



**United Nations Conference  
on Trade and Development**

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**Sixteenth session**

Geneva

20–23 October 2025

**Report of the United Nations Conference on Trade and  
Development on its sixteenth session**

Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, from 20 to 23 October 2025



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<sup>1</sup> The UNCTAD XVI website (<https://unctad.org/unctad16>) contains all material relating to the Conference, including the programme, documentation and webcasts.

## Introduction

In conformity with General Assembly resolutions 1995 (XIX) of 30 December 1964 and 63/204 of 28 January 2009, the sixteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development was held in Geneva, from 20 to 23 October 2025. The theme of the Conference was approved by the Trade and Development Board, in decision 583 (EX-LXXXVI), at its seventy-sixth executive session, held on 31 October and 1 November 2024. The provisional agenda of the sixteenth session of the Conference was approved on 5 February 2025 by the Trade and Development Board at its seventy-seventh session, held from 3 to 5 February 2025.

At its seventy-first session, held from 20 to 24 September 2024, the Trade and Development Board established the Preparatory Committee for the sixteenth session of the Conference, to be chaired by the President of the Board, Mr. Paul Bekkers (Kingdom of the Netherlands), in order to consider the pre-Conference negotiating text. At its thirty-sixth special session, held on 19 September 2025, the Board approved, on an exceptional basis, the recommendation of the Preparatory Committee not to officially transmit the current version of the negotiating text to the sixteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

Side events to the sixteenth session of the Conference were held between 20 and 23 October 2025 and included the meetings of the Digital for Development Forum, Global Commodities Forum, Global Services Forum, South–South Cooperation Forum and Youth Forum. The opening plenary meeting and ceremony of the sixteenth session of the Conference (see chapter III) were held on 20 October 2025 at the Assembly Hall of the Palais des Nations. Nine high-level events were held from 20 to 23 October 2025 on topics related to the theme of the Conference (see chapter II). In addition, ministerial-level meetings of the Group of 77 and China, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and African countries were held in conjunction with the sixteenth session of the Conference. At its closing plenary meeting, on 23 October 2025, the Conference adopted the Geneva Consensus for a just and sustainable economic order: Political declaration and the Geneva Consensus.<sup>2</sup> In the course of the session, the Conference held 14 plenary meetings, the 308th to the 321st.

### I. Action taken by the Conference

#### A. Shaping the future: Driving economic transformation for equitable, inclusive and sustainable development

1. At the 321st (closing) plenary meeting of its sixteenth session, on 23 October 2025, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development adopted the Geneva Consensus for a just and sustainable economic order: Political declaration and the Geneva Consensus (see TD/561/Add.1 and TD/561/Add.2, respectively).

#### B. Other business

2. Also at its 321st (closing) plenary meeting, on 23 October 2025, the Conference took note of the declarations transmitted to its sixteenth session following ministerial-level meetings of four regional groups, as follows: the Ministerial declaration of the group of landlocked developing countries to the sixteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, as contained in document TD/545; Ministerial declaration of the small island developing States to the sixteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, as contained in document TD/546; Ministerial declaration of

<sup>2</sup> The official website (<https://unctad.org/unctad16>) contains all material relating to the Conference, including the programme, documentation and statements and video recordings.

the least developed countries to the sixteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, as contained in document TD/547; and Ministerial Declaration of the Group of 77 and China to the sixteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, as contained in document TD/548.

## **II. President's summary**

### **Shaping the future: Driving economic transformation for equitable, inclusive and sustainable development**

(Agenda item 8)

#### **A. Opening plenary statements**

3. The Prime Minister of Barbados, as President of the fifteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, delivered the first opening plenary statement. She expressed her gratitude to the Secretary-General of UNCTAD and to UNCTAD secretariat staff for their outstanding leadership throughout the quadrennium. The outcome of the fifteenth session, the Bridgetown Covenant, set out the main transformations that were felt necessary at that time, and which remained relevant. The Bridgetown Covenant had served as a mandate and a road map to guide the transformation and response of UNCTAD to the global challenges of the twenty-first century.

4. She expressed appreciation for the development of a small island developing States strategy and the establishment of a trust fund, while calling on partners to work to resource it. The pandemic first drew attention to disruptions of global supply chains, which were later exacerbated by the climate crisis and conflicts. Barbados had been proud to host the first UNCTAD Global Supply Chain Forum.

5. Despite all efforts to reduce inequalities and vulnerabilities, the world was increasingly fractured and polarized. The United Nations, an imperfect yet essential beacon of hope for 80 years, was also being shaken. Thus, it was time to reinvent and reinvest in multilateralism. The theme of the sixteenth session of the Conference, "shaping the future, driving economic transformation for equitable, inclusive and sustainable development", had to be grounded in addressing the breakdown of trust in multilateralism. Sixty years ago, UNCTAD contributed significantly to the participation of developing countries in the international trading system. UNCTAD was once again positioned to contribute to shaping a future based on the institution's convening power and strong research capabilities. She encouraged the membership to empower UNCTAD to be that space where a new global consensus on links between trade and development were forged for the prosperity of all rather than the success of a few.

6. Welcoming the membership in his opening statement, the President of the sixteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development emphasized the historic role of Geneva as a symbol of multilateralism and consensus. He underscored the close ties between Switzerland and UNCTAD, noting that, as the headquarters of the institution, Switzerland had accompanied UNCTAD at various stages in its history, including the celebration of its sixtieth anniversary in Geneva in 2024.

7. He outlined the current challenging global situation in which the Conference was taking place, which he expected also offered possible solutions. Among the multiple crises and growing polarization, countries were turning inwards. The most vulnerable suffered the most: extreme poverty affected over 700 million people. Just as the global economy was returning to growth following the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, new and renewed conflicts broke out. In addition to immeasurable suffering, those conflicts affected international trade and economic growth. They disrupted supply chains and led to increased energy and commodity prices, in addition to increased inflation rates and mounting debt, with developing countries hit the hardest. Furthermore, the geopolitical situation demanded increased security spending. International cooperation had consequently been greatly affected.

8. To meet those challenges, he called for a reaffirmation of the core values of multilateral dialogue and consensus-building, as well as of the rules-based trading system. They were essential to create stability and address complex global issues. International cooperation needed to be rethought, through key areas such as focus, improved coordination, efficiency and mobilization of private resources. In “shaping the future”, building on the present was necessary. As President of the Conference, he therefore urged delegates to remain true to the tradition of international Geneva and find a consensus based on the valued diversity of viewpoints to achieve the common goal embodied in the Conference theme.

9. The President of Timor-Leste highlighted the challenges facing the least developed countries as they recovered from overlapping crises, including the COVID-19 pandemic, climate disasters and food and energy shocks. Tightened conditions in the global trading and financial system often excluded vulnerable countries when they most needed support; for many countries, debt servicing surpassed spending on health and education. Climate loss and damage financing was being withdrawn, while debates over supply chains and digital industries among wealthy countries neglected the needs of the poorest.

10. He recalled that UNCTAD was created to ensure that trade served development and called for a renewed commitment to rebalancing global trade and financial rules to provide the least developed countries with the policy space to build industries, create decent jobs and add value to their resources, empowering domestic production.

11. Debt and development finance required decisive action. Fair and predictable mechanisms were needed for debt relief and restructuring, linked to progress on the Sustainable Development Goals. Developing countries should not be forced to choose between servicing all debts and investing in the future of their people, as, in 2023, developing countries paid \$406 billion on debt interest alone.

12. Furthermore, the digital divide should be bridged through technology transfer, affordable connectivity and support for digital industrial policies, for the least developed countries to participate in the global economy. Climate justice in trade and investment meant making climate finance accessible and green trade standards inclusive. The transition from least developed country status should recognize that graduation was only the beginning of development. Concluding, he stated that trade should be used for good, security and the betterment of all humanity.

13. The Prime Minister of Viet Nam commended the relevance of the Conference theme, of shaping a future of equitable, inclusive and sustainable development. The world stood at a historic crossroads that required a fundamental shift in development thinking and approaches. Humanity should be placed at the centre of all policies, serving as both the driving force and goal of development. Science, technology, innovation and digital transformation were the foundation, while environmental protection and social security should drive rapid yet sustainable progress.

14. He underscored the urgent need for international solidarity, multilateralism and cooperation to address interconnected global challenges. An equitable, transparent and rules-based international order was a prerequisite for peace, stability and shared prosperity, which included reform of the multilateral trading and financial systems to ensure they were open, fair, inclusive and responsive to all countries.

15. Viet Nam had focused on independence, self-reliance, diversification and multilateralism and was positioned as a trusted partner and responsible member of the international community. His country steadfastly supported the central role of the United Nations in maintaining peace, fostering cooperation and addressing global issues, while promoting cooperation and addressing global and people-centred issues, including in trade, investment and inclusive and sustainable development.

16. The President of the General Assembly of the United Nations emphasized that, when guided by fairness, inclusion and equality, trade could be a powerful driver of sustainable development. It could build bridges, close divides and improve lives. Regional successes included intraregional trade through the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, which had strengthened resilience and positioned the bloc as the world’s sixth-largest economy. The

African Continental Free Trade Area was projected to increase intra-African trade by 50 per cent by 2035 and lift millions of people out of extreme poverty. Thus, trade had the potential to ease barriers, create jobs, attract investment and advance technology, when it remained fair and inclusive.

17. The world was more interconnected and globalized than ever. Yet trust in the multilateral system was eroding, as global economic gains remained uneven. Despite the more than \$100 trillion produced annually by the global economy, half of humanity had seen little income growth for decades. Developing countries faced mounting debt, at \$31 trillion in 2024, which forced Governments to prioritize debt servicing over essential investments in health and education. She also highlighted that the widening digital divide undermined equity and trust, with emerging technologies concentrated in the hands of a few.

18. Recalling the role of UNCTAD over the past 60 years in linking trade and development, she called on participants at the Conference to renew that mission and address issues such as diversification, sustainability, financing for development and multilateralism. UNCTAD could help countries to design fairer trade policies, attract investment to communities, close technology gaps and transform debt into a tool for development. She underscored that the sixteenth session of the Conference coincided with the eightieth anniversary of the United Nations and the first anniversary of the Pact for the Future; it was an opportunity to restore trust in multilateralism through concrete action in the midst of reform. Progress in trade and development, she concluded, was essential to proving that multilateralism worked for all and to ensuring that trade uplifted rather than divided, empowered rather than excluded and helped every country share in the promise of prosperity.

19. The Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva recalled that the first session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in 1964 had likewise been held in the Assembly Hall of the Palais des Nations, recently modernized to meet contemporary needs while preserving its legacy of international cooperation.

20. The creation of UNCTAD had marked a new era in global economic dialogue. From the outset, trade was conceived as a pathway to peace and shared prosperity. Currently, however, deepened geopolitical divides made multilateral cooperation more difficult and impeded the collective action required to tackle global challenges, from climate change and food insecurity, to growing technological divides. Public trust in Governments and international institutions had thus eroded, contributing to a more fragmented and polarized global landscape.

21. Progress on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was lagging, while poverty, hunger and inequality were rising. Human rights were under strain in all regions and the triple planetary crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution continued to compound vulnerabilities and undermine development gains.

22. She stressed that trade remained a powerful tool, when guided by inclusive and forward-looking policies, to reverse negative trends and accelerate progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. The Conference was thus a timely opportunity to demonstrate that multilateralism could adapt and deliver on global commitments. The Pact for the Future provided a road map to reinvigorate multilateralism; successful implementation depended on sustained political will, innovative policies and inclusive partnerships.

23. She called for embracing the “networked multilateralism” advocated by the Secretary-General of the United Nations to build bridges across regions, sectors and institutions. Geneva exemplified that approach, through collaboration among Governments, international organizations, civil society, academia and the private sector. That spirit of pragmatic partnership was a compelling model for multilateralism to deliver tangible results. She further stressed the need for reform of the international financial architecture, to address unsustainable debt, modernize multilateral development banks, advance fairer global tax norms and scale up climate finance. The UN80 Initiative offered momentum for those reforms. The Conference exemplified the inclusive and networked multilateralism

needed and expressed the hope that it would serve as a platform for innovative partnerships and a renewed determination to build a resilient, sustainable and inclusive future.

24. In her opening statement, the Secretary-General of UNCTAD emphasized the uncertain global landscape, with long-standing assumptions about trade being challenged as new dynamics emerged. She noted that the shift in economic growth: three quarters of growth currently originated in developing countries. She also highlighted transformative trends such as the rise in trade in services, digital connectivity, clean technologies and artificial intelligence that offered opportunities to create a more dynamic, sustainable and inclusive global economy. Yet, without action, they risked entrenchment of a deepening of inequalities, commodity dependence, unsustainable debt, widened digital divides and costly climate transitions.

25. She stressed that shaping the future required proactive strategies. Barbados, Kenya and Indonesia, for example, had taken bold steps to redefine their development paths. She underscored that ministers and negotiators at the Conference had gathered to shape the future. She recalled the historic role of UNCTAD in advancing trade and development through the Generalized System of Preferences, the opening of developed country markets to developing countries, creation of the least developed countries category and the vision of a New International Economic Order, which sowed the seeds for current debates on reform of the international financial architecture.

