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Working Party on the Strategic Framework and the Programme Budget

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Item 4 of the provisional agenda

Review of the UNCTAD section of the proposed United Nations strategic framework for the period 2014–2015, in the light of the outcome of the thirteenth session of the Conference

Draft proposed UNCTAD Biennial Programme Plan for the period 2014–2015

Overall orientation

1. The main objective of the programme implemented by UNCTAD and the International Trade Centre (ITC) is to assist developing countries, especially least developed countries (LDCs) and countries with economies in transition, in integrating beneficially into the global economy in support of inclusive and sustainable growth and development. Through its work, UNCTAD, promoting development-centred globalization, will help implement the global development agenda and will assist developing countries in meeting their development goals, including poverty eradication, to improve the well-being of their citizens and address the opportunities and the challenges created by globalization. In particular, in line with the priorities of the Organization, UNCTAD will further enhance its efforts to support the development of Africa across all its sectoral areas of expertise.
2. In order to attain the foregoing objectives, UNCTAD, within its mandate, will take the following action:
 - (a) Conduct pragmatic research and analysis on both long-standing and emerging development issues;
 - (b) Build consensus around efforts to promote national and international policies and strategies conducive to inclusive and sustainable development;
 - (c) Support countries in implementing their development strategies aimed at their integration into the global economy and the achievement of sustainable levels of growth and development.
3. In the context of the deepening interdependence among all countries, UNCTAD will maintain its unique orientation and its commitment to development through those three pillars, while remaining responsive and accountable to all Member States.

4. ITC will pursue the enablement of export success of small and medium-sized enterprises from developing countries and countries with economies in transition. In order to achieve this goal, ITC will focus on the delivery of trade-related technical assistance activities related to trade information and export development issues.

5. The programme is guided by the sessions of the Conference, the Trade and Development Board and its subsidiary bodies, and the Commission on Science and Technology for Development. The decisions adopted at the twelfth session of the Conference, held in Accra in April 2008, formed the basis of the present programme of work. For the period 2014–2015, the programme will integrate the outcomes of the thirteenth session of the Conference, held in Doha in April 2012. UNCTAD is responsible for subprogrammes 1 to 5 within the programme, while subprogramme 6 is under the responsibility of ITC.

6. UNCTAD will pursue five subprogrammes to support its objective of helping developing countries and economies in transition to integrate beneficially into the international trading system and achieve inclusive and sustainable growth and development. The principal task of subprogramme 1 arising from the outcomes of the twelfth and thirteenth sessions of UNCTAD is the examination of development strategies in a globalizing world economy and related issues. Subprogrammes 2 and 4 will aim to contribute to the building of productive capacity and international competitiveness, while subprogramme 3 and the trade logistics component of subprogramme 4 will aim to contribute to the maximization of gains resulting from globalization for development in international trade and trade negotiations in goods and services. The development strategies of African economies, LDCs and countries in special situations, including small island developing States (SIDS), landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies, will be covered under subprogramme 5. Sectoral concerns of those countries will also be addressed by other subprogrammes, in coordination and cooperation with subprogramme 5.

7. Throughout its work programme, UNCTAD will make efforts to mainstream cross-cutting issues related to gender equality and the empowerment of women, the promotion of sustainable development, and full and productive employment. The Conference will also strengthen its cross-divisional coordination, in particular with respect to training and capacity-building programmes.

8. ITC will pursue subprogramme 6, which addresses the operational aspects of trade promotion and export development. Its strategic vision for the future is to expand its impact from awareness to inclusiveness. Within this context, the strategic challenges of ITC are to improve the availability and use of trade intelligence, enhance trade support institutions and policies, increase the competitiveness of developing countries' enterprises; and mainstream inclusiveness and sustainability into export promotion policies.

9. UNCTAD will make contributions, within its mandates, to the implementation of the outcomes of relevant global conferences. Notably, it will contribute to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals set out in the Millennium Declaration and the 2005 World Summit Outcome, in particular those chapters of the Outcome related to the global partnership for development, financing for development, domestic resource mobilization, investment, debt, trade, commodities, systemic issues and global economic decision-making, economic cooperation among developing countries, sustainable development, and science and technology for development.

