to test the new NTMs classification and the data collection procedures.

56. In 2010, UNCTAD developed further its specific trade data and analytical tools to assist the work of policymakers, trade negotiators, academics, civil society and businesses. The Trade Analysis and Information System (TRAINS) database was updated and contains tariff data and matching import statistics for 174 countries (as of December). UNCTAD's trade analysis tools, such as TRAINS–WITS, helped to identify and address market access barriers and trade opportunities, as well as promote informed participation of developing countries in trade negotiations at multilateral and regional levels. A new web-based version of TRAINS–WITS was released in October, and over 2,000 licenses were issued in October–December.

57. UNCTAD elaborated further a training module on analytical tools and empirical techniques for trade analysis. A session on market access analysis based on its most recent research was added. The module can now support a five-day intensive workshop. Three such workshops were organized in 2010 for universities in collaboration with the UNCTAD's Virtual Institute in Peru (Lima, 25–29 January), Uruguay (Montevideo, 12–16 July) and Brazil (Viçosa, 25–29 October). The workshops were attended by senior researchers, teaching staff, master students, trade negotiators and trade practitioners.

58. Paragraph 97 of the Accra Accord states: "UNCTAD should promote and support economic cooperation among developing countries, including through the exchange of experiences and institution-building. It should upgrade its data and analytical tools on South–South trade and strengthen related technical assistance programmes. It should also continue its support for the revitalization and greater utilization of the Global System of Trade Preferences among Developing Countries and other initiatives that stimulate South–South trade."

59. UNCTAD substantively and technically serviced the Agreement on the Global System of Trade Preferences among Developing Countries (GSTP), and supported members in negotiating the third, São Paulo, round of GSTP negotiations. After over six years of negotiations, countries participating in the São Paulo Round met in a special session of the Negotiating Committee at ministerial level in Foz do Iguacu, Brazil on 15 December 2010 and concluded a milestone agreement to boost South-South trade. There are 43 parties to the GSTP. Twenty-two participated in the São Paulo Round, 8 of which, including the Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR), exchanged tariff concessions by adopting the São Paulo Round Protocol. These are: Cuba, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, MERCOSUR (Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay.) and Morocco. Other GSTP parties can accede to the Protocol at a later date. The São Paulo Round results broadened product coverage to 47,000 tariff lines and deepened tariff cuts, and will provide significant benefits for the expansion of South-South trade. The parameters of the tariff-cutting formula were agreed at a ministerial meeting in December 2009 and consisted of slashing tariffs by 20 per cent on at least 70 per cent of dutiable products exported within this group of countries.

60. UNCTAD hosted the Fifth Annual Meeting of the General Assembly of Global Network of Exim Banks and Development Finance Institutions (G-NEXID) on 6 May 2010 with 24 member institutions. The annual meeting was preceded by a one-day seminar, with the theme "Food Security, Energy, and Climate Change Issues: South-South opportunities".

61. UNCTAD continued to strengthen its support to South–South regional integration and its analytical work on South–South trade through (a) monitoring the new geography and dynamics of world trade; (b) analysing changing patterns of developing countries' participation and share in international trade; and (c) encouraging South–South trade and economic integration. It initiated work on understanding the patterns of emerging economies trade, by looking into the skills and technology contents of the exported products by developing a classification system for products at the HS-6 digit level. This classification has also helped explore the possibilities of countries to benchmark against the developed countries and that of conceptualising the framework for the export-led growth strategy.

62. Paragraph 98 of the Accra Accord states: "UNCTAD's work on energy-related issues should be addressed from the trade and development perspective, where relevant in the context of UNCTAD's work on commodities, trade and environment, new and dynamic sectors, and services."

63. A single-year Expert Meeting on Green and Renewable Technologies as Energy Solutions for Rural Development (9–11 February 2010), was jointly prepared by the Division on International Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities and the Division on Technology and Logistics. Experts agreed that the use of renewable energy technologies (RETs) provides an exemplary win–win outcome for rural income generation and environmental sustainability. UNCTAD has an important role to play in conducting independent research and facilitating exchange of experiences on integrated approaches to RETs as a tool for pro-poor development.

64. Paragraph 99 of the Accra Accord states: "UNCTAD should continue its work under the Biofuels Initiative, striving to maximize trade and development gains for developing countries and countries with economies in transition while minimizing the potentially adverse environmental and social aspects of the biofuel option."