26. She acknowledged the resilience in global trade, as 72 per cent of flows remained under World Trade Organization rules and South–South trade was growing. Yet there were persistent fragilities, including rising tariffs, mounting debt burdens, declining investment flows and a digital divide that affected 2.6 billion people. In addition, the benefits of artificial intelligence remained inaccessible to most developing countries, while trade costs disproportionately impacted landlocked developing countries and small island developing States. The outcome document being negotiated at the Conference sought to address those challenges.

27. Concluding, she underscored that the ongoing negotiations and consultations reflected multilateralism in its most genuine form as countries were resolved to shape their own futures.

## **B. Shaping the future: Driving economic transformation for equitable, inclusive and sustainable development**

(Agenda item 8)

28. From 20–23 October 2025, nine high-level meetings were held on topics related to the theme of the Conference. One high-level event, the leaders dialogue, was organized as a panel discussion centred on the current period of transition for multilateralism and how trade could continue to serve as an engine for sustainable development. The second high-level event was a plenary meeting with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, which provided a platform for negotiating groups to respond with their perspectives on development, justice and trade. Seven ministerial round tables covered, respectively, reimagining a broader path to development through trade; the Sevilla Commitment on financing for development and the establishment of a borrower’s platform; use of artificial intelligence for inclusive and sustainable development; cooperation for an inclusive and sustainable digital economy; strategic priorities and emerging directions for investment and entrepreneurship policy; regionalism in a time of uncertainty; and moving towards resilient, sustainable and inclusive supply chains and trade logistics.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup> Full summaries of the high-level meetings are contained in documents TD/552, TD/553, TD/554, TD/555, TD/556, TD/557, TD/558, TD/559 and TD/560.

## 1. High-level events

### *Leaders dialogue*

29. The Secretary-General of UNCTAD asked a five-member panel what main features of “the old” multilateralism should be protected and what “new” features should be welcomed. Some panellists stressed the preservation of a rules-based system grounded in predictability and trust. One panellist further identified openness, clear rules and consensus as enduring values that underpinned effective trade relations. Another panellist proposed a new generation of rules on transparency to strengthen trust in the rules-based multilateral system.

30. Some panellists called for partnership and pragmatism and an inclusive multilateral system. One panellist recalled that, after the Second World War, interdependence among countries, trade, open markets and the common good were established as a basis for peace and that that system had delivered for 80 years. She said developing countries were currently driving much of global growth. Institutions needed to reflect a multipolar world shaped by new economic powers and expanding South–South trade.

31. One panellist built on those considerations. She encouraged an intentional and pragmatic approach that recognized the global economy as more interconnected than ever. A different approach was needed to financing, investment, resilient infrastructure and debt, such as looking at additional stakeholders, the private sector and new partnerships.

32. Another panellist underlined that interdependence should translate into concrete reform, as countries needed to work together. Systems should be reformed continuously, not only in times of crisis. He identified digitalization and innovation, private capital mobilization and domestic revenue mobilization as key, for countries and member States to live up to the ambitious goals of the United Nations system. Another panellist added that the private sector should be a part of the solution.

33. In response to how trade could continue to serve as an engine for sustainable development, one panellist stated that there could not be global growth without growth in trade. Despite the recent rise in protectionism, 72 per cent of global trade still took place under World Trade Organization rules. Another panellist said that trade and financing were inextricably linked, while another panellist said trade, financing and investment should be discussed together, as part of one integrated agenda. The panel converged on the view that trade, financing and investment were deeply intertwined.

34. All panellists stressed reform of financing for development to make it more inclusive and impactful. One panellist urged Governments to repurpose part of the \$2 trillion dollars in inefficient subsidies to leverage private capital and finance development, climate and trade goals, and to extend trade finance to microenterprises and small and medium-sized enterprises and women entrepreneurs. Another panellist pointed further to innovative mechanisms, such as debt-swaps, debt for investments and blended finance.

35. One panellist emphasized that prosperity and environmental stewardship could advance together. Another panellist reiterated that education and vocational training were also investments, to have the staff necessary to develop and grow an economy or industry. Another panellist concurred, emphasizing the importance of investing in education and training, particularly to narrow the digital divide.

### *Plenary meeting with the Secretary-General of the United Nations*

36. The Secretary-General of UNCTAD recalled that UNCTAD was established in Geneva more than 60 years ago to make the principles of the United Nations tangible for developing countries that sought integration into the global economy. She emphasized the continued relevance of the mission of UNCTAD as the world faced trade uncertainty, high debt levels and rising fragmentation.

37. Addressing the sixteenth session of the Conference, the Secretary-General of the United Nations stated that development required deliberate action and should deliver justice for the developing world. Trade required institutions that set policies, rules and a level

playing field, as well as finance, investments and technology, that could help all countries participate and prosper and should serve their people. Many UNCTAD achievements over decades had helped steer the global trade system towards justice: the creation of the least developed countries category, adoption of the principles and objectives for a New International Economic Order and establishment of the Common Fund for Commodities. He also noted ongoing work to close gaps in the global trading system and propose concrete solutions, and long-standing calls to reform the international financial architecture.

38. He outlined four priority areas for action. First, he called for a fair global trade and investment system, grounded in the Pact for the Future, to support export-led growth, special and differential treatment for developing countries and reform of the World Trade Organization. Developing economies should be enabled to move beyond commodity dependence and benefit from the explosive growth in services.

39. Second, reform of financing for development was needed in a world where 3.4 billion people lived in countries that spent more on debt servicing than on health or education. Underscoring the consensus reached at the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development held in Seville, he called for action to unlock more finance for developing countries, triple the lending power of multilateral development banks, leverage private finance and ease debt burdens.

40. Third, he emphasized the importance of technology and digital inclusion and urged delegations to move forward on the implementation of the Global Digital Compact to close digital divides and ensure that frontier technologies, including artificial intelligence and blockchain, were accessible to all countries, not just the wealthy few.

41. Finally, he drew attention to the need to align trade and climate goals and encouraged countries to integrate trade strategies into national climate plans and to mobilize \$1.3 trillion a year in climate finance by 2035 for developing countries. For example, the Panel on Critical Energy Transition Minerals was aimed at ensuring that resource extraction benefited local communities.

42. High-level representatives of negotiating groups made statements. One representative highlighted that the current multidimensional global crisis had deepened inequality and constrained access to finance, disproportionately affecting developing countries. UNCTAD played a central role in the follow-up to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals, through development-oriented policy analysis, technical cooperation and multilateral dialogue. He called for reform of the international financial architecture to ensure fair, predictable and unconditional financing and warned against new forms of protectionism under the guise of climate policies. UNCTAD should remain an essential technical and political voice that promoted structural transformation and development based on sustainable industrialization, poverty reduction and the equitable integration of all countries into the global economy.

43. Another representative reaffirmed that, more than ever, multilateralism and open, constructive dialogue were needed. She expressed the firm commitment of her regional group to supporting effective multilateralism and a rules-based international order, with the United Nations at its core and stood with UNCTAD in the mission to build bridges, while also backing the reform initiative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

44. Another representative described trade as a powerful engine of development, poverty reduction and shared prosperity and called for a revitalized multilateral trading system with a reformed World Trade Organization that worked for all and was supported by UNCTAD.

45. The last representative underlined that UNCTAD remained one of the key forums in the United Nations system concerning trade and development. He stressed the importance of equal, non-discriminatory and open multilateral trade and expected the outcome of the sixteenth session of the Conference to contribute significantly to strengthening the role of UNCTAD as a platform for expert analysis and productive exchange of opinions, as well as the implementation of specific programmes and initiatives.

## 2. Ministerial round tables

### *Implementing the Sevilla Commitment on financing for development and establishing a borrowers' platform*

46. The Secretary-General of UNCTAD highlighted that, currently, many developing countries were forced to choose between defaulting on debt and “defaulting on” development. Reform of the international financial architecture was essential to provide liquidity and countercyclical support and to scale up financing from multilateral development banks as a way to bring in private finance. Establishing a borrowers' platform was a critical step, and UNCTAD could make constructive contributions to that effort, with the support of other stakeholders.

47. A six-member panel recognized the urgent need to address debt challenges, particularly the high cost of debt servicing, and to identify practical solutions to move forward. One panellist, from an ethical perspective, said that human dignity should be central to discussions on solutions that safeguarded development potential and fiscal space for investing in people.

48. The panellists agreed that the Sevilla Commitment, the outcome document of the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development in 2025, reflected success in securing agreement on pragmatic actions amid ongoing challenges to multilateral cooperation. They emphasized that the momentum should be seized and translated into concrete actions through joint efforts by all stakeholders. One panellist outlined operational follow-up initiatives to the Sevilla Commitment, such as the Global Hub for Debt Swaps for Development and a borrowers' platform.

49. All panellists expressed support for establishing the borrowers' platform. Some panellists said the platform would fill a critical gap in the current international financial architecture. They emphasized that the borrowers' platform could enable countries in similar situations to share experiences of navigating difficulties and accessing technical assistance on complex issues such as debt swaps. Another panellist noted that realizing the potential of the platform would require borrower countries to define the platform's key elements. Several panellists expressed support for the role of UNCTAD as the secretariat of the platform.

50. Several panellists emphasized collaboration among developing countries in addressing shared debt challenges. One panellist further highlighted the need for greater technical assistance to help borrowing countries navigate complex sovereign debt tools; the borrowers' platform would be a key solution.

51. Some panellists presented the perspective of the global North on the current debt crisis in the developing world. One panellist cited examples of how creditor countries could assume responsibility, such as the debt pause clause that Spain had adopted in its lending to low- and middle-income countries, which had helped create fiscal space to respond to external shocks. Another panellist said that the borrowers' platform would complement creditor interests by enhancing debt management capacity and benefiting all parties involved. The platform could serve to engage with various stakeholders when needed, including creditors.

52. Several panellists shared concrete suggestions to strengthen cooperation among developing countries and track progress on the implementation of the Sevilla Commitment, by institutionalizing follow-up initiatives, and endorsed the key role of UNCTAD in turning the commitments to those initiatives into action and in supporting the borrowers' platform.

### *Making the digital economy inclusive and sustainable through cooperation*

53. The Secretary-General of UNCTAD emphasized the rapidly growing digital economy and its potential for inclusive development. Many digital divides persisted, requiring connectivity, skills and enabling digital infrastructures. Collective action was needed to bridge those divides through infrastructure investment, capacity-building and policy reform.

54. A first panel discussed the challenges of rapid digitalization with regard to inclusion and sustainable outcomes. Several panellists shared national strategies on advancing digital transformation.

55. One panellist underscored the need for coherent frameworks on cybersecurity, data privacy and governance, to reduce fragmentation and compliance costs. He stressed the importance of aligning foreign, domestic and trade-related policies and maintaining the World Trade Organization moratorium on customs duties on electronic transmissions.

56. Another panellist outlined the digital vision for 2045 of Indonesia, involving infrastructure, investment, regulation, inclusion and skills for microenterprises and small and medium-sized enterprises. He highlighted collaboration with UNCTAD on an e-trade readiness assessment, which served to guide investment and reforms.

57. Another panellist emphasized universal connectivity, skills and trusted digital services. She underscored the importance of partnerships of equals among Governments, the private sector and civil society, and engagement in United Nations forums.

58. Several panellists underlined that, while digitalization offered new opportunities, gaps in connectivity, skills, governance and environmental impact risks were widening inequalities. The panel identified as priority development of interoperable and trusted data governance frameworks; investment in public digital infrastructure; strengthening of digital literacy and skills for citizens and businesses; and alignment and measurement of the national and international impacts of digital and trade policies, to foster inclusive growth.

59. A second panel examined the forms of global cooperation and support most urgently needed to ensure that digitalization served to advance inclusive and sustainable development for developing countries.

60. One panellist explained how streamlined digital platforms and one-stop business hubs could empower small and medium-sized enterprises to access services efficiently. Investments in infrastructure and emerging technologies, along with partnerships with international organizations, were key. Another panellist concurred, specifying areas such as high-performance computing, data centres, rural connectivity solutions critical for artificial intelligence readiness and a broader digital transformation. Drawing on national experiences, he emphasized international support as essential to advancing policies in regulation, digital payments, taxation and digital trade. Another panellist added that technology parks were critical. Partnerships with international organizations, including UNCTAD, were also instrumental to sharing best practices, accelerating knowledge transfer and fostering collaboration that advanced digital economy projects and investment.

61. One panellist said that international support was key in strengthening the capacity of local digital entrepreneurs, particularly at early stages of growth. She noted donor contributions and the UNCTAD e-trade for women initiative in relation to empowering women digital entrepreneurs.

62. Several panellists underscored the importance of strengthening regulatory and policy frameworks for an inclusive and secure digital transformation. All panellists identified as essential the establishment of common global standards for digital trade, fostering of international cooperation for inclusive participation in the global digital economy and support to scale to local businesses, including women entrepreneurs, to enhance competitiveness globally.

*Towards resilient, sustainable and inclusive supply chains and trade logistics*

63. The Secretary-General of UNCTAD emphasized that disruptions of supply chains disproportionately impacted landlocked developing countries, the least developed countries and small island developing States. Promoting resilient supply chains for development, involving transitions to a low-carbon path, digital systems and resilient, inclusive trade networks, should be just and equitable. Climate-resilient ports, transit transport corridors, trade facilitation, infrastructure investment, training and enabling regulatory frameworks were necessary. She announced the second UNCTAD Global Supply Chain Forum, to be held in Saudi Arabia in 2026.

