



United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

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Trade and Development Board

Seventy-second session

Geneva, 24–28 November 2025

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 seventy-second session of the Trade and Development Board is reproduced in chapter I below. UNCTAD secretariat 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.

* Agreement was reached to publish the present document after the standard publication date owing to circumstances beyond the submitter's control.



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. General debate.
3. Annual report of the Secretary-General.
4. Report on UNCTAD assistance to the Palestinian people.
5. Activities undertaken by UNCTAD in support of Africa.
6. UNCTAD contribution to the implementation of the Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries.
7. 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.
8. Reports of subsidiary bodies:
 - (a) Report of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on E-commerce and the Digital Economy;
 - (b) Report of the Trade and Development Commission;
 - (c) Report of the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission.
9. Report of the ninth United Nations Conference to Review All Aspects of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices.
10. Report of the Joint Advisory Group on the International Trade Centre.
11. Provisional agenda of the seventy-eighth executive session of the Trade and Development Board.
12. 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 2024–2025 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.
13. Other business.
14. Adoption of the report.

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

1. The provisional agenda of the seventy-second session of the Trade and Development Board was approved at its thirty-sixth special session on 19 September 2025.

Item 1

Procedural matters:

(a) Election of officers

2. The rules of procedure of the Trade and Development Board are contained in document 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 seventy-second session will be a representative of one of the States in list C and the Rapporteur will be a representative of one of the States in list D. The 10 Vice-Presidents will therefore be as follows: four from list A (Africa/Asia); four from list B; one 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

General debate

8. The general debate is expected to take place during the 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.

9. 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 3

Annual report of the Secretary-General

10. 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 4

Report on UNCTAD assistance to the Palestinian people

11. As in previous years, in the UNCTAD report on assistance to the Palestinian people, key recent economic developments in the Occupied Palestinian Territory are examined. The consequences of the Israeli military operations in Gaza are examined, and impacts on the West Bank are highlighted, while the impact taken in combination on socioeconomic conditions across the Occupied Palestinian Territory is likewise examined. Underscored in the report is the scale of destruction in Gaza and its spillover into the West Bank, where thousands of jobs were lost, the economy and public finances have come under severe strain, and the stability of the banking sector has been placed at risk.

12. In the report, the Trade and Development Board is updated on recent UNCTAD cooperation activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory and the challenges the secretariat faces in strengthening technical cooperation activities.

Documentation

TD/B/72/3	Developments in the economy of the Occupied Palestinian Territory
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Item 5

Activities undertaken by UNCTAD in support of Africa

13. 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. An overview of the research and capacity-building activities undertaken by UNCTAD in support of Africa is provided in the report.

Documentation

TD/B/72/2	Activities undertaken by UNCTAD in support of Africa Report by the Secretary-General of UNCTAD
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Item 6

UNCTAD contribution to the implementation of the Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries

14. Under the agenda item, the Board will consider the report on the activities carried out by UNCTAD between the third quarter of 2024 and the second quarter of 2025, in support of the implementation of the Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2022–2031. A non-exhaustive list of examples is provided in the report of how UNCTAD is delivering results in the least developed countries. The report is structured along the three pillars of UNCTAD work, research and policy analysis, intergovernmental consensus-building and technical cooperation, and includes lessons learned and policy recommendations for the way forward.

Documentation

TD/B/72/4	Activities carried out in the implementation of the Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries
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Item 7**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**

15. In its resolution 57/270 B, the General Assembly stressed the need to make maximum use of existing United Nations mechanisms for the purpose of reviewing the implementation of commitments made within the United Nations system in key areas of development. In this regard, the General Assembly invited the Trade and Development Board to contribute, within its mandate, to the implementation and to the review of progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits, under its relevant agenda items.

16. In paragraph 5 of the Bridgetown Covenant (TD/541/Add.2), UNCTAD is called upon to “contribute to the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of relevant global conferences, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and, as appropriate, the Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, among other relevant international agreements and outcomes”.

17. Under the agenda item, the Secretary-General of UNCTAD will provide the Board with highlights on contributions made to the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of relevant global conferences.

Item 8**Reports of subsidiary bodies****(a) Report of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on E-commerce and the Digital Economy**

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

(b) Report of the Trade and Development Commission

19. The report on the fifteenth session of the Trade and Development Commission will be before the Board for its consideration.

(c) Report of the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission

20. The report on the fifteenth session of the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission will be before the Board for its consideration.

Documentation

TD/B/EDE/8/4	Report of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on E-commerce and the Digital Economy on its eighth session
TD/B/C.I/61	Report of the Trade and Development Commission on its fifteenth session
TD/B/C.II/55	Report of the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission on its fifteenth session

Item 9**Report of the Ninth United Nations Conference to Review All Aspects of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices**

21. The report of the Ninth United Nations Conference to Review All Aspects of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices, which took place in Geneva from 7 to 11 July 2025, will be before the Trade and Development Board for its consideration and onward submission to the General Assembly. Outcomes in the report include two resolutions, resolution A (on competition and consumer protection through 2030) and resolution B (on consumer product safety), and an annexed draft resolution on consumer product safety, submitted for consideration by the General Assembly.

Documentation

TD/RBP/CONF.10/7

Report of the Ninth United Nations Conference to Review All Aspects of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices

Item 10**Report of the Joint Advisory Group on the International Trade Centre**

22. The Trade and Development Board will consider the report of the fifty-ninth session of the Joint Advisory Group on the International Trade Centre.

Item 11**Provisional agenda of the seventy-eighth executive session of the Trade and Development Board**

23. The Trade and Development Board will be invited to consider and approve the draft provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth executive session.

*In-session documentation***Item 12****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 2024–2025 and their relevant impact; and the appointment of members of the Advisory Body**

24. 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 the next cycle, 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**

25. 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/14.

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

26. The UNCTAD secretariat has received no 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/32.

(d) Review of the calendar of meetings

27. The Board will have before it a tentative calendar of meetings for 2026.

In-session documentation

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

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

Documentation

TD/B/INF.261	Membership of UNCTAD and membership of the Trade and Development Board
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(f) Administrative and financial implications of the actions of the Board

29. 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 13

Other business

Item 14

Adoption of the report

30. 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.