65. UNCTAD's BioFuels Initiative collaborated with the Brazilian Reference Centre on Biomass (CENBIO) in exploring a possible triangular South–South cooperation (Brazil– Mozambique–Portugal) for the sustainable production and use of biofuels in Africa. A mission was conducted in April 2010 and the Government of Mozambique expressed a strong interest in introducing biofuels in the country. UNCTAD is assisting in developing a funding proposal to implement a project for the sustainable production of biofuels.

66. UNCTAD supported the Government of Mexico in conducting an initial assessment on developing biofuels in Mexico. An advisory mission was carried out on 6 December 2010 in Mexico City. The assessment will be finalized after further consultations with national authorities, business and civil society stakeholders.

67. Paragraph 100 of the Accra Accord states: "UNCTAD, within its mandate and without duplicating the ongoing work of other organizations, should consider climate change in its ongoing work of assisting developing countries with trade- and investment-related issues in development strategies."

68. UNCTAD supported the United Nations Secretary-General's High-level Advisory Group on Climate Change Financing (AGF). The Secretary-General of UNCTAD was invited by the United Nations Secretary-General to serve, in his personal capacity, as a member on the High-level Advisory Group on Climate Change Financing (AGF). The Group was tasked to study potential sources of revenue that will enable achievement of the level of climate change financing that was promised during the United Nations Climate Change Conference (Copenhagen, December 2009). The UNCTAD Secretary-General's participation in the AGF ensured that the views of the United Nations system were integrated into the outcome of the AGF.

69. The green economy within the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication will be one of the themes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD), or Rio+20, to be held in Brazil in 2012. UNCTAD is contributing to the preparatory process in its capacity as the sustainable trade focal point for the Conference. UNCTAD, in collaboration DESA and UNEP, organized an Ad hoc Expert Meeting on "The Green Economy: Trade and Sustainable Development Implications" (Geneva, 7-8 October 2010). Participants explored ways in which the green economy through trade-led growth could become a pro-development income-generating instrument that would directly contribute to meeting the sustainable development imperative. The report of the meeting (UNCTAD/DITC/TED/2010/6) was submitted as an input to the UNCSD preparatory process.

70. UNCTAD's Climate Change Programme supported the organization of the Second Africa Carbon Forum (Nairobi, 3–5 March 2010). The forum brought together more than 1,000 participants representing project developers, buyers, service providers, national Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) representatives and other private and public sector stakeholders to tap the potential of greenhouse gas emission offset projects in the continent. The event was organized with other partners such as UNDP, UNEP, UNEP-Risoe, UNFCCC, UNITAR, the World Bank Group, AfDB and the International Emissions Trading Association (IETA).

71. On the occasion of the Second Africa Carbon Forum, a side event for the Portuguese-speaking countries in Africa – Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Sao Tome and Principe and Mozambique – was organized on 5 March 2010. The event provided a platform to present an e-learning course on climate change and the carbon market. An early interest from UNDP was received to implement the project in Mozambique.

72. UNCTAD, with the Government of the Dominican Republic, the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE), IETA, the World Bank Institute, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the UNEP Risoe Centre organized the Fifth Latin American Carbon Forum (Santo Domingo, 13–15 October 2010). The forum provided a platform to gather key players involved in the development of the CDM and share experiences on the whole process of CDM projects and programs as well as the latest developments of emissions trading schemes.

73. During COP16 of the UNFCCC, UNCTAD jointly organized a high-level side event with UNEP and DESA on "The transition to a Green Economy: Implications for poverty alleviation and sustainable development" (8 December 2010, Cancun). UNCTAD also participated in the side event organized by the AGF secretariat (8 December 2010) to discuss the key findings of the AGF report.

74. Paragraph 101 of the Accra Accord states: "UNCTAD should continue to provide support to developing countries and countries with economies in transition on issues at the interface between trade and environment, such as market access, agriculture, the transfer of environmentally sound technology, environmental goods and services, environmentally preferable products, and standards, including issues concerning eco-labelling and certification costs, and follow up on trade-related issues contained in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation. It should strengthen work on the UNEP–UNCTAD Capacity-Building Task Force on Trade, Environment and Development."

75. Under the UNEP–UNCTAD Capacity-Building Task Force on Trade, Environment and Development, the development of organic agriculture as a trade and sustainable development opportunity for Africa was supported through numerous activities. These included an African Symposium at the Biofach organic trade fair (February 2010), cooperation with the AU Commission, East African Organic Conference (December 2010), and a draft Kenyan Organic Agriculture Policy.