64. The round table focused on key challenges, potential solutions and opportunities, as well as policy priorities for enhancing supply-chain resilience and sustainability in developing countries. One panellist highlighted that small island developing States were vulnerable to supply-chain disruptions, high shipping costs and import dependence. In addition to external assistance, developing countries needed national resilience strategies built on a national vision. Modernization of infrastructure, digitalization, customs reforms, South–South cooperation and investment promotion were essential to transform vulnerabilities into opportunities.

65. Another panellist pointed to the unique challenges arising from the geography of Lesotho, as a landlocked developing country and least developed country. Transit trade involved delays, elevated costs and regulatory unpredictability at the border. Coordinated efforts between landlocked developing countries and transit countries were critical, as were trade facilitation, transit agreements and having a corridor to the sea.

66. One panellist detailed how Algeria was strengthening transport and logistics, bearing in mind continental economic integration and Agenda 2063, and aimed to link ports to other countries in Africa, particularly landlocked countries, as well as to Europe and the Persian Gulf. He noted that regional cooperation, multimodal transportation and infrastructure investment were key. Another panellist added that stakeholder collaboration, including microenterprises and small and medium-sized enterprises, was critical for resilient, digitally enabled and sustainable supply chains. Another panellist highlighted that resilient logistics, infrastructure investment, digitalization, multimodal transport and risk management were essential, along with modernizing infrastructure, digital trade and logistics platforms, public–private collaboration, advanced technologies and proactive risk preparedness.

67. One panellist stressed that, in the face of climate change-related disruptions to Panama Canal operations, Panama had enhanced climate adaptation through response measures not solely dependent on infrastructure. Resilient logistics required long-term planning, adaptation and technology; capacity-building, climate resilience and sustainable resource management were essential. The 2024 UNCTAD Global Supply Chain Forum had provided insights on logistical and maritime improvements and digitalization for the Canal and its positioning as a global trade artery.

68. Another panellist emphasized that, in Angola, connectivity and logistics were strategic priorities, including in boosting intra-African trade. Acceleration of corridor development and governance were also important. He stated that digitalization was critical in accelerating processes, along with sustainability efforts, including sustainable financing.

69. Another panellist said the experience in India underscored the need for resilient, self-reliant supply chains. Infrastructure development was critical, to support both logistics and local industry. Strengthening transport networks and ensuring resilience and reliability in both domestic and international supply chains were important. Trusted international partnerships should be prioritized over cost alone. Cooperation and collaboration, together with the sharing of digital solutions, including for payment systems, and of best practices could help improve efficiency and cut costs.

70. All panellists noted that supply-chain disruptions, disproportionately impacting the most vulnerable countries, were increasingly frequent, making sustainability, resilience and risk management critical. Cross-cutting priority areas included infrastructure development; investment and modernization across modes, networks and corridors; innovation; digitalization; collaboration; and capacity-building.

#### *Harnessing artificial intelligence for inclusive and sustainable development*

71. The Secretary-General of UNCTAD emphasized the potential of artificial intelligence to support development. Its impact depended on the choices made regarding investment and governance and on whose voices shaped the rules. Countries needed comprehensive strategies focused on improving infrastructure, data and skills. She highlighted the importance of global cooperation on artificial intelligence and data governance to promote accountability and the role of shared digital facilities in bridging digital divides.

72. A first panel considered the experiences of different countries with artificial intelligence. One panellist outlined how artificial intelligence would influence countries' development paths directly and indirectly. Direct impacts included sector-specific applications, as exemplified by healthcare facilities in Brazil enabled by artificial intelligence. Indirectly, artificial intelligence drove demand for digital infrastructure and electricity that should align with sustainability and environmental goals. He called for moving beyond simple Internet access and focusing rather on connectivity suitable for artificial intelligence operations. Developing countries also often lacked governance frameworks, specifically legislation and enforcement mechanisms.

73. Another panellist stressed that artificial intelligence could act as a catalyst for development only if it was paired with initiatives that promoted access and equity. Countries should foster artificial intelligence skills for individuals. Use of artificial intelligence for agriculture and resource mobilization, including through more effective public revenue collection, could aid development in the least developed countries.

74. One panellist noted that realizing the potential of artificial intelligence to enhance development required strengthening infrastructure, institutions and interoperable governance frameworks, as well as capacity-building for inclusive development. Another panellist highlighted the transformative power of artificial intelligence. Developing countries could no longer compete solely based on low-cost labour and should instead prioritize building human capital and workforce proficiency.

75. A second panel focused on artificial intelligence opportunities and governance. One panellist underscored that artificial intelligence could cause job displacement but also provide opportunities for growth and the creation of new jobs. She highlighted the critical need for financing efforts and large-scale skills training. Both global and regional cooperation were essential to harmonize country approaches to artificial intelligence and collectively seize its benefits.

76. Another panellist stressed that a trustworthy, human-centric approach was required to realize the potential of artificial intelligence to enhance governance and efficiency across sectors. She underlined the need for data management and skills initiatives grounded in the principles of security and ethics. Another panellist highlighted the urgent need for investment in digital infrastructure and skills development in developing countries. The greatest benefits of artificial intelligence arose from its application in specific sectors, which required skills development and international standards to lower technology costs. He encouraged countries to seek support from United Nations agencies and emphasized the importance of national policies on artificial intelligence.

77. The last panellist called for a shift from the traditional consumer–producer model to one based on the prioritization of human resources and capital as drivers of development. He noted that ethics should be considered essential for ensuring equitable sharing of the benefits of progress.

78. Overall, many panellists highlighted the potential of artificial intelligence to boost development, as artificial intelligence could transform healthcare, agriculture and public administration. Realizing that potential required national strategies focused on infrastructure, data and skills. They also emphasized the importance of global cooperation as a means to promote accountability, ethics and trust, as well as of human-centred capacity-building initiatives.

#### *Regionalism in a time of uncertainty*

79. The Secretary-General of UNCTAD emphasized the growing importance of regional integration and South–South cooperation on trade in addressing uncertainty in international trade. Unilateral trade actions were becoming more frequent, creating an unpredictability that disproportionately affected developing countries. Regional trade offered proximity, predictability and a practical path forward. Unlike exclusive regional blocs, the pragmatic approach of “open regionalism” fostered international integration while remaining inclusive of non-regional partners. She reaffirmed the commitment of UNCTAD to supporting regional integration efforts that promoted sustainable development and inclusive growth.

80. A first panel considered the growing relevance of open regionalism in the current volatile trade landscape and how regional integration and South–South partnerships served as both a buffer against global uncertainty and a stepping stone towards broader multilateral engagement. Focusing on open regionalism as a strategic response to unpredictability in trade, the panellists agreed that closer regional cooperation could help mitigate the challenges of global trade and shared insights and experiences.

81. One panellist highlighted benefits of open regionalism through an extensive network of free trade agreements that had significantly boosted competitiveness and innovation in Morocco. Another panellist emphasized the importance of open regionalism for landlocked developing countries. He explained that regional cooperation enabled the creation of strategic trade corridors, energy partnerships, digital initiatives and trade zones, contributing to a more predictable investment climate. Another panellist emphasized the role of open regionalism in ensuring a smooth transition and reducing unpredictability related to trade in view of the upcoming graduation of Cambodia from the least developed country category.

82. Panellists also addressed challenges in regional integration, particularly in promoting inclusive and sustainable development. One panellist called for a re-evaluation of trade rules, particularly in services, to better reflect the evolving global economy. Another panellist highlighted the importance of investing in human capital, advancing digitalization, support for energy transitions and improvements in transport connectivity. Another panellist advocated gradual liberalization, with built-in flexibilities and longer transition periods. She also stressed the need for capacity-building and technical assistance.

83. A second panel explored how regional integration could serve as a foundation for multilateralism, and how to ensure that regionalism complemented and reinforced multilateral efforts and contributed to sustainable development.

84. The panellists agreed that open regionalism complemented the multilateral trading system and facilitated the participation of developing countries in global trade. One panellist described regional cooperation as a bridge to multilateralism and a way to overcome geographical constraints, such as being a landlocked country. Some panellists emphasized that active engagement in regional integration strengthened their negotiating positions in multilateral forums, including the process of accession to the World Trade Organization. The panellists also stressed the importance of broadening the scope of regional trade agreements to support inclusive and sustainable development. The moderator noted the discussions had helped identify where UNCTAD could concentrate its efforts in support of member States through technical assistance, policy analysis and capacity development.

#### *Reimagining trade: A broader path to development*

85. The Secretary-General of UNCTAD said that trade remained a fundamental driver of development, particularly for small and vulnerable economies, noting the increasing pressure of policy uncertainty, volatile tariffs and declining predictability of the global trading environment. She emphasized the resilience of the system, with robust growth in services and South–South trade, even as participation by the least developed countries in global trade remained limited. Reimagining trade should involve a commitment to reform grounded in common, predictable and fair rules. She stressed special and differential treatment that met the needs of developing countries and that emerging sustainability and digital standards should not become de facto trade barriers.

86. A first panel considered the main challenges in achieving the potential to benefit from and contribute to a sustainable world and how the international trading system could be strengthened to support sustainable development.

87. One panellist noted that, despite rich natural resources, economic progress in the Democratic Republic of the Congo remained constrained by dependence on extractive industries. He noted the need for diversification into other sectors, including agriculture, and significant infrastructure investment. Another panellist recognized the importance of human capital investment in Nepal, as a landlocked developing country, to develop the

local economy and international trade. Regional integration and participation in global trade were equally essential pathways towards achieving sustainable development.

88. One panellist reaffirmed her country's commitment to multilateralism and to reforming the global trading system consistent with ecological and digital transitions. An integrated approach was needed across the Sustainable Development Goals and for institutions that promoted accountability, efficiency and regional cooperation. Another panellist shared lessons on sustained growth, crediting openness and a rules-based system. Noting the need for World Trade Organization reform and renewed regional cooperation, he said the erosion of trade rules and unchecked competition could harm all economies.

89. A second panel considered how national trade policies could support development and inclusivity, opportunities with regard to trade in services and how uncertainty in the global trading system impacted the use of national trade policies for development.

90. One panellist outlined efforts of Jamaica to expand the digital services sector and reduce economic vulnerability through infrastructure development, entrepreneurship support and modernization of logistics and customs systems. Another panellist noted that the challenges facing the multilateral trading system and self-interested reforms of major economies discouraged investment in the least developed countries. He described efforts in Mozambique to diversify into tourism, energy and communications, supported by training and UNCTAD technical assistance.

91. Another panellist emphasized the need to integrate sustainability into trade agreements to foster resilient, technology-enabled value chains. Transparent data-sharing, empowerment of small and medium-sized enterprises and public-private partnerships were essential to inclusive growth and job creation. Another panellist outlined a strategy for Bangladesh focused on trade liberalization, logistics improvement and diversification. He discussed challenges related to graduation from the least developed country category, including higher financing costs, loss of preferential access and increasing non-tariff barriers.

92. Another panellist emphasized that diversification beyond raw materials remained a priority. As a landlocked country, Kazakhstan continued to face significant transit-related constraints. Membership in the World Trade Organization had strengthened predictability, competitiveness, standards and market access.

93. The panellists said UNCTAD should guide reforms that strengthened inclusivity, sustainability and predictability in the multilateral trading system. Achieving development through trade required solidarity, investment in people and a balance between global rules and local realities.

*Strategic priorities and emerging directions for investment and entrepreneurship policy*

94. The Secretary-General of UNCTAD highlighted the continued decline in global investment flows, particularly in sectors vital to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. While global trade and the economy had shown resilience, they remained unstable, underscoring the urgent need to direct investment towards the countries most in need. Artificial intelligence had the potential to attract new investment but building national capacities was important to fully benefit from emerging technologies. Coherent policy frameworks that leveraged current economic and technological trends were needed, while addressing persistent barriers and inequalities.

95. A first panel considered the topic from the perspective of different countries. The panellists highlighted common priorities, including restoring trust and stability as foundations for investment, and called for predictable policies, clear regulations and stronger multilateral cooperation. With reference to *World Investment Reports*, the panellists highlighted knowledge-sharing and capacity-building as essential to support developing countries in designing effective investment frameworks. In that regard, UNCTAD was a key partner in providing technical assistance and a repository of best practices.

96. The panellists further agreed on the importance of investment facilitation to improved efficiency and inclusiveness, including through the development of digital

platforms. Tools such as one-stop-shops and electronic business registration and licensing platforms were critical for enabling entrepreneurship and international competitiveness.

97. Each panellist focused on the experiences of his or her country, from a diversification strategy focused on innovation, job creation, small domestic business support and digital transformation, to an approach based on aid, trade and investment, to a clear government vision, enabling regulatory environment, public–private dialogue and data-driven policymaking, as well as attracting high-quality investment and the role of investment promotion and facilitation, innovation, entrepreneurship and public–private partnerships.