10. UNCTAD will also contribute to the implementation of specific actions requested in the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development, the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development and its follow-up, the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020, the outcomes and the

Johannesburg Plan of Implementation agreed at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), the outcomes and the Declaration of Principles and the Plan of Action of the World Summit on the Information Society, the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries, and the outcomes of the midterm review of the Almaty Programme of Action in 2008 and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States. In addition, it will assist in furthering the implementation of the internationally agreed goals set out in the Doha Ministerial Declaration of the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and other relevant decisions. UNCTAD will make contributions, within its mandates, to the implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development convened in 2012.

11. As a lead agency of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination with regard to the inter-agency thematic cluster on trade and productive sectors, UNCTAD will enhance the role of trade and development and interrelated issues in United Nations development assistance plans, such as United Nations development assistance frameworks and national development strategies; undertake joint operations at the country level, as appropriate; and enhance inter-agency cooperation in system-wide initiatives in those areas.

Subprogramme 1

Globalization, interdependence and development

Objective of the Organization: To promote economic policies and strategies at all levels for sustained growth, inclusive and sustainable development, full employment and decent work for all, and hunger and poverty eradication in developing countries, especially LDCs

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
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(a) Increased understanding of the global economic environment and of policy choices for inclusive and sustained development at the national, regional and international levels	(a) (i) Increased number of statements at, inter alia, intergovernmental meetings by policymakers and beneficiaries indicating the usefulness of UNCTAD research and analysis for the national policymaking process (ii) Increased number of citations in the media on the growth-oriented macroeconomic and financial policy choices advocated in UNCTAD research (iii) Increased number of UNCTAD activities to promote South–South cooperation (iv) Increased number of universities and research centres using the services of the UNCTAD Virtual Institute (b) (i) Increased number of institutions/ countries using the capacity-building services of the Debt Management and Financial Analysis System programme
(b) Progress towards a durable solution to the debt problems of developing countries by fostering better understanding of the interplay	

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
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between successful development resource mobilization, debt sustainability and effective debt management

(ii) Increased number of international and national policy positions and initiatives in the area of debt and development resource mobilization incorporating contributions from UNCTAD

(c) Improved access to reliable and timely statistics and indicators highlighting the interlinkages among globalization, trade and development for decision-making, at the national and international levels, on economic policies and development strategies

(c) (i) Increased number of countries using statistical variables and derived indicators developed and maintained by the Central Statistical Service of UNCTAD

(ii) Increased number of institutions and Member States using UNCTAD statistical data regarding trade, financial and economic policies

(d) Improved Palestinian policy and institutional capacities, and strengthened international cooperation for alleviating the adverse economic and social conditions imposed on the Palestinian people, and for building an independent Palestinian State

(d) Increased number of Palestinian development initiatives and institutions responding to UNCTAD research findings, recommendations and technical cooperation activities

Strategy

12. The subprogramme is under the responsibility of the Division on Globalization and Development Strategies. In its work, the Division will focus on the following objectives:

(a) Identifying specific needs and measures arising from the interdependence among trade, finance, investment, technology and macroeconomic policies, from the point of view of their effect on development;

(b) Contributing to a better understanding of coherence between international economic rules, practices and processes, on the one hand, and national policies and development strategies, on the other;

(c) Contributing to the research and analysis by the United Nations on the prospects of, and impact on, developing countries in matters of trade and development, in light of the global economic and financial crisis;

(d) Promoting, at the national level, an enabling environment for the private sector and entrepreneurial investment, poverty eradication and appropriate balance between growth, fairness and social protection;

(e) Supporting developing countries, especially LDCs, LLDCs, SIDS, and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies in their efforts to formulate development strategies adapted to the challenges of globalization, including economic cooperation among developing countries;

(f) Intensifying its interaction with universities and think tanks in Member States.

