

SUMMARY OF MEETINGS

Wednesday, 17 September 2008

1023rd plenary meetings and hearing with civil society

Item 1 Procedural matters

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

Organization of work

The Board received the nominations for the Chairs of Sessional Committee I (to consider and report on agenda item 4) and Sessional Committee II (to consider and report on agenda item 5)

H.E. Ambassador Jean Feyder of Luxembourg was elected as Chair of Sessional Committee I.

H.E. Ambassador Kwabena Baah-Duodu of Ghana was elected as Chair of Sessional Committee II.

General statements

Representatives of the following member States made statements: Thailand and India.

Item 3 Interdependence: Mobilizing resources for development – commodity prices, productive capacity, supply and distribution (*continued*)

Professor Robert Frenkel, Principal Associate Researcher at the Centro de Estudios de Estado y Sociedad (CEDES), Professor of Economics, School of Economics, University of Buenos Aires, made a presentation.

In the interactive debate that followed, representatives of the following member States took the floor: Argentina, Peru, Zimbabwe (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China); Angola; Ethiopia; Philippines and Indonesia. The representative of the Third World Network also took the floor. Professor Robert Frenkel and the secretariat responded to questions and comments.

Item 11 Matters requiring action by the Board in the follow-up to the twelfth session of the Conference and arising from or related to reports and activities of its subsidiary and other bodies

– Hearing with civil society

The meeting was chaired by H.E. Mr. Tomáš Husak (Czech Republic), Vice-President of the Trade and Development Board.

Ms. Lakshmi Puri, Acting Deputy Secretary-General of UNCTAD, addressed the hearing. Her statement was followed by presentations from keynote speakers and an interactive debate.

Theme 1: The global food crisis: addressing a systemic failure in development strategy

Keynote speakers:

Ms. Iara Pietricovsky, Instituto de Estudos Socioeconomicos, Brazil

Ms. Jacqueline Coté, International Chamber of Commerce, Geneva Office.

During the interactive debate, representatives of the following member States took the floor: Zimbabwe (on behalf of the Group of 77) and France (on behalf of the European Union). Representatives of the following organisations took the floor: Organisation Camerounaise de Promotion de la Coopération Economique Internationale; Consumer Unity and Trust Society; Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy; Commission Africain des Promoteurs de la Santé et des Droits de l'Homme; Coordination des ONG Africaines des Droits de l'Homme; Village Suisse ONG; International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements; Centre du Commerce International pour le Développement and Centre for Trade and Development.

Theme 2: The global food crisis and its impact on sustainable development

Keynote speakers:

Mr. Sam Kuloba Watasa, Uganda Consumers' Protection, Uganda

Mr. Mamadou Ndiaye, Office Africain pour le Développement et la Coopération, Senegal.

During the interactive debate, representatives of the following organisations took the floor: Third World Network; Synergy for Development and International Partnership; Consumer Unity and Trust Society; Global Traders Conference; International Federation of Business and Professional Women; Coordination des ONG Africaines des Droits de l'Homme and International Gender and Trade Network.

The Acting Deputy Secretary-General of UNCTAD made concluding remarks.

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