98. Panellists called on UNCTAD to further strengthen technical assistance activities, particularly building capacity for investment and entrepreneurship, support to small and medium-sized enterprises and women-owned businesses and fostering of inclusive, sustainable growth built on trust, technology and collaboration.

99. A second panel focused on panellists sharing the approaches to reform of their countries, in terms of scaling up investment and entrepreneurship. All panellists underlined that sustainable investment should be built on credible governance and a shared national vision, with policies that turned sustainability into a driver of competitiveness.

100. Several panellists highlighted placing sustainability at the core of national development strategies and in investment and enterprise development policies. They discussed the use of performance-based investment incentives being linked to job creation, value addition and skills development and sector-specific incentives in key sectors, including those related to energy and digital transitions. Investment and entrepreneurship development policies should foster inclusion and target youth and women.

101. Another panellist emphasized that countries facing structural disadvantages required smart investment policies that built investor trust and credibility. He underlined the importance of leveraging the diaspora through digital tools. Another panellist noted that fundamentals, such as a sound business environment, transparent institutions and efficient public services, were essential to attract and retain investment.

102. The panellists agreed on the importance of coherent policies, innovation, trust and multilateral cooperation to mobilize investment and entrepreneurship for sustainable development. They underscored the continued role of UNCTAD as a platform for dialogue and policy support on investment for development.

### **III. Organizational, procedural and other matters**

#### **A. Opening of the Conference**

(Agenda item 1)

103. The inaugural ceremony of the sixteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development was held on 20 October 2025 at the Palais des Nations in Geneva. Opening statements were made by Ms. Mia Mottley, Prime Minister of Barbados;<sup>4</sup> Mr. Guy Parmelin, Federal Councillor of Switzerland; Mr. José Ramos-Horta, President of Timor-Leste;<sup>4</sup> Mr. Phạm Minh Chính, Prime Minister of Viet Nam;<sup>4</sup> Ms. Annalena Baerbock, President, eightieth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations;<sup>4</sup> Ms. Tatiana Valovaya, Director-General, United Nations Office at Geneva; and Ms. Rebeca Grynspan, Secretary-General of UNCTAD.

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<sup>4</sup> Video statement.

**B. Election of the President**

(Agenda item 2)

104. At its 308th (opening) plenary meeting, on 20 October 2025, the Conference elected by acclamation as its President Mr. Guy Parmelin, Federal Councillor of Switzerland. His name was put into nomination by Ms. Sandra V. Husbands, Minister of Training and Tertiary Education of the Government of Barbados, speaking on behalf of the President of the fifteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in 2021.

**C. Establishment of sessional bodies**

(Agenda item 3)

105. At the same meeting, the Conference decided to establish a Committee of the Whole to consider and report on the specific substantive item referred to it by the plenary (agenda item 8). It was recalled that, in line with rule 63 of the rules of procedure, the Committee of the Whole could set up such drafting groups as might be required to carry out its functions.

**D. Election of Vice-Presidents and the Rapporteur**

(Agenda item 4)

106. Also at its 308th (opening) plenary meeting, on 20 October 2025, the Conference decided that its Bureau would consist of 35 members, comprising the President, the Vice-Presidents, the Chair of the Committee of the Whole and the Rapporteur of the Conference. It further decided that the composition of the Bureau should be such as to ensure equitable geographical distribution, namely seven members from Africa, seven from Asia, seven from Latin America and the Caribbean, nine from Group B, four from Group D and one from China.

107. The following officers were elected:

**Chair of the Committee of the Whole:**

Mr. Paul Bekkers Netherlands (Kingdom of the)

**Vice-Presidents:**

Ms. Hasmik Tolmajian	Armenia
Mr. Galib Israfilov	Azerbaijan
Mr. Matthew Anthony Wilson	Barbados
Mr. Philip Foy-Drummond Gough	Brazil
Ms. Sofía Boza	Chile
Ms. Deborah Rivas Saavedra	Cuba
Mr. César Sánchez-Icaza	Ecuador
Ms. Heidi Schroderus-Fox	Finland
Mr. Muhammadou M.O. Kah	Gambia
Ms. Zsófia Havasi	Hungary
Mr. Achsanul Habib	Indonesia
Ms. Kamina Johnson Smith	Jamaica
Mr. Anil Kumar Sinha	Nepal
Mr. Julio Moltó	Panama
Mr. Andrei Rusu	Romania
Mr. Ibrahim Khraishi	State of Palestine

**Rapporteur:**

Mr. Luis Juan Chuquihuara Chil                      Peru

108. In accordance with past practice, the Conference decided that the coordinators of regional groups and chairs of subsidiary bodies would be fully associated with the work of the Bureau.

**E. Credentials of representatives to the Conference**

(Agenda item 5)

**(a) Appointment of the Credentials Committee**

109. Also at its opening plenary meeting, and in accordance with rule 14 of the rules of procedure, the Conference established a Credentials Committee consisting of nine members. In accordance with past practice, the Committee was to be composed of the same nine States as appointed by the General Assembly to serve on the Credentials Committee at its most recent (eightieth) session. The composition of the Credentials Committee was thus as follows: Andorra, Botswana, China, the Dominican Republic, Lesotho, Malaysia, the Russian Federation and Trinidad and Tobago.

**(b) Report of the Credentials Committee**

110. At its 321st (closing) plenary meeting, on 12 October 2025, the Conference approved the report of the Credentials Committee, as contained in document TD/549.

**F. Adoption of the agenda**

(Agenda item 6)

111. At its opening plenary meeting, the Conference adopted the provisional agenda for its sixteenth session, as contained in document TD/542 (see annex I).

**G. General debate**

(Agenda item 7)

112. In the course of the general debate, conducted at the 311th, 314th, 315th, 318th, 319th and 320th plenary meetings, statements were made by, or on behalf of, 116 member States, one United Nations office, six intergovernmental organizations, ten regional groups, one group of countries and four non-governmental organizations. Statements and archived videos of the general debate can be found at <https://unctad.org/unctad16>.

**H. Shaping the future: Driving economic transformation for equitable, inclusive and sustainable development**

(Agenda item 8)

**Committee of the Whole**

113. The Committee of the Whole met throughout the sixteenth session of the Conference, to continue the task of completing the negotiations under agenda item 8, in formal plenary meetings and various informal meetings and consultations, until the final closing plenary meeting of the Conference. The Chair of the Committee of the Whole, reporting at the closing plenary meeting of the Conference, on 23 October 2025, stated that the Committee had reached consensus on the negotiated text and approved it at its final formal plenary meeting. The Chair thus recommended that the draft Geneva Consensus be transmitted to the plenary of the Conference for formal adoption.

**I. Other business**

(Agenda item 9)

**(a) Periodic review by the Conference of the lists of States contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX)**

114. At its 321st (closing) plenary meeting, on 23 October 2025, the Conference endorsed the lists of States, as contained in document TD/B/INF.261 (see annex V).

**(b) Report of the Trade and Development Board to the Conference**

115. Also at its closing plenary meeting, the Conference took note of the report of the Trade and Development Board to the Conference, as contained in document TD/543.

**(c) Financial implications of the actions of the Conference**

116. Also at its closing plenary meeting, on 23 October 2025, the Secretary-General of UNCTAD underscored that the Conference had taken place in the context of the UN80 Initiative and reform and the proposed 20 per cent reduction in costs. She confirmed that UNCTAD took delivery of the commitments in the outcome document seriously and that the secretariat would mobilize all existing and available resources to achieve them. The current situation meant, though, that the institution would need flexibility and time to assess and map the final requirements of the outcome document. Once the process of the UN80 Initiative had run its course, her intention was to present any resource requirement proposals for the consideration of the member States in the framework of the 2028 programme budget.

**J. Adoption of the report of the Conference to the General Assembly**

(Agenda item 10)

117. At its 321st (closing) plenary meeting, on 23 October 2025, the Conference adopted its report to the General Assembly on the understanding that it would be finalized, under the authority of the Rapporteur, taking into account the proceedings of the closing plenary meeting. The Geneva Consensus for a just and sustainable economic order: Political declaration and the Geneva Consensus are published as addenda (TD/561/Add.1 and TD/561/Add.2, respectively) to the present report and considered integral parts of it.

**K. Expression of Gratitude to the Government and People of the Swiss Confederation**

118. Also at its closing plenary meeting, the Conference adopted by acclamation an expression of gratitude to the Government and people of the Swiss Confederation, as presented in document TD/544.

**L. Closing plenary meeting**

119. At the 321st (closing) plenary meeting of the sixteenth session of the Conference, many delegations expressed their appreciation of the Conference and the outcome. Many delegations made statements of position (see annex II).

120. Also at the closing plenary meeting, the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations announced that the Sevilla Forum on Debt had been launched as a key legacy of the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development.

## **Annex I**

### **Agenda of the sixteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development**

1. Opening of the Conference.
2. Election of the President.
3. Establishment of sessional bodies.
4. Election of Vice-Presidents and the Rapporteur.
5. Credentials of representatives to the Conference:
  - (a) Appointment of the Credentials Committee;
  - (b) Report of the Credentials Committee.
6. Adoption of the agenda.
7. General debate.
8. Shaping the future: Driving economic transformation for equitable, inclusive and sustainable development.
9. Other business:
  - (a) Periodic review by the Conference of the lists of States contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX);
  - (b) Report of the Trade and Development Board to the Conference;
  - (c) Financial implications of the actions of the Conference.
10. Adoption of the report of the Conference to the General Assembly.

## Annex II

### Statements of position

The statements contained in the present annex are reproduced, in the order in which they were made at the closing plenary meeting, on 23 October 2025, of the sixteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, at the request of the corresponding member States. All statements are unedited reproductions presented in the language in which they were received or delivered.

[English/Russian/Spanish only]

#### A. Colombia<sup>5</sup>

##### Misión Permanente de Colombia ante las Naciones Unidas en Ginebra

I-DCHONU-334-25

La Misión Permanente de Colombia ante las Naciones Unidas y otros Organismos Internacionales en Ginebra presenta sus atentos saludos a la Honorable Secretaría General de la ONU Comercio y Desarrollo (UNCTAD) con ocasión de referirse a la adopción del documento final de la Decimosexta Reunión de la Conferencia de las Naciones Unidas sobre Comercio y Desarrollo (UNCTAD 16).

Sobre el particular, esta Misión desea comunicar las consideraciones sobre la última cláusula del párrafo 45 BIS (d) a saber: “(...) and noting their interest and commitment to develop a dedicated work programme on LLDCs under the UNFCCC”.

Colombia reconoce Los desafíos particulares de desarrollo y comercio que enfrentan Los Países en Desarrollo sin Litoral (LLDCs, por sus siglas en inglés), especialmente en lo relacionado con la logística, el acceso a los mercados y la conectividad digital. Sin embargo, en el marco de la Convención Marco de las Naciones Unidas sobre el Cambio Climático (CMNUCC) y del Acuerdo de París, los criterios para el otorgamiento de apoyo y cooperación diferenciada se basan en la vulnerabilidad frente a los efectos adversos del cambio climático, y no en condiciones geográficas o comerciales. La clasificación de los LLDCs, si bien es relevante en el contexto del desarrollo y el comercio internacional, no constituye un criterio de vulnerabilidad climática conforme a La Convención.

De igual forma, Colombia considera que la propuesta de incluir los LLDCs entre los grupos de especial vulnerabilidad al cambio climático es un asunto altamente sensible. Las referencias a categorías específicas de países en desarrollo —como Los Países Menos Adelantados (LDCs) y Los Pequeños Estados Insulares en Desarrollo (SIDS)—fueron el resultado de complejos compromisos políticos alcanzados tras largos años de negociación. Introducir nuevas categorías o ampliar las ya existentes podría sentar un precedente problemático, reabriendo debates delicados que hasta ahora se han mantenido cuidadosamente equilibrados en el marco de la Convención y el Acuerdo de París.

Colombia estima que la creación de nuevas subcategorías dentro del grupo de países en desarrollo puede fragmentar la unidad del Sur Global y debilitar los esfuerzos colectivos. La vulnerabilidad frente al cambio climático debe abordarse desde un enfoque de solidaridad, cooperación e inclusión, reconociendo la diversidad de realidades nacionales sin establecer jerarquías o divisiones artificiales entre países que comparten desafíos estructurales comunes.

Colombia, como país en desarrollo que contribuye mínimamente a las emisiones globales, enfrenta impactos desproporcionados del cambio climático. Subrayamos que el camino más constructivo no consiste en ampliar listas de grupos, sino en fortalecer los

<sup>5</sup> Submitted on 24 October 2025. See TD/561/Add.2; para. 45 bis (d) renumbered as para. 80.73.

mecanismos de cooperación y apoyo internacional de manera inclusiva y equitativa. Este enfoque permitirá que todos los países en desarrollo refuercen su resiliencia, implementen compromisos ambiciosos y alcancen un desarrollo sostenible en consonancia con los objetivos de la Convención y del Acuerdo de París.

Asimismo, Colombia recuerda que la creación de nuevos órganos o programas de trabajo conlleva implicaciones financieras y operativas significativas, en un contexto de recursos limitados dentro del sistema multilateral. Por ello, considera esencial priorizar el uso eficiente de los mecanismos ya existentes antes de establecer nuevas estructuras institucionales.

