

**United Nations Conference
on Trade and Development**

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21–26 April 2012

**Draft report of the United Nations Conference on
Trade and Development on its thirteenth session**

Held in Doha, Qatar, from 21 to 26 April 2012

Contents

| | <i>Page</i> |
|---|-------------|
| President's summary | |
| Organizational, procedural and other matters | 2 |
| A. Opening of the Conference | 2 |
| B. Election of the President | 2 |
| C. Establishment of sessional bodies | 2 |
| D. Election of vice-presidents and the Rapporteur | 2 |
| E. Credentials of representatives to the Conference | 4 |
| F. Adoption of the agenda | 4 |

President's summary

Organizational, procedural and other matters

A. Opening of the Conference

(Agenda item 1)

1. The inaugural ceremony of the thirteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development was held on 21 April 2012 at the Qatar National Convention Centre, Doha, Qatar. Opening statements were made by His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani, Emir of Qatar; H.E. Mr. Moncef Marzouki, President, Republic of Tunisia; H.E. Mr. Issoufou Mahamadou, President, Republic of Niger; H.E. Mr. Ikililou Dhoinine, President of the Union of the Comoros; Ms. Hannah Tetteh, Trade Minister, Ghana, on behalf of H.E. Mr. John Atta Mills, President of Ghana; H.E. Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdogan, Prime Minister, Republic of Turkey; H.E. Sheikh Hasina, Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh; and Mr. Abdelkader Bensalah, President of the Council of the Nation, Algeria.

B. Election of the President

(Agenda item 2)

2. At its 281st (opening) plenary meeting, on 21 April 2012, the Conference elected by acclamation as its President H.E. Mr. Hamad bin Abdulaziz Al-Kuwari, Minister of Culture, Arts and Heritage of Qatar. His name was put into nomination by Ms. Hanna Tetteh, Minister for Trade and Industry of Ghana, who made a statement on behalf of President John Atta Mills. Ms. Tetteh noted that, as a representative of the host country for UNCTAD XII in 2008, she was honoured to be nominating a representative of the host country of UNCTAD XIII.

C. Establishment of sessional bodies

(Agenda item 3)

3. At the same meeting, the Conference decided to establish a Committee of the Whole to consider and report on the specific substantive item referred to it by the plenary (agenda item 8). It was recalled that, in line with rule 63 of the rules of procedure, the Committee of the Whole could set up such drafting groups as might be required to carry out its functions.

D. Election of vice-presidents and the Rapporteur

(Agenda item 4)

4. At the same meeting, the Conference decided that its Bureau would consist of 35 members, comprising the President, the vice-presidents, the Chair of the Committee of the Whole, and the Rapporteur of the Conference. It further decided that the composition of the Bureau should be such as to ensure equitable geographical distribution, i.e. seven members from Africa, seven from Asia, seven from Latin America and the Caribbean, nine from Group B, four from Group D, and one from China. It declared the following officers elected:

Chair of the Committee of the Whole:

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------|
| Mr. Anthony Mothae Maruping | Lesotho |
|-----------------------------|---------|

Vice-presidents:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Mr. Merzak Belhimeur | Algeria |
| Mr. Carlos Bianco | Argentina |
| Mr. Md. Ghulam Hussain | Bangladesh |
| Mr. Yury Ambrazevich | Belarus |
| Mr. Paul Magnette | Belgium |
| Mr. Arthur Patiende Kafando | Burkina Faso |
| Mr. Bruce Christie | Canada |
| Mr. Mario Matus | Chile |
| Mr. Yu Jianhua | China |
| Mr. Gabriel Duque | Colombia |
| Mr. Abdi Elmi Achkir | Djibouti |
| Mr. Luis Gallegos | Ecuador |
| Mr. François Goldblatt | France |
| Ms. Anne Ruth Herkes | Germany |
| Mr. Clement Frank Aryee Nyaaba | Ghana |
| Mr. Masoud Movahedi | Islamic Republic of Iran |
| Mr. Arnold J. Nicholson | Jamaica |
| Mr. Albinas Zananavivius | Lithuania |
| Mr. J. Feyder | Luxembourg |
| Mr. Ahmed Mohamed | Maldives |
| Mr. Abdelkader Amara | Morocco |
| Mr. Nasser El Hakim | Netherlands |
| Mr. Makhdoom Amin Faheem | Pakistan |
| Mr. José Urquiza Maggia | Peru |
| Mr. Alexey Likhachev | Russian Federation |
| Ms. Tamara Kunanayakam | Sri Lanka |
| Ms. B. Masser | Switzerland |
| Mr. Stephen Cadiz | Trinidad and Tobago |
| Mr. Abdallah Triki | Tunisia |
| Mr. Selim Kuneralp | Turkey |
| Ms. Betty King | United States of America |
| Mr. Ibrahim Saied Mohamed Al-Adoofi | Yemen |

Rapporteur:

| | |
|-------------------|---------|
| Mr. Väino Reinart | Estonia |
|-------------------|---------|

5. In accordance with past practice, the Conference decided that the coordinators of regional groups and chairs of subsidiary bodies would be fully associated with the work of the Bureau.

E. Credentials of representatives to the Conference

(Agenda item 5)

Appointment of the Credentials Committee

(Agenda item 5(a))

6. Also at its opening plenary meeting, and in accordance with rule 14 of the rules of procedure, the Conference established a Credentials Committee consisting of nine members. In accordance with past practice, the Committee was to be composed of the same nine States as appointed by the General Assembly to serve on the Credentials Committee at its sixty-second session. The composition of the Credentials Committee was thus as follows: China, Costa Rica, Egypt, Italy, Maldives, Panama, the Russian Federation, Senegal and the United States of America.

F. Adoption of the agenda

(Agenda item 6)

7. At its opening plenary meeting, the Conference adopted the provisional agenda for its thirteenth session, as contained in document TD/443.

8. The President of the Conference announced that (a) the Trade and Development Board would meet in special session six weeks after the official circulation of the the document "Review of management and administration in the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)" (JIU/REP/2012/1) in all official languages of the United Nations, in order to address the report and its contents, and decide on ways for follow-up and effective implementation of the Board's decisions; (b) the annual regular sessions of the Trade and Development Board would consider and evaluate the progress of the implementation of decisions on the report and take action, as appropriate; and (c) in that regard, the Trade and Development Board would report on progress to the next Conference.

9. The representative of Cuba expressed reservations with what he felt was an inconsistent position taken by some developed countries concerning the Conference's consideration of the JIU report. Despite his reservations, he agreed with the adoption of the draft agenda as contained in document TD/443.
