



United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

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Trade and Development Board

Seventy-third session

Geneva, 14–25 September 2026

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-third 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
The impact of Hormuz disruptions on developing countries: Energy, food and development.
3. General debate.
4. Annual report of the Secretary-General.
5. Investment and enterprise for development: International investment in a turbulent era.
6. Report on UNCTAD assistance to the Palestinian people.
7. Activities undertaken by UNCTAD in support of Africa.
8. UNCTAD contribution to the implementation of the Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries.
9. Implementation of the outcomes of the sixteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.
10. 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.
11. Reports of subsidiary bodies:
 - (a) Report of the Trade and Development Commission;
 - (b) Report of the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission.
12. Report of the Joint Advisory Group on the International Trade Centre.
13. Provisional agenda of the seventy-ninth 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 2025–2026 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 seventy-third session of the Trade and Development Board was approved at its seventy-eighth executive session on 6 February 2026. The topic for item 5 and the proposal for the topic of the high-level segment were approved through a silence procedure that concluded on 16 June 2026.

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-third session will be a representative of one of the States in list A (Africa) and the Rapporteur will be a representative of one of the States in list C. The 10 Vice-Presidents will therefore be as follows: three from list A (Africa/Asia); four from list B; one from list C; and two 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

The impact of Hormuz disruptions on developing countries: Energy, food and development

8. Recent disruptions in the Strait of Hormuz have starkly illustrated how shocks can spread rapidly across trade flows, energy markets and supply chains. The Strait of Hormuz crisis highlights the deep interconnections between trade, energy, food, financial systems and development outcomes. The impact is particularly acute for developing countries.

9. Discussions at the high-level segment will consider the impact of Hormuz disruptions on developing countries, with a focus on energy, food and development. The high-level segment will provide a strategic opportunity to foster political dialogue on the policy options that developing countries have to navigate these shocks in an increasingly volatile and fragmented global environment, while also safeguarding trade as an engine of development, including through cooperative approaches.

Item 3

General debate

10. The general debate is expected to take place during the first week of the seventy-third 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.

11. 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

12. Under the agenda item, the Acting 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

Investment and enterprise for development: International investment in a turbulent era

13. The global investment landscape is undergoing a structural shift. Cross-border investment is becoming more selective, concentrated and shaped by policy and geopolitical considerations. Growth is increasingly centred on technological and industrial domains linked to the digital and energy transitions, critical minerals, artificial intelligence infrastructure, semiconductors and advanced technologies, many of which remain dominated by a small number of economies. At the same time, industrial policy is reshaping competition, supply chain reconfiguration is narrowing traditional industrialization pathways, while opening selective entry points, and economic security and resilience are becoming more important determinants of location decisions.

14. Against this background, under the agenda item, the analysis, findings and proposals of the *World Investment Report 2026: International Investment in a Turbulent Era* will be presented. The report contains insights and recommendations to policymakers in developing countries centred around three broad and interrelated priorities. The first priority is to identify realistic entry points into strategic and fast-growing segments of international investments, while calibrating effective industrial policy choices within fiscal and institutional realities. The second priority is to improve the position of developing countries within the reconfiguration of global supply chains, by strengthening the investment environment, upgrading domestic productive capabilities and addressing security-related concerns in ways that do not undermine openness. The final priority is to turn current disruptions into opportunities through deeper regional integration, policy coordination and investment cooperation that can expand markets, strengthen resilience and support development.

15. After a presentation, panellists will present their perspectives on the topic, which will be followed by an open floor discussion. In addition, the discussion will provide an opportunity for a briefing by the secretariat on the latest direct foreign investment trends and policy developments.

Documentation

UNCTAD/WIR/2026 *World Investment Report: International Investment in a
and Overview Turbulent Era*

Item 6**Report on UNCTAD assistance to the Palestinian people**

16. As in previous years, the UNCTAD report on assistance to the Palestinian people highlights and analyses recent key economic developments in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. The socioeconomic ramifications of the conflict in Gaza and the situation in the West Bank are also examined. The report underscores the accelerated growth of settlements in the occupied West Bank, the sharp deterioration of the fiscal position of the Government of the State of Palestine and the scale of destruction, along with prospects for recovery in Gaza.

17. The report updates the Trade and Development Board on UNCTAD technical cooperation activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, as well as the challenges the secretariat faces in strengthening its technical cooperation efforts.

Documentation

TD/B/73/2 Developments in the economy of the Occupied Palestinian
Territory
Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

Item 7**Activities undertaken by UNCTAD in support of Africa**

18. 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 capacity-building activities undertaken by UNCTAD in support of Africa.

Documentation

TD/B/73/3 Activities undertaken by UNCTAD in support of Africa
Report by the Secretary-General of UNCTAD

Item 8**UNCTAD contribution to the implementation of the Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries**

19. Under the agenda item, the Board will consider the report on the activities carried out by UNCTAD, between the third quarter of 2025 and the second quarter of 2026, 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/73/4 Activities carried out in the implementation of the Doha
Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries

Item 9**Implementation of the outcomes of the sixteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development**

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

Item 10**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**

21. 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.

22. 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”.

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

Item 11**Reports of subsidiary bodies****(a) Report of the Trade and Development Commission**

24. The report of the sixteenth session of the Trade and Development Commission will be before the Board for its consideration.

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

25. The report of the sixteenth session of the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission will be before the Board for its consideration.

Documentation

TD/B/C.I/64	Report of the Trade and Development Commission on its sixteenth session
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TD/B/C.II/57	Report of the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission on its sixteenth session
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Item 12**Report of the Joint Advisory Group on the International Trade Centre**

26. The Trade and Development Board will consider the report of the sixtieth session of the Joint Advisory Group on the International Trade Centre.

Item 13

Provisional agenda of the seventy-ninth executive session of the Trade and Development Board

27. The Trade and Development Board will be invited to consider and approve draft of the provisional agendas of its seventy-ninth executive session.

In-session documentation

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 2025–2026 and their relevant impact; and the appointment of members of the Advisory Body**

28. 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**

29. 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**

30. The UNCTAD secretariat has received four 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.

Documentation

TD/B/73/R.1	Application from L'initiative Africaine pour le développement durable
TD/B/73/R.2	Application from Geneva Consensus Foundation
TD/B/73/R.3	Application from the One Million for One Billion Foundation
TD/B/73/R.4	Application from the Arab-European Centre of Human Rights and International Law

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

31. The Board will have before it a tentative calendar of meetings for 2027.

In-session documentation

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

32. 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

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

33. 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**

34. 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.