Por último, esta misión agradece a la Secretaría General de la UNCTAD que quede registro en el acta de las sesiones de la UNCTAD 16 la reserva hecha por Colombia, así como sus consideraciones al respecto.

La Misión Permanente de Colombia ante las Naciones Unidas y otros Organismos Internacionales en Ginebra se vale de la ocasión para reiterar a la Honorable Secretaría General de la ONU Comercio y Desarrollo (UNCTAD) las seguridades de su más alta y distinguida consideración.

Ginebra, 24 de octubre de 2025

## **B. Japan<sup>6</sup>**

Thank you, Mr. President. While Japan also joined the conference, Japan would like to reserve a position on the new text 42 (a) bis. I'm sorry, 42 bis (a). In particular, the reference to "and in accordance with applicable international agreements" for the reason that the proposal came very late. It is impossible for us to consult with capital. This paragraph is without prejudice to Japan's position [in] other international bodies, including in the UN. I will submit this in writing. So, I would request the secretariat to record my position.

Thank you.

## **C. Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Group of Friends in Defence of the Charter of the United Nations<sup>7</sup>**

Gracias, Presidente. Venezuela toma la palabra en nombre del Grupo de Amigos en Defensa de la Carta de las Naciones Unidas.

El Grupo de Amigos en Defensa de la Carta de la ONU reunido en ocasión del 16° período de sesiones de la Conferencia de la UNCTAS reafirma su firme compromiso con los principios y propósitos de la Carta de la ONU y con un orden internacional basado en el respeto al derecho internacional y el multilateralismo.

Subrayamos el papel fundamental de la UNCTAD como el foro principal de la ONU para el tratamiento integrado del comercio y el desarrollo y reconocemos su contribución esencial como plataforma para que los países en desarrollo articulen sus inquietudes y promuevan sus intereses.

Expresamos nuestra profunda preocupación por la creciente aplicación de medidas coercitivas unilaterales que constituyen una violación flagrante del derecho internacional y de la Carta de las Naciones Unidas.

El Grupo de Amigos en Defensa de la Carta de la Carta acoge el texto convenido en el entendimiento de que, si bien no se incorpora un párrafo operativo específico sobre las medidas coercitivas unilaterales, existe un compromiso de esta Conferencia para que el diálogo entre los Estados miembros sobre este tema siga su curso.

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<sup>6</sup> As delivered on 23 October 2025. See TD/561/Add.2; para. 42 bis (a) renumbered as para. 80.41.

<sup>7</sup> As delivered on 23 October 2025.

Confiamos en que la Conferencia seguirá asumiendo un papel cada vez más significativo sobre la materia.

Solicitamos, señor Presidente, que esta interpretación sobre lo acordado respecto a las medidas coercitivas unilaterales quede formalmente reflejada en el registro oficial de las sesiones.

Muchas gracias, Presidente.

#### **D. Argentina<sup>8</sup>**

Gracias, señor Presidente.

La Argentina agradece los esfuerzos de los facilitadores y la secretaría por el trabajo constructivo a lo largo de todo el proceso de negociación.

Sin embargo, y como ya lo expresáramos, nos hemos dissociado de los documentos finales de la Conferencia por considerar que no reflejan de manera equilibrada las prioridades y preocupaciones de nuestro país relacionadas con la necesidad de avanzar hacia una modernización efectiva del comercio internacional y de evitar nuevas distorsiones o medidas restrictivas que erosionen el crecimiento económico.

Asimismo, la Argentina no comparte las referencias específicas al cambio climático a la Agenda 2030 y sus objetivos de desarrollo sostenible que constituyen objetivos de carácter aspiracional y no compromisos jurídicamente vinculantes.

Asimismo, no comparte el contratamiento que el texto otorga a los conflictos regionales y el enfoque respecto de las sanciones unilaterales.

Por último, Argentina considera como una oportunidad perdida que el documento adoptado exceda el mandato de la UNTAD, desviándose de su propósito técnico y de su enfoque en el comercio y el desarrollo.

Gracias, señor Presidente.

#### **E. Cuba<sup>9</sup>**

Gracias, Presidente.

La delegación cubana quisiera agradecer a la presidencia, a los facilitadores, la secretaría y a las delegaciones los sinceros e intensos esfuerzos realizados para lograr una exitosa Conferencia.

La delegación cubana ha participado de manera activa y constructiva en este proceso.

Hemos contribuido con las mesas redondas, compartiendo nuestras experiencias en las consultas sobre el documento final.

Hemos aportado nuestras propuestas tomando en cuenta, al mismo tiempo, las de otras delegaciones.

El documento final que ha sido acordado está muy lejos de ser perfecto.

Tiene insuficiencias y limitaciones, pero consideramos que el balance final es positivo.

La UNCTAD cuenta con un documento de consenso que guiará el trabajo de la organización en los próximos años.

En lo que se refiere a la cuestión de las medidas coercitivas unilaterales, la delegación cubana ha aceptado el lenguaje en el entendido de que, aun cuando no se incluyó un párrafo operativo sobre el tema, estamos hasta un proceso en curso en el

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<sup>8</sup> As delivered on 23 October 2025.

<sup>9</sup> As delivered on 23 October 2025.

contexto del cual continuará el diálogo sobre la importante cuestión de las medidas coercitivas unilaterales entre los Estados miembros.

Esperamos que, como resultado de este diálogo, la UNCTAD pueda desempeñar un papel cada vez más relevante en esta materia.

Solicitamos, señor Presidente, que nuestro entendido sobre el acuerdo alcanzado respecto a las medidas coercitivas unilaterales quede debidamente registrado en las actas de esta Conferencia.

Muchas gracias.

## **F. Iran (Islamic Republic of)<sup>10</sup>**

### **Islamic Republic of Iran**

#### **Statement by H.E. Mr. Ali BAHREINI, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the UN offices and other international Organizations in Geneva**

#### **Reservation – UNCTAD 16**

Geneva, Thursday 23 October 2025

Mr. President,  
Madam Secretary-General,  
Excellencies,  
Distinguished Delegates,

At the outset, I wish to express our sincere appreciation to you, Mr. Bolinger, as President of the meeting and Mr. Paul Bekker, Chair of the Prep com for their able leadership. We also extend our gratitude to the Friends of the Chairs for their tireless efforts and constructive engagement throughout this process.

Our delegation further wishes to thank the people and the Government of Switzerland for their warm hospitality and for graciously hosting this important Conference, as well as for all the efforts made to facilitate the work of UNCTAD 16. We also wish to acknowledge the professionalism and dedication of the UNCTAD Secretariat, and to express our appreciation to the Group of 77 and China, along with other coordinators, for their valuable contributions during the negotiations.

Mr. President,

While joining the consensus on the outcome document, the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran wishes to place the following points on record:

On Commitments:

The Islamic Republic of Iran reiterates that it has no commitment to any instruments or agreements or others referred to in the outcome document of UNCTAD 16 to which it is not a party, including the Paris Agreement. Our support for the consensus is extended solely in the spirit of cooperation and should not, under any circumstances, be interpreted as acceptance of obligations arising from such instruments. Furthermore, wherever the outcome documents make reference to “Agenda 2030” it is meant as per to our viewpoints the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development-as adopted by the United Nations General Assembly.

On Substantive Issues – Unilateral Coercive Measures (UCMs):

We deeply regret that the important issue of Unilateral Coercive Measures — which was duly reflected in the preambular section of the previous two UNCTAD Conferences — has not received the attention it rightfully deserves in this Conference. The Islamic Republic of Iran had expected UNCTAD 16 to establish a clear mandate enabling the

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<sup>10</sup> Submitted on 24 October 2025.

organization to examine the implications of such measures through the lens of trade and development, which lies squarely within UNCTAD's mandate.

It is evident that UNCTAD remains the only international politico-economic platform within the United Nations system equipped to address this issue comprehensively. The omission of this matter represents a missed opportunity to foster a balanced and development-oriented dialogue.

Moreover, during the past two years, whenever requests were made within UNCTAD to undertake independent research and analysis on this issue, some groupings argued that there was no operative mandate in the outcome document to do so. Yet now, when countries—particularly those directly affected by such measures—have requested that mandate to be explicitly included in the operative paragraphs of the outcome document, the proposal has been rejected by the other side. This selective approach undermines both the credibility and the impartiality of our collective work and raises serious questions regarding the consistency of our deliberative processes.

We therefore express our strong dissatisfaction in this regard.

Mr. President,

UNCTAD must continuously revisit its vision and adapt to the rapidly evolving global challenges that shape trade and development. We hope that future deliberations will embrace a more inclusive, transparent, and forward-looking approach, fully aligned with UNCTAD's founding principles and long-standing mandate.

In this connection, the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran requests the UNCTAD Secretariat to place this statement on official record and to incorporate it in the report and other relevant documents of the Conference as part of its official proceedings.

Finally, we wish all delegations every success in their continued efforts to promote a fairer, more inclusive, and equitable global economic order.

Thank you.

## **G. Israel<sup>11</sup>**

Thank you, Chair.

The State of Israel disassociates itself from the reference related to the Palestinian cluster at UNCTAD.

## **H. Canada<sup>12</sup>**

Thank you very much.

While Canada joined consensus of this outcome document, we have an outstanding concern and wish to reserve our position on paragraph 42 bis (a), which is unclear in its intent. Canada's positions at UNCTAD are without prejudice in our positions on technology transfer in other fora at the UN and elsewhere, and Canada continues to stress the need for technology transfer to take place on voluntary, mutually agreed terms.

We request that our statement be reflected in the records.

Thank you.

<sup>11</sup> As delivered on 23 October 2025.

<sup>12</sup> As delivered on 23 October 2025.

## I. Paraguay<sup>13</sup>

### Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, Paraguay

MP-ONUG/MP/N° 104/2025

La **Misión Permanente del Paraguay ante la Oficina de las Naciones Unidas y Organismos Especializados con sede en Ginebra**, saluda muy atentamente a la **Misión Permanente del Peru ante la ONU y Otros Organismos Internacionales con sede en Ginebra**, en su calidad de Coordinador del Grupo G77 y China, con ocasión de hacer referencia a la intervención hecha en nombre del grupo en ocasión del debate general de la Conferencia UNCTAD XVI, celebrada del 20 al 23 de octubre del corriente.

Al respecto, esta Misión Permanente comunica su disociación del párrafo 14, ya que dicho párrafo contiene elementos que difieren de las posiciones de política exterior del Paraguay en los foros internacionales pertinentes.

La **Misión Permanente del Paraguay ante la Oficina de las Naciones Unidas y Organismos Especializados con sede en Ginebra**, hace propicia la ocasión para renovar a la **Misión Permanente del Peru ante la ONU y Otros Organismos Internacionales con sede en Ginebra**, las seguridades de su distinguida consideración.

Ginebra, 24 de octubre de 2025

### Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, Paraguay

VMREI/DGPE/DOEM/N.0 1134/2025

Asunción, 14 de noviembre de 2025

Señora Secretaria General:

Tengo el honor de dirigirme a Vuestra Excelencia con ocasión de referirme al «Consenso de Ginebra», adoptado en el marco del Decimosexto período de sesiones de la Conferencia de las Naciones Unidas sobre Comercio y Desarrollo (XVI UNCTAD).

Al respecto, la República del Paraguay, como país en desarrollo, valora la adopción de dicho documento, destacando el rol de la UNCTAD como organismo articulador del sistema de Naciones Unidas en el tratamiento de la intersección entre el comercio y el desarrollo.

Ante un panorama global cada vez más desafiante, para el Paraguay se torna esencial el fortalecimiento del multilateralismo y la promoción del entendimiento mutuo entre los países. Por ende, como miembro del «Grupo G77 y China», mi país ha participado de las negociaciones de manera constructiva y ha ejercido la máxima flexibilidad en aras de contribuir a la aprobación del instrumento.

El consenso logrado evidencia el compromiso del Paraguay con la unidad y la acción conjunta que conlleva la participación en el sistema multilateral, mas no implica la aquiescencia implícita de la totalidad de los temas incluidos.

Como fuera manifestado el 23 de octubre de 2025, ratificamos nuestra disociación de los párrafos 80.68 y 80.69 relativos a la cuestión palestina, y del párrafo 60 sobre medidas unilaterales coercitivas, por contener elementos que difieren de los lineamientos de política exterior del Paraguay de aquellos expresados en los foros competentes.

Además, me permito hacer las siguientes acotaciones sobre elementos incluidos en el documento que ameritan una manifestación de la posición del Paraguay:

- a. Con relación al párrafo 18 sobre el acceso a los mercados, el Paraguay entiende que no es sobre la capacidad de los países en desarrollo de administrar las

<sup>13</sup> Submitted on 24 October 2025 and on 14 November 2025. See TD/561/Add.2; para. 14 renumbered as para. 5.

medidas arancelarias y no arancelarias, sino su afectación por las mismas y su capacidad de retaliación, a lo que el párrafo se intenta referir.

- b. Respecto al párrafo 80.53 que hace referencia al cambio climático, ratificamos que los recursos a ser utilizados deben ser generados de conformidad con las obligaciones de los Estados en el ámbito de la Convención Marco de las Naciones Unidas sobre el Cambio Climático (CMNUCC) y su Acuerdo de París. Los principios de responsabilidades comunes pero diferenciadas y las capacidades respectivas, a la luz de las diferentes circunstancias nacionales y el de la justicia climática, constituyen principios irrenunciables que subyacen a los compromisos asumidos por los países en desarrollo y los desarrollados.