13. In that context, UNCTAD will also continue to support the development efforts of middle-income countries. The objective will be pursued through research and policy analysis, consensus-building and technical assistance, while enhancing synergies and promoting complementarities with the work of other international organizations, based on:

(a) Timely and forward-looking research and analysis regarding macroeconomic and development policies as well as debt, mobilization of resources and finance, taking into account the relevant outcomes from global conferences and summits on development;

(b) The formulation of practical policy recommendations for appropriate development strategies at the national, regional and international levels to take advantage of the opportunities and meet the challenges of globalization, including related assistance to regional cooperation organizations;

(c) The furtherance of consensus-building with regard to macroeconomic and development policies suited to the specific conditions of developing countries;

(d) Support to the development of local teaching and research capacities in developing countries and academic networking;

(e) Technical assistance, training and support for developing countries in building national capacities related to effective debt management;

(f) Assistance to developing countries to improve their statistical capacity in the area of trade and development through advisory services for policymakers and statistical and information services in support of the UNCTAD work programme;

(g) Assessment of the economic development prospects of the occupied Palestinian territory and of obstacles to trade and development and the provision of effective operational activities to the Palestinian people;

(h) Research and analysis addressing the development challenges of South–South integration and cooperation, including triangular cooperation.

Subprogramme 2

Investment and enterprise

Objective of the Organization: To ensure inclusive growth and sustainable development through investment and enterprise development for enhancing productive capacity-building, industrialization and economic diversification, and job creation of all developing countries, in particular those in Africa and in LDCs, as well as LLDCs, SIDS, and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
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(a) Improved capacity to address key and emerging issues related to investment and its interaction with official development assistance,	(a) (i) Increased number of investment stakeholders responding to evaluation surveys and reporting improved capacity to address key issues related to investment
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Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
trade and regional integration, to build productive capacity and promote sustainable development.	(ii) Increased number of statements by Member States indicating that they have implemented policy recommendations and utilized methodology provided by UNCTAD in the area of international investment
(b) Increased ability of all developing countries in designing and implementing strategies and policies to attract and benefit from investment for sustainable development	(b) (i) Increased number of countries benefiting from UNCTAD assistance, including investment policy reviews and e-tools, and implementation of national policies towards incentivizing investment (ii) Increased number of developing countries benefiting from UNCTAD assistance, demonstrating improved performance on the basis of various benchmark indicators, monitored by UNCTAD
(c) Increased capacity to address key and emerging issues related to international investment agreements and their development dimension, and enhanced capacity to formulate and implement international investment agreements	(c) (i) Increased number of statements by policymakers and other international investment agreements stakeholders reporting on the sustainable development dimension of international investment agreements (ii) Increased number of Member States participating in formulating and implementing investment treaties, as reflected in various types of feedback from policymakers and other international investment agreements stakeholders
(d) Enhanced understanding and ability to boost productive capacity through enterprise development policies aimed at: (i) Stimulating enterprise development, entrepreneurship and business linkages (ii) Promoting best practices in corporate social responsibility and accounting (iii) Establishing competitive and well-regulated insurance markets	(d) (i) Increased number of countries using UNCTAD policy measures and tools in the design of policies aimed at strengthening entrepreneurship and the competitiveness of their firms (ii) Increased number of countries using guidance and tools developed by UNCTAD in the areas of accounting, enterprise development, insurance, business linkages, e-tourism and corporate reporting

Strategy

14. The subprogramme is under the responsibility of the Division on Investment and Enterprise. The subprogramme will assist all developing countries, in particular those in Africa, and LDCs, as well as LLDCs, SIDS and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies, in designing and implementing active policies at both the national and international levels aimed at enhancing their productive capacity-building, industrialization and economic diversification, and job creation through investment and enterprise development. To that end, the subprogramme will follow a coherent approach consisting of:

- (a) Strengthening its role as the major source of comprehensive information about and analysis of international investment, so as to enable policymakers to make better-informed decisions;
- (b) Helping developing countries, at their request, to strengthen their capacity to formulate and implement integrated policies, and to attract and benefit from investment;
- (c) Supporting efforts by developing countries to build productive capacity through enterprise development;
- (d) Providing training and capacity-building programmes for local institutions.

