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Trade and Development Board

Seventy-ninth executive session

Geneva, 23–27 November 2026

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

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

Provisional agenda and annotations*

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work.
2. Interdependence and development strategies in a globalized world
3. Report of the Working Party on the Programme Plan and Programme Performance.
4. Report of the Joint Advisory Group on the International Trade Centre.
5. Institutional, organizational, administrative and related matters:
 - (a) Designation of intergovernmental bodies for the purposes of rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the Board;
 - (b) Designation of non-governmental organizations for the purposes of rule 77 of the rules of procedure of the Board.
6. Other business.
7. Adoption of the report.

* This document was scheduled for publication after the standard publication date owing to circumstances beyond the submitter's control.



II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

Item 1

Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work

1. The provisional agenda of the seventy-ninth executive session of the Trade and Development Board was approved, on 17 September 2026, at the seventy-third session of the Board. The provisional agenda for the session is reproduced in chapter I above.

Item 2

Interdependence and development strategies in a globalized world

2. Deliberations by the Trade and Development Board under the agenda item will provide an opportunity to consider the *Trade and Development Report 2026: The Geoeconomics of Development*.

3. The report contains an examination of how the ongoing reorganization of the world economy, in which industrial, financial, trade and technological policies serve as instruments of geoeconomic competition, is reshaping the conditions for development. Global growth declined in 2026 from its 2.9 per cent level in 2025, yet trade and investment indicators suggest a world economy that has held its footing through policy uncertainty and trade volatility, buoyed by the boom in artificial intelligence. Robust headline figures nonetheless conceal divergence, fragmentation and growing financial fragilities. Growth in the developing world is bifurcating, as import-dependent economies absorb energy and financial shocks with far less fiscal room, amid a third consecutive year of falling development assistance. Aggregate trade performance masks an ongoing remapping of trade patterns, in which market access becomes more differentiated and dependent on policy. Amid the geoeconomic race, many countries in Africa and Latin America are increasingly locked out of development opportunities: for example, while Africa mines most of the world's cobalt, it retains under 1 per cent of the value in green supply chains. At the same time, the current geoeconomic turn is opening space for sector-based profiles and regional consolidation by the rising power of countries of the global South.

Documentation

UNCTAD/TDR/2026 and
Overview

*Trade and Development Report 2026: The
Geoeconomics of Development*

Item 3

Report of the Working Party on the Programme Plan and Programme Performance

4. The report of the Working Party on the Programme Plan and Programme Performance on its ninety-first session will be before the Board for its consideration.

Documentation

TD/B/WP/344

Report of the Working Party on the Programme Plan and
Programme Performance on its ninety-first session

Item 4

Report of the Joint Advisory Group on the International Trade Centre

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

Item 5**Institutional, organizational, administrative and related matters:****(a) Designation of intergovernmental bodies for the purposes of rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the Board**

6. 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.

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

7. In addition to the two applications which received a request for more time for consideration by member States at the 73rd session of the Trade and Development Board, the UNCTAD secretariat has received five 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/33.

Documentation

TD/B/73/R.1	Demande présentée par L'initiative africaine pour le développement durable
TD/B/73/R.3	Application from the One Million for One Billion Foundation
TD/B/EX(79)/R.1	Application from the Mumbai Consumer Forum
TD/B/EX(79)/R.2	Application from the M Visvesvaraya Industrial Research and Development Centre
TD/B/EX(79)/R.3	Demande présentée par l'Association marocaine de protection du consommateur
TD/B/EX(79)/R.4	Application from the Saudi Green Building Forum
TD/B/EX(79)/R.5	Application from the Elizka Relief Foundation

Item 6**Other business****Item 7****Adoption of the report**