Hago propicia la oportunidad para renovar a Vuestra Excelencia las seguridades de mi más alta y distinguida consideración.

Embajador **Rubén Ramíríz Lezcano**  
Ministro

A Su Excelencia  
Señora **Rebecca Grynspan**  
Secretaria General  
Conferencia de las Naciones Unidas sobre Comercio y Desarrollo  
Ginebra, Confederación Suiza

## J. India<sup>14</sup>

Mr. President,  
Madam Secretary-General,  
Excellencies,  
Distinguished Delegates,

Let me first take this opportunity to thank you, the Chair, to the Chair of the Prepcom Ambassador, our very own G77 Coordinator Ambassador of Peru, all the friends of the Chair for their tireless work during the negotiations. I also take this opportunity to thank all experts and negotiators who have brought us to the conclusion of UNCTAD XVI.

I take the floor to explain India's position on the overall ministerial text, the Geneva Consensus and the approach towards this important quadrennial event. Let me share three simple ideas for UNCTAD XVI. Thoughts that weave together where we have been and where we are headed.

First, idea is about belief. Amidst gruelling trade negotiations, our Commerce and Industry Minister pauses everything to join us in Geneva. That stopover was India's quiet affirmation of faith in UNCTAD's important role. Excellencies and distinguished delegates, we have all felt the heat of the issues, eroding confidence in rules-based trade, non-market distortions, supply chain chokepoints, pressure to change special and differential treatment, unilateral green barriers, technological gaps that pull nations apart. Developing countries bear the brunt, undermining the development of trade, but as our minister put it, it is time for a reset, a new deal. Let's make sure our outcome document in the next four years reflect that, balanced progress, not agendas favouring one side over another.

Second, we are the fastest growing major economy, over 7 per cent GDP growth over the last three years. We have lifted millions from poverty, built self-reliance through self-reliant India and are willing to share our expertise in digital public infrastructure empowering almost 1.5 billion with the rest of the world. Our 1,700 global capability centres, international solar alliance, coalition for disaster resilient infrastructure, biofuels pack and services driving 55 per cent of GDP show change at scale. Half our energy comes

<sup>14</sup> As delivered on 23 October 2025.

from renewables. We are on track for 500 gigawatt by 2030. As we fulfil our Paris commitments, we reject burden-sharing. India's development journey is a template for growth. We invite developed and developing worlds alike to join, to work together, to foster mobility and mutually beneficial and balanced partnerships.

Third, we should face the future with purpose. UNCTAD's mission should be to advance trade as a development tool, sparking innovation in a shifting landscape. We are committed to global South cooperation. This has to be turned into a concrete action agenda that can provide genuine and long-lasting solutions in several areas from minerals, fertilizers and logistics to digital payments. Let us bridge divides pursuing development for all with trust and effort, viewing the world as one family.

These ideas remind us that challenges are opportunities for us to seize. Let's build that future together as India stands as a trusted partner for the world.

Thank you.

## **К. Russian Federation<sup>15</sup>**

Уважаемый господин Председатель,  
уважаемая госпожа Генеральный секретарь,  
Ваше Превосходительство,  
уважаемые делегаты,

я сделаю два заявления в национальном качестве.

Первое заявление в рамках реализации права на ответ, второе заявление интерпретирующее.

Заявление в рамках права на ответ

В своих выступлениях многие участники Конференции отмечали важность восстановления доверия в рамках многосторонней системы, призывали к совместному решению глобальных проблем, созданию равных условий для инклюзивного экономического развития.

Россия полностью разделяет эти благородные цели и готова конструктивно сотрудничать со всеми партнёрами для их достижения.

При этом не можем оставить без реакции политически ангажированные антироссийские высказывания отдельных национальных делегатов. Решительно отвергаем прозвучавшие обвинения.

К дисбалансу в мировой торговой системе, нарушению цепочек поставок, к ограничению свободного движения жизненно важной для многих развивающихся и наименее развитых стран энергетической и продовольственной продукции приводят в первую очередь различные ограничения и односторонние принудительные меры.

Россия неизменно выступает за равноправное, взаимоуважительное сотрудничество в интересах развития на основе Устава ООН и принципов многосторонности.

ЮНКТАД должен оставаться платформой для профессионального и деполитизированного обсуждения вопросов мировой торговли, инвестиций и устойчивого развития.

Интерпретирующее заявление

Россия приветствует результативное завершение министерской Конференции.

По итогам принят документ, выработка которого потребовала значительных усилий и поиска сложных компромиссов.

<sup>15</sup> As delivered on 23 October 2025.

Текст, возможно, не является идеальным во всех аспектах, однако он представляет собой приемлемый и сбалансированный результат, отражающий интересы широкого круга участников.

Итоговый документ Конференции отражает общий настрой на укрепление взаимопонимания и поиск согласованных решений в интересах устойчивого и инклюзивного развития.

Конференция вновь подтвердила, что даже по самым сложным и чувствительным вопросам государства могут находить решения и идти вперёд по пути диалога и сотрудничества.

Российская Федерация считает важным, чтобы ЮНКТАД продолжала и впредь уделять внимание изучению воздействия односторонних принудительных мер на торговлю и развитие. Эта работа имеет большое значение для укрепления глобальной устойчивости и достижения целей устойчивого развития.

Благодарю вас.

## L. Republic of Korea<sup>16</sup>

Thank you very much, Chair.

Korea also wishes to reserve our position on paragraph 42 bis (a). We are unable to obtain instructions from capital due to the late hour and last-minute insertion. In particular, the intent and effect of “and in accordance with applicable international agreements” in the paragraph is unclear. 42 bis (a) is without prejudice to Korea’s position that transfer should be voluntary and on mutually agreed terms.

Thank you.

## M. Holy See<sup>17</sup>

### **Explanation of Position of the Holy See on the Outcome Document of the 16th Ministerial Conference of the United Nations Trade and Development (UNCTAD)**

Geneva, 23 October 2025

Mr. President, Madam Secretary General,

The Holy See would like to congratulate you, Mr. President, as well as the Chair of the Committee of the Whole and the entire membership of the United Nations Trade and Development for the successful conclusion and consensual adoption of the outcome document.

The Holy See reaffirms its support for UNCTAD’s mandate and its work around its three pillars to foster a global economy that truly serves the integral development of every person and of the whole person, who is both the agent and the beneficiary of progress.

In such perspective, economic and trade policies must never lose sight of the God-given human dignity and the common good. The outcome documents of this Ministerial Conference are to be read in such perspective of a development centered on the human person. Hence, my Delegation appreciates the recognition that eradicating poverty and hunger remains the foremost global priority. Similarly, we take positive note of the inclusion of language that acknowledges migration as a contributor to sustainable development. We likewise attach particular importance to the recognition of the needs of countries in special situations. Their structural vulnerabilities and exposure to external shocks call for renewed global solidarity.

<sup>16</sup> As delivered on 23 October 2025. See TD/561/Add.2; para. 42 bis (a) renumbered as para. 80.41.

<sup>17</sup> Submitted on 23 October 2025.

On financing for development, the Holy See emphasizes that debt sustainability and development finance remain moral imperatives. In this regard, we recognize the efforts to recreate the balance achieved in the Sevilla Commitment.

Mr. President,

The Holy See reiterates its position regarding the term “gender”. The Holy See underlines that any reference to “gender” and related terms contained in the negotiated outcome document that has been adopted by this Ministerial Conference (TD(XVI)) or that will be used within or adopted by the intergovernmental machinery of UNCTAD is to be understood as grounded in the biological sexual identity that is male or female.

In conclusion, the Holy See welcomes this outcome document as a testament to the value of effective multilateralism. It reflects the shared conviction that global challenges can only be met through cooperation rooted in solidarity and the pursuit of the common good. As we move forward, it is essential that this human-centered vision remains at the heart of our collective efforts.

I ask this statement to be included in the official record of this meeting.

Thank you, Mr. President.

## **N. Azerbaijan<sup>18</sup>**

Thank you, Mr. President.

Azerbaijan wishes to convey its position regarding the new 26 bis alt. (2) paragraph under the environment, climate change and development cluster of the outcome document.

Azerbaijan, as the President of COP 29, reaffirms its unwavering commitment to upholding the integrity of the outcomes and milestone achievements of COP 29, which were reached through extensive inclusive and good faith negotiations among all parties under the authority of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. These decisions represent a delicate balance, a shared understanding that must not be reopened or weakened. We are deeply concerned by attempts to reopen or dilute the agreed language, which would undermine both the substantive results of COP 29 and the spirit of multilateral consensus that guided our deliberations in Baku.

Azerbaijan, therefore, cannot support any formulations that weaken the decisions duly adopted by the parties.

We recall that the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 79/206 adopted by consensus last December welcomed the successful convening of COP 29 and looked forward to the full and urgent implementation of the decisions. This consensus reflects the confidence of the international community in the results achieved in Baku.

Excellencies, the new collective quantified goal on climate finance is a cornerstone of the global climate architecture and one of the most significant milestones of COP 29. It represents renewed global commitment to provide predictable, adequate and accessible finance resources to developing countries to enable them to implement their climate actions effectively. The NCQG is not merely a financial target. It is a cornerstone for trust, ambition and balanced progress under the Paris Agreement.

For this reason, Azerbaijan believes the NCQG should be welcomed with due recognition and political support, as it embodies the spirit of shared responsibility and equity that lies at the heart of the UNFCCC process.

We emphasize that the inclusion of climate and environmental paragraphs in the document that doesn't welcome the COP 29 decision is inconsistent with our national position and mandate as the COP 29 presidency.

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<sup>18</sup> As delivered on 23 October 2025. See TD/561/Add.2; para. 26 bis alt. (2) renumbered as para. 46.

Accordingly, Azerbaijan places a reservation on all paragraphs of relevant clusters and requests that its reservation be duly reflected in the official report of the conference.

Thank you.

## O. Australia<sup>19</sup>

Thank you, Mr. President.

While Australia has joined consensus on the outcome document, Australia would like to reserve our position on the new text in 42 bis (a) introduced this evening, specifically the reference to “and in accordance with applicable agreements”.

Given the late hour, we regretfully have not had the opportunity to obtain instructions on this new text proposal. Australia has a long-standing position in international fora that technology transfer should be voluntary and on mutually agreed terms. This paragraph is without prejudice to Australia’s position on technology transfer in other international bodies, including in the UN.

We request that our statement be included in the records.

Thank you, Mr. President.

## P. Hungary<sup>20</sup>

### **Permanent Mission of Hungary to the United Nations Office, the World Trade Organization and other International Organizations in Geneva**

No. 130/2025/HUMIS/GVA

Geneva, 27 October 2025

The Permanent Mission of Hungary to the United Nations Office, the World Trade Organization and other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and has the honour to communicate the following position of Hungary regarding the Geneva Consensus adopted on the Closing Plenary of the Sixteenth Session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development held on 23 October 2025.

Hungary welcomes the successful conference and underlines its support to the important work of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, acknowledging the vital role international trade plays in the economic development of countries, especially in this challenging period.

However, Hungary wishes to disassociate itself from the paragraph 2 septies, and the second paragraph of paragraph 46 alt. of the Geneva Consensus. Firstly, Hungary maintains its position on migration, expressed in the Note Verbal No. 188/2021/HUMIS/GVA, submitted as national statement to the Report of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on its fifteenth session, TD/541. Hungary does not support any form of migration, since in the view of Hungary, migration does not have any developmental effects. Furthermore, as a principled position, Hungary does not agree to politicising the work of international organisations. The extension of the mandate regarding Palestine is especially untimely in the current situation, when the ending of the Gaza war and the resolution of the Israeli–Palestinian conflict have gained a new and very positive momentum. Hungary highlighted these positions at the earliest stages of the negotiation process and engaged in discussions in a constructive manner in order to reach consensus. Therefore, the parts of the Geneva Consensus that do not correspond to and states otherwise than the positions above, are not applicable to Hungary.

<sup>19</sup> As delivered on 23 October 2025. See TD/561/Add.2; para. 42 bis (a) renumbered as para. 80.41.

<sup>20</sup> Submitted on 27 October 2025. See TD/561/Add.2; para. 2 septies renumbered as para. 66, and second para. of para. 46 alt renumbered as para. 80.69.

The Permanent Mission of Hungary to the United Nations Office, the World Trade Organization and other International Organizations in Geneva expresses its wish that the position of Hungary is duly reflected in the Report of the Conference.

The Permanent Mission of Hungary to the United Nations Office, the World Trade Organization and other International Organizations in Geneva expresses its wish that the position of Hungary is duly reflected in the Report of the Conference.

The Permanent Mission of Hungary to the United Nations Office, the World Trade Organization and other International Organizations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva the assurances of its highest consideration.