Subprogramme 3 International trade

Component 1 Strengthening international trade

Objective of the Organization: To ensure the effective, qualitative and beneficial participation of all countries in international trade in order to build more inclusive and sustainable development outcomes

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
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(a) Strengthened understanding and capacity of developing countries and countries with economies in transition to integrate beneficially into the global economy and the international trading system	(a) (i) Increased number of countries receiving UNCTAD assistance for their participation in regional and multilateral trade agreements, cooperative frameworks and partnerships, including South–South trade negotiations and WTO accession processes (ii) Increased number of developing countries integrating trade, productive capacity and development concerns into their best-fit national trade and services policies
(b) Enhanced capacities of developing countries in trade and trade-related decision-making and addressing the trade and development impact of non-tariff measures	(b) (i) Increased number of active users of the Trade Analysis and Information System, through either the Internet or the World Integrated Trade Solution, the Agriculture Trade Policy Simulation Model and the Transparency in Trade Initiative (ii) Increased number of specific actions taken by Member States to reduce or eliminate arbitrary or unjustified non-tariff barriers in international trade

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(c) Enhanced institutional capacities to deal effectively with anticompetitive practices	(c) (i) Increased number of developing countries establishing or revising and implementing national and/or regional (including South–South) competition and consumer protection legislation and institutional frameworks, including by using the UNCTAD capacity-building programmes at the national and regional levels (ii) Increased number of countries using the UNCTAD Model Law on Competition, volunteering for peer reviews of competition law and policy, and implementing recommendations of peer reviews with the support of UNCTAD
(d) Strengthened capacity of developing countries to design and implement mutually supportive trade, environment, climate change and sustainable development objectives in development strategies at all levels	(d) (i) Increased number of developing countries designing and implementing policies, plans, programmes, normative initiatives and institutional arrangements with a view to taking advantage of trade and investment opportunities and promoting their sustainable development objectives (ii) Increased number of developing countries participating in the biotrade and biofuels initiatives

Strategy

15. The subprogramme is under the responsibility of the Division on International Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities. The subprogramme promotes inclusive and sustainable growth and development, based on trade, through work on international trade in goods, services and commodities and the international trading system, and on the linkages between trade and internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including the Millennium Development Goals. The subprogramme will in particular address persistent and emerging development challenges as they relate to their implications for trade and development, including on sustainable development, women's empowerment and employment, especially for the poor and youth. It will also support strengthening of all forms of cooperation and partnerships for trade and development, including North–South, South–South and triangular cooperation. The subprogramme will continue and improve close cooperation and enhance synergies and complementarities with other international organizations and foster the coordination of system-wide United Nations activities in the area of international trade in goods and services, and commodities. Through all three pillars of the work of UNCTAD, the subprogramme assists developing countries, in particular those in Africa and LDCs, and countries with economies in transition.

16. The work of UNCTAD under the subprogramme will include the following:

(a) Monitoring and assessing the evolution of the international trading system and trends in international trade from a development perspective; placing greater emphasis on practical solutions, including policy options and successful strategies for maximizing trading opportunities; mitigating the adverse impacts of global economic crises and building resilient economies;

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- (b) Enhancing the capacity of developing countries to establish negotiating priorities; negotiate and implement bilateral, regional and multilateral trade agreements; ensure coherency among them and optimize development gains;
 - (c) Strengthening technical support to countries in the process of WTO accession, in cooperation with WTO;
 - (d) Examining ways to improve the utilization of trade preferences;
 - (e) Assisting structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies in their efforts to integrate into the multilateral trading system;
 - (f) Assisting developing countries in their efforts to increase participation in global services production and trade, including in undertaking services policy reviews and establishing regulatory and institutional frameworks;
 - (g) Assisting developing countries in their efforts to achieve a successful export diversification and structural transformation, including their increased participation in manufacturing and creative economy sectors and global supply chains;
 - (h) Undertaking research and analysis on trade and development aspects of intellectual property;
 - (i) Facilitating economic cooperation among developing countries and South–South trade, including through the Global System of Trade Preferences among Developing Countries;
 - (j) Strengthening analytical capacity for trade policymaking and negotiations, and integrating trade and development concerns into national trade policies that would contribute to productive capacity, inclusiveness and employment creation, in particular for LDCs;
 - (k) Addressing the trade and development impacts of non-tariff measures, particularly through comprehensive research and analysis, partnerships with other related international organizations on data collection on non-tariff measures and designing innovative methods of quantifying impacts of non-tariff measures on international trade;
 - (l) Promoting the use of effective competition and consumer policies for achieving domestic and international competitiveness and for dealing with anticompetitive practices, including through the sharing of best practices and carrying out of peer reviews;
 - (m) Addressing issues at the interface between trade, environment and sustainable development, including fostering low-carbon development, ensuring development gains and seizing trade and investment opportunities related to the emerging climate change regime and the sustainable use of biodiversity;
 - (n) Addressing challenges and opportunities of the green economy and other models in the context of sustainable development, poverty eradication and resilience to climate change;
 - (o) Developing and implementing trade and trade-related technical cooperation and capacity-building activities, including through Aid for Trade;
 - (p) Sharing of best practices on cooperation and partnerships for trade and development that can enhance achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

