



United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

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Trade and Development Board

Sixty-ninth session

Geneva, 20 June–1 July 2022

Item 1 (b) of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work of the session

Provisional agenda and annotations

Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

The provisional agenda of the sixty-ninth session of the Trade and Development Board is reproduced in chapter I below. The UNCTAD secretariat's annotations, contained in chapter II, are intended to provide essential background information covering the items of the provisional agenda, together with a brief description of the relevant documentation.



I. Provisional agenda

1. Procedural matters:
 - (a) Election of officers;
 - (b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work of the session;
 - (c) Adoption of the report on credentials.
2. High-level segment.
3. General debate.
4. Annual report of the Secretary-General.
5. Economic development in Africa: Reaping the potential benefits of the African Continental Free Trade Area for inclusive growth.
6. *Digital Economy Report 2021: Cross-Border Data Flows and Development – For Whom the Data Flow.*
7. Activities undertaken by UNCTAD in support of Africa.
8. Implementation of the outcomes of the fifteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
9. Report of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on E-commerce and the Digital Economy.
10. Report of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Financing for Development.
11. Technical cooperation strategy.
12. UNCTAD contributions to the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields.
13. Provisional agenda of the seventy-second executive session of the Trade and Development Board.
14. Institutional, organizational, administrative and related matters:
 - (a) Report by the Chair of the Advisory Body set up in accordance with paragraph 166 of the Bangkok Plan of Action on the implementation of courses by the secretariat in 2021–2022 and their relevant impact; and the appointment of members of the Advisory Body;
 - (b) Designation of intergovernmental bodies for the purposes of rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the Board;
 - (c) Designation of non-governmental organizations for the purposes of rule 77 of the rules of procedure of the Board;
 - (d) Review of the calendar of meetings;
 - (e) Review of the lists of States contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX);
 - (f) Administrative and financial implications of the actions of the Board.
15. Other business.
16. Adoption of the report.

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

1. The provisional agenda of the sixty-ninth session of the Trade and Development Board was approved at the closing plenary meeting, on 18 February 2022, of the seventy-first executive session of the Board.

Item 1

Procedural matters:

(a) Election of officers

2. The rules of procedure of the Trade and Development Board are contained in documents TD/B/16/Rev.4 and Corr.1.

3. In accordance with rules 18 and 19 of the rules of procedure, the Bureau of the Board consists of 12 members: the President, 10 Vice-Presidents and the Rapporteur, i.e. four members from list A (Africa/Asia), four from list B, two from list C and two from list D, as referred to in the annex to General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX), as amended.

4. In accordance with the cycle of rotation that has been in operation since the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the President of the Board for the sixty-ninth session will be a representative of one of the States in list D and the Rapporteur will be a representative of one of the States in list A (Asia). The 10 Vice-Presidents will therefore be as follows: three from list A (Africa/Asia); four from list B; two from list C; and one from list D.

(b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work of the session

Agenda

5. The provisional agenda for the session is reproduced in chapter I above.

Organization of work

6. In order to accommodate the suggestions made by delegations, meetings of the session of the Board have been organized in such a way as to ensure that no two meetings will take place simultaneously. They have been designed with a view to ensuring effective participation by delegations, particularly small delegations, and also to making the most efficient use of the available conference resources of the United Nations, particularly in the current changing times. A detailed programme will be made available in due course, which may be adjusted as conditions warrant.

(c) Adoption of the report on credentials

7. In accordance with rule 17.2 of the rules of procedure, the Bureau of the Board will examine the credentials and submit its report to the Board.

In-session documentation

Item 2

High-level segment

8. At its seventy-first executive session, the Trade and Development Board agreed that there would be a high-level segment at the regular session. The topic of the high-level segment would be agreed by the extended Bureau of the Board, subject to the Board's approval.

Item 3

General debate

9. The general debate is expected to take place during the first week of the sixty-ninth session of the Board. The texts of statements that are submitted to the secretariat will be reproduced and uploaded on the UNCTAD website in the language version(s) in which they are received.

10. In accordance with rule 39 of the rules of procedure of the Trade and Development Board, speakers may be requested to limit their interventions. Further details on time limits will be provided in due course and in the programme of the Trade and Development Board.

Item 4

Annual report of the Secretary-General

11. Under the agenda item, the Secretary-General of UNCTAD will provide highlights to the Board on the activities of UNCTAD, as well as on other issues, as necessary.