**Correspondence Unit  
Conference Servicing and Logistics Section  
Intergovernmental Support Service  
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development  
GENEVA**

**Q. Viet Nam<sup>21</sup>**

Madam Secretary-General,  
Mr. President of the Trade and Development Board,  
Excellencies,  
Distinguished Delegates,

On behalf of the delegation of Viet Nam, I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations on the successful conclusion of the sixteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, XVI. The adoption of the Geneva Consensus milestone for the international community is not only the outcome of tireless and constructive negotiations but also a testament of the enduring spirit of dialogue, compromise and solidarity amongst all member States. We commend the outstanding leadership of Madam Secretary-General, Rebeca Grynspan, whose vision and guidance have been instrumental in steering this process to a successful conclusion. We also highly appreciate His Excellency, Mr. Paul Bekkers, President of the Trade and Development Board, for his skilful coordination, as well as His Excellency Ambassador Luis Juan Chuquiuhara, Chair of Peru, Chair of the Group of 77 and China, for his dedication and inclusive approach throughout the negotiations.

Viet Nam deeply values the active engagement and contribution of all member States, the intensity and length of our discussion over the past weeks have shown more than anything the strong commitment that countries attach to UNCTAD's roles in shaping global trade and development. The Consensus reached today is not just an agreement on words. It is a reaffirmation of our shared belief in multilateralism and our united resolve to make UNCTAD stronger, more relevant and more effective in advancing sustainable and inclusive development for all. As we celebrate this success, Viet Nam reiterates its firm support for UNCTAD's mission and stands ready to work closely with our partners to translate the spirit of Geneva Consensus into tangible actions for the benefit of people and planet.

Thank you.

**R. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland<sup>22</sup>**

Thank you, Chair.

The UK thanks you, the host Switzerland, the coordinators of the regional groups and all those involved in the organization of the Conference for their tireless efforts this

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<sup>21</sup> As delivered on 23 October 2025.

<sup>22</sup> As delivered on 23 October 2025. See TD/561/Add.2; para. 42 bis (a) renumbered as para. 80.41.

week and in advance. The UK welcomes a consensus document. However, while the UK has joined the consensus of this outcome document, we have an outstanding concern and we wish to reserve our position on paragraph 42 bis (a), in particular the language, “and in accordance with applicable international agreements”.

This is primarily based on procedural grounds where new language has been proposed too late in the day for formal consultation with our system. It is unclear whether the text suggests new approaches to technology transfer that could set precedence inconsistent with established international frameworks. The UK’s positions at UNCTAD are without prejudice to our positions on technology transfer and other fora at the UN or elsewhere. The UK stresses the need for technology transfer to take place on voluntary, mutually agreed terms.

We request that our statement be reflected in the records.

Thank you.

## S. State of Palestine<sup>23</sup>

Thank you, Mr. President. Merci beaucoup, thank you, Switzerland, for hosting this UNCTAD XVI and its outcome, the Geneva Consensus.

Excellencies, dear colleagues, good evening.

Palestine thanks UNCTAD for their works through the three pillars, helping and assisting Palestine to understand the impact of the occupation on development in Palestine and the cost of the Israeli occupation.

Dear all, remember what happened last two years in the Gaza Strip enclave and the far-right regime, war and military operations, restrictions of movement and de-development policies and practices against Palestinians and the illegal Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Gaza Strip and West Bank, including East Jerusalem. This assessment will help us to plan an effective economic recovery not only helping the State of Palestine Government, but also the international community and the donors and partners understanding and adopting policies on how to rebuild the devastated Palestinian economic sector.

Mr. President, we do believe that the international community should require Israel to be the primary cost of financing the rebuilding of Gaza Strip economic sector, including roads, businesses, factories, farms and hundreds of thousands of other economic structures it intentionally and wantonly damaged and destroyed during this aggression. We think that international donors to Gaza Strip socioeconomic sectors reconstruction and rehabilitation should ensure that Israel contributes more than any other State. Israel has come to rely on the international community to bear the cost of its devastating assaults on Palestinians in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Gaza Strip and West Bank, including East Jerusalem. Israel should assume its responsibility to bear the primary cost of financing the rebuilding of Gaza Strip, including all the infrastructure. International donors to Gaza Strip must hold Israel accountable. We request a neutral action from the international community, starting immediate assessment on the Israeli military operation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Gaza Strip and West Bank, including East Jerusalem, that led to unprecedented loss of life, displacement and widespread destruction of vital socioeconomic infrastructure of many people.

To conclude, Mr. President, humanity has failed. We don’t believe any more in the slogan “leaving no one behind”. But we assure you that it will resist, we will resist, to live on our homeland, the land of Jesus of Nazareth, our beautiful Palestine.

I thank you.

<sup>23</sup> As delivered on 23 October 2025.

**T. Germany<sup>24</sup>**

Thank you, Mr. President.

Germany is very satisfied that we could collectively reach consensus on the outcome document of UNCTAD XVI. However, we would like to regretfully reserve our position on paragraph 42 bis (a). We have a long-standing position in international fora that technology transfer should be voluntary and on mutually agreed terms. This paragraph is without prejudice to Germany's position on technology transfer and other international bodies including in the UN.

Thank you.

**U. Brazil<sup>25</sup>**

Thank you, Chair. UNCTAD has the potential to further enhance international economic governance to better reflect the needs of the global South and accelerate the implementation of the SDGs. It is a human-driven institution for its work and relevance derives primarily from a body of qualified and independent staff committed to the cause of development. All is well that ends well. We believe there is reason to celebrate the fruit of our collective efforts under the guidance of the Swiss Presidency, of the Secretary-General and of the Chair of the TDB.

Overall, we find the outcome document adopted today to be a significant achievement reflecting a middle ground for members. Through it we support UNCTAD as an institution. We honour its legacy and provide a solid basis for its future. We therefore welcome the Geneva Consensus, and we are hopeful for UNCTAD's future in the cycle of four years. This organization is uniquely positioned to help developing countries navigate the turbulent circumstances of our time. Trade and development are more important than ever.

Brazil is honoured to be able to count on UNCTAD as we have done so recently in the G20, in the BRICS and as we move towards COP 13 in Berlin where we hope to meet again.

Thank you.

**V. Gambia<sup>26</sup>**

Excellencies, distinguished delegates, esteemed colleagues and friends,

On behalf of the friends of the Chair of the digital economy pillar, I extend our deepest appreciation to all UNCTAD member States for your tremendous goodwill, dedication and tireless efforts in facilitating engagements and successful negotiations.

On the onset, the Gambia wishes to express our delight to join the Consensus without reservations. Your hard work under the exemplary leadership of our Secretary-General, Secretary-General Rebeca Grynspan, our Chair, Excellency Paul Bekkers and our Conference President, Excellency Erwin Bollinger has culminated in the remarkable achievement of consensus on the digital economy outcome document. We also convey heartfelt gratitude from our honourable Minister of Trade, Baboucarr Joof, to the UNCTAD Secretary-General and the entire UNCTAD leadership for steering this Conference to the historic Geneva Consensus.

This consensus on digital economy is a testament to our shared commitment to meaningfully closing the digital divide, advancing digital transformation and establishing robust digital public infrastructure with essential safeguards. It underscores the critical

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<sup>24</sup> As delivered on 23 October 2025. See TD/561/Add.2; para. 42 bis (a) renumbered as para. 80.41.

<sup>25</sup> As delivered on 23 October 2025.

<sup>26</sup> As delivered on 23 October 2025.

importance of data and AI governance as well as the significant importance and requirements for a meaningful technology and knowledge transfers to enhance efficiencies, foster value chain creation and strengthen productive capacities for development, for economic growth and indeed for prosperity. These efforts are especially vital for least developed countries, developing island States, Africa and the global South broadly where digital inclusion and equity can unlock transformative opportunities.

We call upon all our partners and friends to rededicate and commit to mutually beneficial and meaningful partnerships and collaborations across digital data and AI as well as emerging technologies and importantly the significance of technology and knowledge transfers. These can only lead to win-win for our partners and friends. Such cooperation, Excellencies, is essential to ensuring equitable access and shared prosperity in an increasingly digital world.

In conclusion, Mr. President, let us carry forward this spirit of unity and ambition, inspired by the Geneva Consensus at UNCTAD XVI ministerial to drive development, prosperity and multilateralism. Together we pledge to continue this journey towards a digitally inclusive and sustainable future that, yes, that leaves no one behind, and I thank you on behalf of the Gambia.

Thank you so much.

## **W. Bangladesh<sup>27</sup>**

Mr. President,  
Madam Secretary-General,  
Excellencies,  
ladies and gentlemen,

I do not want to test your patience at this hour, but I feel it is imperative for us to recognize and celebrate our collective efforts.

Mr. President, in this challenging time when multilateralism is often questioned, our collective commitment is tested and shared responsibilities are under scrutiny. We have demonstrated today our renewed solidarity and partnership reflected in the adoption of the Geneva Consensus. We have proven that multilateralism remains the best way forward to address the challenges that the world is witnessing today.

Dialogue and mutual trust are the means to identify common ground and to find the best solution that serves all and we all deserve it. I would like to extend our appreciation to the Chair of the Committee of Whole, friends of the Chair, the regional coordinators and all the delegates who were involved in these negotiations. We look forward to UNCTAD carrying out the mandates we have just entrusted it with.

Thank you.

## **X. Finland<sup>28</sup>**

Thank you, Chair.

I'm making this statement on behalf of my Ambassador, who had the privilege to serve as one of the Friends of the Chair on the clusters of climate and environment and inclusivity.

I want to thank Secretary-General Grynspan and Chair of the Committee of the Whole, Ambassador Bekkers, for their leadership throughout the journey. I also thank my colleagues, the other friends of the Chair and perhaps most of all, the group coordinators for their nearly superhuman-like work during the past months.

<sup>27</sup> As delivered on 23 October 2025.

<sup>28</sup> As delivered on 23 October 2025.

During our journey, which started early this year, it became very clear that our main goal will be to defend our global multilateral system. And this is exactly what we have succeeded today by adopting by consensus the Geneva Consensus. The negotiations were long and tough, but all the groups showed great flexibility to come to this point. I thank us all for that.

Thank you, Chair.

## **Y. Honduras<sup>29</sup>**

Thank you, Mr. President,  
Madam Secretary-General,  
Excellencies,

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Honduras, we wish to express our sincere appreciation to the Government of Switzerland, to the secretariat, to the President of the Committee of the Whole, to the coordination of the Group of 77 and China, and to all the delegates who have been able to reach a consensus on the document, which represents a road map for the next four years.

This Conference has affirmed the importance of the UNCTAD as a forum for dialogue and cooperation aimed at addressing the persistent asymmetries in the global economy and the multilateralism. Honduras will continue to uphold UNCTAD's founding principles, promoting and developing models centring on people and on economic, social and climate justice.

Thank you very much.

## **Z. Belarus<sup>30</sup>**

### **MISSION PERMANENTE DE LA REPUBLIQUE DU BELARUS AUPRES DE L'OFFICE DES NATIONS UNIES ET DES AUTRES ORGANISATIONS INTERNATIONALES A GENEVE**

No. 02-08/756

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Belarus to the United Nations Office and other International Organisations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and has the honour to communicate the following position of Belarus regarding the Outcome document and the Political declaration of the 16<sup>th</sup> session of the UNCTAD (Geneva, 20–23 October 2025).

Belarus supports the important work of the UNCTAD in promoting trade and development and remains committed to the successful implementation of the UNCTAD-16 Outcome document “The Geneva Consensus. Shaping the future: Driving economic transformation for equitable, inclusive and sustainable development”.

However, Belarus dissociated itself from the Political declaration of UNCTAD-16, considering this document as an attempt to create the illusion of inclusiveness in the negotiation process, and cannot accept the exclusion from the Outcome document of a cluster reflecting the issue of unilateral coercive measures and their impact on international trade and development.

Belarus will continue to insist that unilateral economic, financial and trade coercive measures and their consequences for international trade and development should be the focus of UNCTAD's monitoring and analysis.

The Permanent Mission of Belarus reiterates its request that the enclosed position of Belarus be duly reflected in the report on the sixteenth session of the UNCTAD.

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<sup>29</sup> As delivered on 23 October 2025.

<sup>30</sup> Submitted on 6 November 2025.