Component 2 Commodities

Objective of the Organization: To harness development gains and to deal with the trade and development problems of the commodity economy and of commodity dependence

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
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<p>(a) Improved capacity of commodity-dependent developing countries to address trade and development problems associated with the commodity economy and to seize opportunities emerging from commodity trade and enhanced international and regional cooperation</p>	<p>(a) (i) Increased amount of research on commodity production in countries with economies that are dependent on commodities, with the aim of diversifying their production, including by increasing the added value of their commodities</p> <p>(ii) Increased number of commodity-dependent developing countries adopting policy measures and tools recommended by UNCTAD in designing policies aimed at the diversification of export earnings</p>
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Strategy

17. Component 2 of the subprogramme is under the responsibility of the Special Unit on Commodities, which carries out its work as an autonomous unit on commodities, in accordance with paragraph 183 of the Accra Accord. With the guidance and leadership of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD, the Unit will contribute more effectively to the efforts of developing countries to formulate strategies and policies to respond to the challenges and the opportunities of commodity markets and assisting developing countries, in particular those in Africa, LDCs, LLDCs, SIDS and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies, through all three pillars of the work of UNCTAD. The component will continue to play a key role, with appropriate coordination with other international and regional actors, including relevant international commodity bodies, in the following areas:

- (a) Addressing the trade and development problems associated with the commodity economy;
- (b) Monitoring developments and challenges in commodity markets and addressing links between international commodity trade and national development, particularly with regard to poverty reduction;
- (c) Assisting commodity-dependent developing countries in their efforts to:
 - (i) Develop national commodity strategies, including the mainstreaming of commodity policies into their national and regional development strategies;
 - (ii) Build supply-side capacities in order to achieve competitiveness;
 - (iii) Move up value chains and diversify commodity sectors;
 - (iv) Comply with international trade standards;
 - (v) Gain access to commodity information and databases;

- (vi) Take advantage of export opportunities for commodities in emerging markets;
- (vii) Establish effective marketing systems and support frameworks for small commodity producers, including economically viable safety-net programmes;
- (viii) Develop commodity financing and risk management schemes;
- (d) Promoting intergovernmental cooperation in the field of commodities and building consensus regarding ways to integrate commodity policies into:
 - (i) National, regional and international development and poverty-reduction strategies;
 - (ii) Trade-related policies and instruments for resolving commodity problems;
 - (iii) Investment and financial policies for gaining access to financial resources for commodity-based development.

Subprogramme 4 Technology and logistics

Objective of the Organization: To strengthen science, technology and innovation, including information and communications technologies for inclusive development; to support inclusive growth and development through efficient, resilient and sustainable trade logistics services and transit transport systems; and to promote training and capacity-building programmes for local institutions with a view to enhancing the economic development and competitiveness of developing countries and economies in transition