Item 5

Economic development in Africa: Reaping the potential benefits of the African Continental Free Trade Area for inclusive growth

12. Under the item, the Board will consider *the Economic Development in Africa Report 2021: Reaping the Potential Benefits of the African Continental Free Trade Area for Inclusive Growth*. The report aims at equipping African Governments and development partners with knowledge on how the African Continental Free Trade Area can be beneficial for inclusive growth and how complementary policies are necessary to make the African Continental Free Trade Area inclusive across and within African countries. To realize Africa's export potential, intra-African tariff barriers and non-tariff measures need to be reduced and productive capacities, increased to facilitate regional trade. Regional productive capacity, value chain development in agri-food processing and vehicle industry are identified as potential drivers of transformative growth. In the report, how the expected gains from trade, production, investment, and growth opportunities from the African Continental Free Trade Area can be inclusive is also analysed. A range of data sources is used to assess various dimensions of inclusiveness, related to both income/consumption and equal economic participation. For the benefits of the African Continental Free Trade Area to be fully harnessed and inclusive, informal forms of trade and their relevant stakeholders should be considered in design and implementation.

Documentation

UNCTAD/ALDC/AFRICA/2021 *Economic Development in Africa Report 2021: Reaping the Potential Benefits of the African Continental Free Trade Area for Inclusive Growth*

TD/B/69/2 Economic development in Africa: Reaping the potential benefits of the African Continental Free Trade Area for inclusive growth
Overview

Item 6

Digital Economy Report 2021: Cross-Border Data Flows and Development – For Whom the Data Flow

13. Under the agenda item, the Board will consider the UNCTAD *Digital Economy Report 2021: Cross-Border Data Flows and Development – For Whom the Data Flow*. In the report, a fresh and holistic view is provided of cross-border flows of digital data and the implications for development. Recent trends and global developments in the data-driven

digital economy are examined, and existing data governance approaches at the national, regional and multilateral levels are reviewed. A call is made for innovative approaches developed with the full participation of all countries and that ensure data can flow securely across borders, as necessary and as freely as possible, while ensuring equity in the distribution of benefits within and between countries and addressing risks related to human rights and security.

Documentation

UNCTAD/DER/2021

Digital Economy Report 2021: Cross-Border Data Flows and Development – For Whom the Data Flow

Item 7

Activities undertaken by UNCTAD in support of Africa

14. Under the agenda item, the Trade and Development Board will consider a report on UNCTAD activities in support of Africa, which is prepared every year and presented to a session of the Board. The report provides an overview of the research and analysis being undertaken by UNCTAD with regard to African development, as well as a summary of specific activities, including advisory services and technical cooperation, in each sector that falls under the mandate of UNCTAD.

Documentation

TD/B/69/3

Activities undertaken by UNCTAD in support of Africa
Report by the Secretary-General of UNCTAD

Item 8

Implementation of the outcomes of the fifteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

15. Under the agenda item, the Secretary-General of UNCTAD will provide highlights to the Board on the progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the fifteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

Item 9

Report of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on E-commerce and the Digital Economy

16. The report of the fifth session of Intergovernmental Group of Experts on E-commerce and the Digital Economy will be before the Board for its consideration

Documentation

TD/B/EDE/5/4

Report of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on E-commerce and the Digital Economy on its fifth session

Item 14**Institutional, organizational, administrative and related matters:**

- (a) **Report by the Chair of the Advisory Body set up in accordance with paragraph 166 of the Bangkok Plan of Action on the implementation of courses by the secretariat in 2021–2022 and their relevant impact; and the appointment of members of the Advisory Body**

23. In accordance with Trade and Development Board decision 466 (XLVII), the Chair of the Advisory Body will inform the Board on the activities of the Advisory Body and on the implementation of paragraph 166 of the Bangkok Plan of Action. The Board will be invited to appoint members of the Advisory Body for 2022, based on the recommendations of the regional groups.

- (b) **Designation of intergovernmental bodies for the purposes of rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the Board**

24. The UNCTAD secretariat has received no applications requesting inclusion in the list provided for in rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the Board. A list of the approved intergovernmental organizations is contained in document TD/B/IGO/LIST/11.

- (c) **Designation of non-governmental organizations for the purposes of rule 77 of the rules of procedure of the Board**

25. The UNCTAD secretariat has received two applications requesting inclusion in the list provided for in rule 77 of the rules of procedure of the Board. The current list of approved non-governmental organizations is contained in document TD/B/NGO/LIST/27.

Documentation

TD/B(S-XXXII)/R.1

Application from the Shenzhen World Health Foundation

TD/B/EX(71)/R.1

Application from the Global Energy Interconnection Development and Cooperation Organization

- (d) **Review of the calendar of meetings**

26. The Board will have before it the calendar of meetings for the remainder of 2022 and a preliminary calendar for 2023.

In-session documentation

- (e) **Review of the lists of States contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX)**

27. The Board will have before it, as appropriate, the updated membership list of UNCTAD and the Board.

Documentation

TD/B/INF.250

Membership of UNCTAD and membership of the Trade and Development Board

- (f) **Administrative and financial implications of the actions of the Board**

28. The Board will be informed during the session of the administrative and financial implications of any proposals before it.

In-session documentation, if required

Item 15
Other business

Item 16
Adoption of the report

29. The report of the Trade and Development Board to the General Assembly will contain negotiated outcomes, as well as other decisions that the Board may decide to adopt.