The Permanent Mission of Belarus avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the UNCTAD Secretariat the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, 6 November 2025

**Secretariat of the United Nations  
Conference on Trade and Development  
Geneva**

## Annex III

### List of events

#### Conference events

UNCTAD XVI: Opening plenary meeting (20 October)

Leaders dialogue: High-level event (20 October)

Committee of the Whole: Opening plenary, private sessions, closing plenary (20–23 October)

General debate (20–23 October)

Reimagining trade: A broader path to development. Ministerial round table (20 October)

Implementing the Sevilla Commitment on financing for development and establishing a borrowers' platform. Ministerial round table (20 October)

Harnessing artificial intelligence for inclusive and sustainable development. Ministerial round table (21 October)

Making the digital economy inclusive and sustainable through cooperation. Ministerial round table (21 October)

Strategic priorities and emerging directions for investment and entrepreneurship policy. Ministerial round table (21 October)

Regionalism in a time of uncertainty. Ministerial round table (21 October)

Towards resilient, sustainable and inclusive supply chains and trade logistics. Ministerial round table (22 October)

Plenary meeting with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. High-level event (22 October)

UNCTAD XVI: Closing plenary meeting (23 October)

#### Other events

##### *Parallel events*

ASYCUDA: New technology to foster efficient, secure and sustainable trade (20 October)

Safe products for all consumers (20 October)

Multilateral and national development banks: Boosting affordable financing (21 October)

Bridging the credit rating and market information gaps (21 October)

Reshaping progress: Moving beyond GDP for inclusive and sustainable transformation (21 October)

Climate-resilient development: Finance, structural transformation and cooperation (21 October)

Expanding productive capacities to enhance developing countries' financial sustainability (21 October)

Investment facilitation: Progress, prospects and policy options (21 October)

Business leaders dialogue: Investing in the future (22 October)

Igniting entrepreneurial potential: UNCTAD Empretec in the age of transformation (22 October)

Future-ready ports: Energy and digital transition strategies (22 October)

Inclusive trade and the creative economy (22 October)

Inclusive trade in a changing landscape: Making trade policy work for women (22 October)

Changemakers for sustainable trade: Advancing circular and biodiversity-based economies (22 October)

Trade-related regulations for economic integration and sustainable development (23 October)

*Forums*

Digital for Development Forum (21 October)

Global Commodities Forum (22 October)

Global Services Forum (23 October)

Youth Forum (23 October)

South–South Cooperation Forum (23 October)

## Annex IV

### Attendance\*

1. The following members of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development were represented at the session:

Albania	Egypt
Algeria	El Salvador
Andorra	Estonia
Angola	Ethiopia
Antigua and Barbuda	Fiji
Argentina	Finland
Armenia	France
Australia	Gabon
Austria	Gambia
Azerbaijan	Georgia
Bahamas	Germany
Bahrain	Ghana
Bangladesh	Greece
Barbados	Guatemala
Belarus	Guinea
Belgium	Guyana
Benin	Haiti
Bhutan	Holy See
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Honduras
Botswana	Hungary
Brazil	Iceland
Brunei Darussalam	India
Bulgaria	Indonesia
Burkina Faso	Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Burundi	Iraq
Cabo Verde	Ireland
Cambodia	Israel
Cameroon	Italy
Canada	Jamaica
Chad	Japan
Chile	Jordan
China	Kazakhstan
Colombia	Kenya
Comoros	Kiribati
Congo	Kuwait
Costa Rica	Kyrgyzstan
Côte d'Ivoire	Lao People's Democratic Republic
Croatia	Latvia
Cuba	Lebanon
Cyprus	Lesotho
Czechia	Libya
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Lithuania
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Luxembourg
Denmark	Madagascar
Djibouti	Malawi
Dominican Republic	Malaysia
Ecuador	Maldives
	Mali

\* This attendance list contains registered participants. For the list of participants, see TD(XVI)/INF.2.

Malta	Singapore
Mauritania	Slovakia
Mauritius	Slovenia
Mexico	Solomon Islands
Micronesia (Federated States of)	Somalia
Mongolia	South Africa
Montenegro	South Sudan
Morocco	Spain
Mozambique	Sri Lanka
Namibia	State of Palestine
Nauru	Sudan
Nepal	Suriname
Netherlands (Kingdom of the)	Sweden
New Zealand	Switzerland
Nicaragua	Syrian Arab Republic
Niger	Tajikistan
Nigeria	Thailand
North Macedonia	Timor-Leste
Norway	Togo
Oman	Trinidad and Tobago
Pakistan	Tunisia
Panama	Turkmenistan
Paraguay	Türkiye
Peru	Uganda
Philippines	Ukraine
Poland	United Arab Emirates
Portugal	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Qatar	United Republic of Tanzania
Republic of Korea	Uruguay
Republic of Moldova	Uzbekistan
Romania	Vanuatu
Russian Federation	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
Rwanda	Viet Nam
Samoa	Yemen
Sao Tome and Principe	Zambia
Saudi Arabia	Zimbabwe
Senegal	
Sierra Leone	

2. The following intergovernmental organizations were represented at the Conference:

African Union  
 Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa  
 Arab Labour Organization  
 Caribbean Community  
 Common Fund for Commodities  
 Commonwealth Secretariat  
 Economic Community of West African States  
 Eurasian Economic Commission  
 European Union  
 Inter-American Development Bank  
 International Cotton Advisory Committee  
 League of Arab States  
 Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development  
 Organisation internationale de la Francophonie  
 Organization of African, Caribbean and Pacific States  
 Organization of Eastern Caribbean States  
 Organization of Islamic Cooperation

Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat  
South Centre  
Southern African Customs Union

3. The following United Nations organs, bodies and programmes were represented at the session:

Department of Economic and Social Affairs  
Department of Political Affairs  
Economic Commission for Europe  
Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean  
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific  
Human Rights Council  
International Finance Corporation  
International Trade Centre  
Office for Digital and Emerging Technologies  
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights  
Statistics  
Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States  
Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS  
United Nations Population Fund  
United Nations International Computing Centre  
United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research  
United Nations Institute for Training and Research  
United Nations Office at Geneva  
United Nations Office for Project Services  
United Nations Research Institute for Social Development  
United Nations University  
World Food Programme  
World Trade Organization

4. The following specialized agencies and related organizations were represented at the session:

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations  
International Fund for Agricultural Development  
International Labour Organization  
International Telecommunication Union  
United Nations Industrial Development Organization  
Universal Postal Union  
World Bank Group  
World Health Organization  
World Intellectual Property Organization  
World Tourism Organization

5. The following non-governmental organizations were represented at the session:

*General category*

African Forum and Network on Debt and Development  
Action humaine pour le developpement integre au Sénégal  
Arab–Swiss Chamber of Commerce and Industry  
Centre Europe–Tiers Monde  
Consumer Unity and Trust Society International  
Consumers International  
European Network on Debt and Development  
International Alliance of Women  
International Chamber of Commerce  
International Council of Women  
International Institute for Sustainable Development  
International Organization for Standardization

International Road Transport Union  
 Organisation Camerounaise de Promotion de la Coopération Économique  
 Internationale  
 Public Services International  
 Réseau Intercontinental de Promotion de l'Economie Sociale et Solidaire  
 Society for International Development  
 Southern and Eastern Africa Trade Information and Negotiations Institute Uganda  
 Third World Network  
 Village Suisse ONG  
 World Association for Small and Medium Enterprises  
 World Federation of United Nations Associations

*Special category*

Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development  
 Datasphere Initiative Foundation  
 International Association of Ports and Harbours  
 International Federation of Freight Forwarders Associations  
 International Ocean Institute  
 International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources  
 Women's International Shipping and Trading Association

*Accredited to the Conference*

Action pour le Respect et la Protection de l'Environnement  
 Agence Internationale pour le Développement  
 Arab European Center of Human Rights and International Law  
 Entrepreneurship Development and Support Initiative  
 Global Network of Export-Import Banks and Development Finance Institutions  
 Global Policy Forum Europe  
 Holly Heart United  
 Horizon d'échange et de lutte contre la pauvreté en Afrique  
 Universal Versatile Society  
 Vie et Sante du Centre

*Parliamentarians*

Inter-Parliamentary Union  
 Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean

## Annex V

### Lists of States contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX)\*\*

#### List A

Afghanistan	Guinea-Bissau	Palau
Algeria	India	Papua New Guinea
Angola	Indonesia	Philippines
Bahrain	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Qatar
Bangladesh	Iraq	Rwanda
Benin	Israel	Samoa
Bhutan	Jordan	Sao Tome and Principe
Botswana	Kenya	Saudi Arabia
Brunei Darussalam	Kuwait	Senegal
Burkina Faso	Lao People's Democratic Republic	Seychelles
Burundi	Lebanon	Sierra Leone
Cambodia	Lesotho	Singapore
Cameroon	Liberia	Solomon Islands
Cabo Verde	Libya	Somalia
Central African Republic	Madagascar	South Africa
Chad	Malawi	Sri Lanka
China	Malaysia	Sudan
Comoros	Maldives	Syrian Arab Republic
Congo	Mali	Thailand
Côte d'Ivoire	Marshall Islands	Timor-Leste
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Mauritania	Togo
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Mauritius	Tonga
Djibouti	Micronesia (Federated States of)	Tunisia
Egypt	Mongolia	Turkmenistan
Equatorial Guinea	Morocco	Uganda
Eritrea	Mozambique	United Arab Emirates
Eswatini	Myanmar	United Republic of Tanzania
Ethiopia	Namibia	Vanuatu
Fiji	Nepal	Viet Nam
Gabon	Niger	Yemen
Gambia	Nigeria	Zambia
Ghana	Oman	Zimbabwe
Guinea	Pakistan	

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\*\* As constituted as of September 2025 and contained in document TD/B/INF.261.

**List B**

Andorra	Iceland	Republic of Korea
Australia	Ireland	San Marino
Austria	Italy	Spain
Belgium	Japan	Sweden
Canada	Liechtenstein	Switzerland
Cyprus	Luxembourg	Türkiye
Denmark	Malta	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Finland	Monaco	United States of America
France	Netherlands (Kingdom of the)	
Germany	New Zealand	
Greece	Norway	
Holy See	Portugal	

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**List C**

Antigua and Barbuda	Dominica	Panama
Argentina	Dominican Republic	Paraguay
Bahamas	Ecuador	Peru
Barbados	El Salvador	Saint Kitts and Nevis
Belize	Grenada	Saint Lucia
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Guatemala	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Brazil	Guyana	Suriname
Chile	Haiti	Trinidad and Tobago
Colombia	Honduras	Uruguay
Costa Rica	Jamaica	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
Cuba	Mexico	
	Nicaragua	

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**List D**

Albania	Kazakhstan	Slovakia
Armenia	Kyrgyzstan	Slovenia
Azerbaijan	Latvia	Ukraine
Belarus	Lithuania	Uzbekistan
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Montenegro	
Bulgaria	North Macedonia	
Croatia	Poland	
Czechia	Republic of Moldova	
Estonia	Romania	
Georgia	Russian Federation	
Hungary	Serbia	

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## Annex VI

### List of documents\*\*\*

TD/542	Provisional agenda and annotations Note by the UNCTAD secretariat
TD/543	Report of the Trade and Development Board to the Conference Note by the UNCTAD secretariat
TD/544	Expression of Gratitude to the Government and People of the Swiss Confederation
TD/545	Ministerial Declaration of the group of landlocked developing countries to the sixteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
TD/546	Declaration of the small island developing States Ministerial Meeting to the sixteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
TD/547	Ministerial declaration of the least developed countries to the sixteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
TD/548	Ministerial Declaration of the Group of 77 And China to the sixteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
TD/549	Report of the Credentials Committee
TD/550	Statement of civil society to the sixteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
TD/551	Declaration of the fifth meeting of the Youth Forum to the sixteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
TD/552	Leaders dialogue High-level event Summary prepared by the UNCTAD secretariat
TD/553	Implementing the Sevilla Commitment on financing for development and establishing a borrowers' platform Ministerial round table Summary prepared by the UNCTAD secretariat
TD/554	Making the digital economy inclusive and sustainable through cooperation Ministerial round table Summary prepared by the UNCTAD secretariat
TD/555	Towards resilient, sustainable and inclusive supply chains and trade logistics Ministerial round table Summary prepared by the UNCTAD secretariat
TD/556	Harnessing artificial intelligence for inclusive and sustainable development Ministerial round table Summary prepared by the UNCTAD secretariat
TD/557	Regionalism in a time of uncertainty Ministerial round table Summary prepared by the UNCTAD secretariat

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\*\*\* The documents listed are available on the Conference website (<https://unctad.org/unctad16>).

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TD/558	Reimagining trade: A broader path to development Ministerial round table Summary prepared by the UNCTAD secretariat
TD/559	Strategic priorities and emerging directions for investment and entrepreneurship policy Ministerial round table Summary prepared by the UNCTAD secretariat
TD/560	Plenary meeting with the Secretary-General of the United Nations High-level event Summary prepared by the UNCTAD secretariat
TD/INF.71	ASYCUDA: New technology to foster efficient, secure and sustainable trade
TD/INF.72	Safe products for all consumers
TD/INF.73	Multilateral and national development banks: Boosting affordable financing
TD/INF.74	Expanding productive capacities to enhance developing countries' financial sustainability
TD/INF.75	Bridging the credit rating and market information gaps
TD/INF.76	Investment facilitation: Progress, prospects and policy options
TD/INF.77	Reshaping progress: Moving beyond GDP for inclusive and sustainable transformation
TD/INF.78	Climate-resilient development: finance, structural transformation and cooperation
TD/INF.79	Igniting entrepreneurial potential: UNCTAD Empretec in the age of transformation
TD/INF.80	Inclusive trade and the creative economy
TD/INF.81	Future ready ports: Energy and digital transition strategies
TD/INF.82	Inclusive trade in a changing global landscape: Making trade policy work for women
TD/INF.83	Business leaders dialogue: Investing in the future
TD/INF.84	Changemakers for sustainable trade: Advancing circular and biodiversity-based economies
TD/INF.85	Trade-related regulations for economic integration and sustainable development
TD/INF.86	Digital for Development Forum
TD/INF.87	Global Commodities Forum
TD/INF.88	Global Services Forum
TD/INF.89	South–South Cooperation Forum
TD/INF.90	Youth Forum
TD(XVI)/INF.2	List of participants

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