76. Through UNCTAD-FAO-IFOAM Global Organic Market Access project, UNCTAD supported South–South cooperation in facilitating trade in organic products in the Central American and Asian regions. This included publication of a scoping study for the Asian region.

77. UNCTAD prepared two studies for developing two conceptual tracks that facilitate practical ways of achieving partial equivalence between the GlobalGAP standard (a standard on Good Agricultural Practice applied by most globally active supermarkets and catering companies) and the main organic standards. These would facilitate market access and drastically reduce compliance costs with both standards.

78. Paragraph 102 of the Accra Accord states: "UNCTAD should continue to build on its experience to enhance its Biotrade Initiative, which gives support to the growing market for biodiversity products and services produced in a sustainable manner. The Biotrade Initiative should continue to support the creation of an enabling policy and environment to foster private sector engagement in the sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity, while acknowledging the social, cultural, legal and economic complexity of this issue."

79. The BioTrade Initiative provided technical assistance and advisory services to BioTrade programmes and partners in Colombia, Indonesia and Uganda on the biotrade concepts and methodologies, project design and formulation, value chain development, market access and fundraising. Technical assistance was provided to the UNDP Bureau on Crisis Prevention and Recovery and UNDP country offices in Indonesia and Uganda on biotrade and value chain development; and to Latin American and African countries on the EU Novel Food Regulation. Further, as part of the peace building processes of UNDP, the BioTrade Initiative is contributing to the reintegration of ex-combatants in Aceh Selatan, Indonesia through the development of the nutmeg value chain.

80. The BioTrade Initiative with UNCTAD's TrainForTrade programme developed an on-line course on "Bio Trade and Value Chain Development". This course will be conducted in cooperation with universities in Bolivia, Colombia and Peru. The BioTrade Initiative, and UNCTAD's Creative Economy and Industries Programme, collaborated with Green2Greener, a Hong Kong (China)-based non-governmental organization, to organize a seminar on Redefining Sustainability in the International Agenda: Inspiring Greater

Engagement in Biodiversity Issues and an EcoChic Exhibit and Fashion Show (Geneva, 20–21 January 2010).

81. Paragraph 103 of the Accra Accord states: "UNCTAD should further promote and support cooperation, including by facilitating voluntary consultations among member States and regional groupings, in line with section F of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices, adopted by the General Assembly in 1980 and reaffirmed in the São Paulo Consensus and at the Fifth Conference to Review All Aspects of the Set, held in 2005."

82. Paragraph 104 of the Accra Accord states: "UNCTAD is the focal point on the work on competition policy and related consumer welfare within the United Nations system. It provides to its member States a forum for intergovernmental policy dialogue and consensus-building in the area of competition laws and policies. It should continue to carry out research and analysis in this area for, and/or in collaboration with, its member States and international networks on competition policy. UNCTAD should continue to be a forum to discuss competition issues on the multilateral level, with close linkages to existing networks of competition authorities, and to promote the use of competition law and policy as tools for achieving domestic and international competitiveness. UNCTAD's work in this area should promote competition law regimes that take into account the prevailing conditions in the developing countries. Accordingly, future action by UNCTAD in this area needs to focus on:

"(a) The preparation and implementation of national and regional competition law and policies and measures appropriate to developing countries' development needs and their consumers' welfare;

"(b) Research and deliberations regarding anti-competitive practices in different sectors, their effects on consumer welfare and global markets and developing countries' markets in particular, and mechanisms to address such effects;

"(c) Examining all issues relating to the interface between competition, privatization and innovation and their impacts on trade and development, including at the regional level;

"(d) Providing support to regional and South-South cooperation on competition policies;

"(e) Supporting developing countries in the formulation and implementation of competition laws;

"(f) Voluntary peer reviews of competition policy in UNCTAD should be extended to a wider group of developing countries and their regional economic organizations; and

"(g) Facilitating the exchange of experiences and best practices in capacity-building in different regions, including programmes like the technical assistance programme on competition and consumer protection policies for Latin America (COMPAL), which should be strengthened."