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Indicators of achievement

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| (a) Improved efficiency and sustainability of trade logistics of developing countries and economies in transition | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) (i) Increased number of specific, identifiable actions taken by developing countries and countries with economies in transition to improve trade logistics, such as actions to cut transport and transaction costs; improve effective transit systems, sustainable transport efficiency and connectivity; and establish a supportive legal framework, with the assistance of UNCTAD (ii) Increased number of measures adopted by developing countries and economies in transition using the Automated System for Customs Data to further improve the efficient management of their customs administration, with the assistance of UNCTAD (iii) Increased number of developing countries and countries with economies in transition having improved trade logistics performance on the basis of benchmark indicators related to logistics and business efficiency, with the assistance of UNCTAD |
| (b) Improved awareness and adoption of national and international policies in the area of science, technology and innovation, as well as information and communications technology (ICT) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (b) (i) Increased number of specific actions taken by developing countries and economies in transition to implement programmes aimed at enhancing the contributions of science, technology and innovation and ICT to development, with the assistance of UNCTAD (ii) Increased number of cooperation initiatives at the subregional, regional and international levels in the areas of science and technology, and ICT, with the assistance of UNCTAD |
| (c) Better understanding, at the national level, of policy options and best practices relating to science and technology for development, and to ICT for development | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (c) (i) Increased number of countries benefiting from UNCTAD assistance, through capacity-building activities, including policy reviews, and from policy analysis and recommendations emanating from various reports in this area of work (ii) Increased number of countries integrating science, technology and innovation, including ICT, in national development strategies, United Nations development assistance frameworks and poverty reduction strategy |

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(d) Enhanced capacities in developing countries and countries with economies in transition in the areas of trade and investment and interrelated issues	papers (d) Increased number of specific actions taken by developing countries and countries with economies in transition to strengthen the capacities of human resources and local institutions in the areas of trade and investment and related issues, as a result of UNCTAD assistance

Strategy

18. The subprogramme is under the responsibility of the Division on Technology and Logistics. The effective implementation of the work programme under the subprogramme will help improve the technological capacity, competitiveness in international trade, and overall development of developing countries, especially those in Africa, LDCs, LLDCs, SIDS and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies, as well as countries with economies in transition; it will also assist transit developing countries with their special challenges related to designing and implementing resilient and sustainable transport infrastructure and services by:

(a) Improving trade logistics policies; strengthening transport operations management, systems and connections; supporting the design and implementation of coherent sustainable freight transport and enhancing transit infrastructure and transit systems;

(b) Assisting, in particular, SIDS in the design and implementation of policies taking into account their specific trade logistics challenges;

(c) Addressing the special needs of LLDCs, especially within a new global framework for transit transport cooperation;

(d) Supporting the active participation of developing countries in transport and trade facilitation negotiations;

(e) Assisting in the development and the implementation of appropriate institutional and legal frameworks for the facilitation of trade and transport;

(f) Supporting the active participation of developing countries in transport and trade facilitation negotiations;

(g) Conducting research and analysis in the area of science, technology and innovation, focusing on making capacity in those areas an instrument for supporting national development, helping local industry become more competitive and for developing export diversification efforts of countries, including through transfer of technology;

(h) Performing research and analysis on the role of innovation policies as part of industrial policies for development;

(i) Supporting LDCs by contributing to the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020 in trade and interrelated issues in the areas of technology and sustainable development;

(j) Carrying out research and providing technical assistance to developing countries in ICTs, including by contributing to the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development;

(k) Contributing to the implementation of the World Summit on the Information Society action lines on capacity-building, an enabling environment, e-business and e-science, in cooperation with other relevant international organizations;

(l) Serving as the secretariat to the Commission on Science and Technology for Development;

(m) Fostering training and capacity-building aimed at policymakers and practitioners in the fields of trade and related areas of finance, technology, investment and sustainable development.

Subprogramme 5 Africa, least developed countries and special programmes

Objective of the Organization: To promote development of national policies and international support measures to build productive capacity for economic development and poverty reduction in Africa, in LDCs and other groups of countries in special situations (LLDCs, SIDS, and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies) and to progressively and beneficially integrate them into the global economy

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Increased adoption of practical policy recommendations of UNCTAD to promote African development in the areas of trade and development	(a) Increased number of Member States reporting that they have adopted policy recommendations, research findings and conclusions provided by UNCTAD in the area of African trade and development
(b) Increased consensus on, and adoption of, policies to address development problems of LDCs in the global economy, including those in the process of graduation from the list of LDCs	(b) Increased number of Member States reporting that they have adopted policy recommendations, research findings and conclusions provided by UNCTAD in the area of the development of LDCs and the countries graduating from the list of LDCs
(c) Enhanced integration of trade policies and priorities in the national development plans	(c) Increased number of LDCs that have made progress in mainstreaming trade policies and priorities into their national development plans and have implemented the action matrices of the Enhanced Integrated Framework
(d) Improved capacities of LLDCs, SIDS and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies to support their economic transformation and resilience-building efforts	(d) Increased number of LLDCs, SIDS, and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies having benefited from UNCTAD advisory services and other forms of assistance on achieving structural progress