83. The Sixth United Nations Conference to All Aspects of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices was held in Geneva from 8-12 November 2010. Several reports were prepared for the Conference including:

(a) Model Law on Competition (2010) (TD/RBP/CONF.7/L.1 to L.13);

(b) The role of competition policy in promoting economic development: The appropriate design and effectiveness of competition law and policy (TD/RBP/CONF.7/3);

(c) Review of capacity-building and technical assistance on competition law and policy (TD/RBP/CONF.7/7);

(d) Appropriate sanctions and remedies (TD/RBP/CONF.7/5);

(e) Assessment of the application and implementation of the Set (TD/RBP/CONF.7/2);

(f) The role of competition advocacy, merger control and the effective enforcement of law in times of economic trouble (TD/RBP/CONF.7/6); and

(g) The use of leniency programmes as a tool for the enforcement of competition law against hardcore cartels in developing countries (TD/RBP/CONF.7/4).

84. The Conference reaffirmed the validity of the United Nations Set and related resolutions adopted by the previous five United Nations Review Conferences. The resolution adopted by the Conference further strengthened implementation of the United Nations Set. The Conference recommended that the UN General Assembly convene a Seventh United Nations Review Conference, under UNCTAD auspices, in 2015.

85. An initiative was launched to create an UNCTAD Research Partnership Platform (RPP) on competition issues. It provides competition authorities, government, researchers on competition and consumer policies, business and civil society with access to several of the most effective tools for capacity-building on competition law and policy and consumer protection. The RPP also provides to its partners communications on ongoing research, and possibilities to participate in conferences on competition and consumer policies. The first Research Partnership Platform meeting was held on 7 November 2010 in Geneva.

86. A voluntary peer review of competition law and policy of Armenia was undertaken on 9 November 2010 (Geneva), facilitated by reports prepared by UNCTAD (UNCTAD/DITC/CLP/2010/1 Overview, UNCTAD/DITC/CLP/2010/1). The findings and recommendations of the peer review will be used to design tailor-made technical assistance activities to reinforce the effectiveness of competition law enforcement in Armenia.

87. UNCTAD supported developing countries in building a culture of competition, including through the technical assistance programme on competition and consumer protection policies for Latin America (COMPAL) and the African competition programme (AFRICOMP).

88. Training courses on competition law and policy for parliamentarians, sector regulators, business communities and consumer associations were provided in 2010 for Angola, Bolivia, Botswana, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chad, Comoros, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Malawi, Paraguay, Swaziland, Trinidad and Tobago, and Tunisia. Assistance in the preparation, amendment and adoption of new competition laws was provided to Botswana, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Malaysia, Mozambique, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Sao Tome and Principe, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, and Uganda. UNCTAD contributed to the draft competition law of the Kurdistan Regional Government in Iraq, and also provided training to Government officials and academics. This course was followed up with a training of trainers course.

89. National competition seminars for case handlers were organized in 2010 for newly established competition agencies in Cameroon, Indonesia, Ecuador, Nicaragua and Swaziland. In addition a "training of trainers" manual on competition policy was developed for the Indonesian Commission for the Supervision of Business Competition (KPPU). Furthermore, additional training courses for judges were organized in El Salvador, Indonesia and Malawi.

90. UNCTAD assisted in 2010 in the establishment of competition agencies in Botswana, Madagascar, Mauritius, Saudi Arabia, and Trinidad and Tobago. It also assisted with the appointment of commissioners in these countries. Other countries also assisted included Botswana, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Jordan, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Peru and South Africa.

91. Training and advice on consumer protection issues were provided to the Plurinational State of Bolivia and Botswana.

92. UNCTAD assisted Latin American integration groupings to handle cross-border anticompetitive practices including FOPREL (Foro de Presidentes de Poderes Legislativos de Centroamerica y el Caribe), Andean Community and SIECA (Central American Subsystem of Economic Integration).

93. Paragraph 105 of the Accra Accord states: "Taking into account the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Development Agenda and without prejudice to the work undertaken in other forums, UNCTAD, within its mandate, should continue to undertake research and analysis on trade and development aspects of intellectual property, including on the protection of traditional knowledge, genetic resources and folklore and fair and equitable sharing."

94. An analysis of TRIPS and the WIPO Development Agenda was provided in the report of the United Nations Secretary–General's report on International Trade and Development (A/65/211).

95. UNCTAD's BioTrade Initiative organized an informal brainstorming session on the BioTrade Potential for Growth and Sustainability, which brought together experts and negotiators with unique perspectives on biodiversity, trade and intellectual property rights in Latin America and the Caribbean. The workshop was organized in the framework of a regional initiative entitled "Biodiversity and Ecosystems: Why these are Important for Sustained Growth and Equity in Latin America and the Caribbean", implemented by UNDP in association with UNEP, ECLAC and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

96. Legal and policy advice was provided to developing countries on negotiations in TRIPS-related issues in WTO. Assistance was provided on intellectual property rights-related regulatory reform to countries negotiating their accession to WTO, including for Iranian trade officials and Algerian trade officials.

97. UNCTAD's India project facilitated producer/artisan groups in obtaining the protection of their unique products through registration as geographical indications (GI). GI registration was secured for Pipli Applique Craft of Orissa, Lucknow Chikankari, Uppada Jamdhani Sarees of Andhra Pradesh, Banarasi Sarees and Brocades, Kannur Home Furnishing, Sanganeeri Hand-block Prints and Balarampuram Fabrics of Kerala, and Bhadohi Carpets. An international conference on GI was held (New Delhi, 16–17 November 2010,).

98. Paragraph 106 of the Accra Accord states: "UNCTAD should continue to play an important role in developing and implementing projects under Aid for Trade. UNCTAD should continue to provide focused support to developing countries, in building their capacity to meaningfully participate in, and benefit from, the international trading system and to address the opportunities and challenges that this system offers."

99. UNCTAD continued to contribute to the Aid for Trade Initiative. It participated in the Aid for Trade Advisory Group of the WTO Director–General, and in the WTO Committee on Trade and Development in its consideration of the Aid for Trade issues. UNCTAD provided case stories for the Third Global Aid for Trade Review in 2011. It also provided inputs to the WTO–OECD publication on Aid for Trade at a Glance. It

contributed to the SPECA Ministerial meeting in Azerbaijan (Baku, 1–2 December 2010) that discussed an aid for trade roadmap for countries with economies in transition.

Special focus on LDCs

100. Apart from activities of UNCTAD's work that benefit developing countries generally or their regional groups, specific support was provided to LDCs.

101. Support was provided towards the preparatory process for the Fourth United Nations Conference on LDCs, including during the UNCTAD Secretary-General's Ad Hoc Expert Group Meeting on "United Nations LDC IV: Key Development Challenges Facing the LDCs" (Geneva, 18–19 February 2010) and the Pre-conference event to the United Nations LDC–IV organized by UNCTAD on "Building productive capacities in LDCs for inclusive and sustainable development" (Geneva, 27–29 October 2010). For these meetings a background note was prepared entitled "Making trade more development-transmitting, multiplying and inclusive for LDCs".

102. A ministerial meeting was organized for African LDCs in Zambia (Lusaka, 10–12 May 2010). Ministers discussed how to take advantage of the duty-free, quota-free scheme of India and ways of enhancing competition policy including through AFRICOMP.

103. UNCTAD and the Commonwealth Secretariat prepared a joint publication on "Identification of potential supply chains in textiles and clothing sector in South Asia", which assesses the scope of promoting regional trade and cooperation in the sector in South Asia, including for LDCs in the region (Bangladesh). Substantive inputs on trade and trade negotiations issues including duty-free, quota-free treatment were provided into the preparation of UNCTAD's *Least Developed Countries Report 2010*.

104. Technical assistance and advice was provided in 2010 on:

- (a) WTO accession for Sao Tome and Principe (Praia, 26–29 January);
- (b) Post-WTO accession issues to Cambodia (Phnom Penh, 16–18 May);

(c) WTO accession issues in the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Vientiane, 10–14 May and 1–3 November);

(d) Preparation for WTO Trade Policy Review by the Democratic Republic of the Congo (Kinshasa, 20–21 May);

(e) WTO accession issues for Bhutan (Geneva, 13 August);

(f) Enhancing New and Dynamic Exports of Lao People's Democratic Republic (Vientiane, 25–27 October);

(g) WTO accession for Yemen (Sana'a, 4–5 December), (Geneva, 11 June and 12 and 19 October);

(h) NTBs and NAMA issues to LDCs Group in Geneva (4 August, 18 September, 14 October, 5 November, 3 December);

(i) Finalizing the institutional framework for a consumer protection agency in Bhutan and sensitizing stakeholders on the Consumer Protection Law;

(j) Elaboration of Cambodia's national Consumer Protection Law and the institutional framework for its implementation;

(k) Consumer law and policy for civil society and sector regulators of Malawi.