Strategy

19. The subprogramme is under the responsibility of the Division for Africa, Least Developed Countries and Special Programmes. In order to attain the objective, the subprogramme will focus on identifying and promoting understanding of the economic development problems specific to African countries, LDCs and other countries covered by the subprogramme, through policy analysis and research, and will play an advocacy role in promoting consensus in the international development community regarding the policy

measures that best address those development problems. This will involve the identification of new issues and approaches, as well as greater interaction with research institutes in LDCs and with development partners. The subprogramme will also contribute to the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of relevant global conferences and to the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, including those set out in the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020. The special programme under this subprogramme is aimed at:

(a) Helping LLDCs to mitigate the adverse economic consequences of their geographical disadvantage by addressing their special trade, investment and development gains;

(b) Helping SIDS to enhance their resilience to external shocks and making steady socio-economic progress possible for most of them;

(c) Instilling throughout UNCTAD a practice of devoting systematic attention to the problems of other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies, as referred to in paragraph 10 of the Accra Accord.

20. A major aim is to add value to current policy debates through practical policy recommendations and innovative thinking aimed, inter-alia, at assisting countries in mainstreaming policies on building productive capacity into their national development strategies. Research outputs will be linked closely to the provision of advisory services, training, workshops, lectures and technical assistance activities, with a view to improving human and institutional capabilities and raising awareness of development partners of the specific needs of countries covered by the subprogramme and ways to meet those needs. In order to identify policy options at the national and international levels regarding the use of trade as a more effective tool for poverty eradication, the subprogramme will undertake research activities concerning the interlinkages between trade and poverty, as well as training and capacity-building programmes for local institutions.

21. The subprogramme will continue to support countries in their efforts to benefit from their respective United Nations statuses and to integrate beneficially into the global economy, reduce poverty and make progress towards meeting graduation criteria. This will involve support aimed at enhancing productive capacity and building resilience to adverse external influences. In addition, the subprogramme will develop policy recommendations to support the implementation of smooth transition strategies of countries graduating from the list of LDCs. Technical cooperation outputs of the subprogramme will be focused on building capacities for national policymaking ownership, including improved national statistical capacity, which will draw on UNCTAD policy analysis and research work. Furthermore, they will be aimed at effective participation in and delivery of trade-related technical assistance in the context of, inter alia, the Enhanced Integrated Framework and the Aid for Trade initiative. Whenever necessary, these activities will be implemented in the framework of the Inter-Agency Cluster on Trade and Productive Capacity.

22. In addition, the subprogramme will contribute to the implementation of the outcome of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020; the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries; and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, including the outcomes of their reviews and other regionally owned partnership programmes such as the New Partnership for Africa's Development. In order to ensure coherence and consistency, the subprogramme will coordinate and cooperate with other subprogrammes on the sectoral work relating to the groups of countries concerned. Moreover, the subprogramme will promote throughout

UNCTAD efforts to gain analytical insights into the problems faced by “other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies”, as referred to in paragraph 10 of the Accra Accord, through the systematic coverage of such countries in relevant UNCTAD research and technical assistance.

Legislative mandates

General Assembly resolutions

1995 (XIX)	Establishment of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as an organ of the General Assembly
2297 (XXII)	International Trade Centre
55/2	United Nations Millennium Declaration
56/210	International Conference on Financing for Development
60/1	2005 World Summit Outcome
62/179	New Partnership for Africa's Development: Progress in implementation and international support
62/208	Triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
63/204	Report of the twelfth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
63/303	Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development
64/193	Follow-up to and implementation of the Monterrey Consensus and the outcome of the 2008 Review Conference (Doha Declaration on Financing for Development)
64/222	Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation
65/280	Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020
66/132	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly
66/185	International trade and development
66/186	Unilateral economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries
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