

Distr.  
RESTRICTED

TD/B/40(1)/R.1/Add.3  
4 August 1993

Original: ENGLISH

TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD  
Fortieth session  
First part  
Geneva, 20 September 1993  
Item 11 (g) of the provisional agenda

DESIGNATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL  
ORGANIZATIONS FOR THE PURPOSES OF RULE 77 OF THE  
RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE BOARD

Application by the Latin American and  
Caribbean Free Zone Association

Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

1. The UNCTAD secretariat has received an application dated 22 January 1993 from the President of the Latin American and Caribbean Free Zone Association (AZOLCA), requesting the inclusion of that organization by the Trade and Development Board in the list provided for in rule 77 of the Board's rules of procedure.
2. Having reviewed the information provided, the secretariat is of the opinion that, subject to the concurrence of the Bureau of the Trade and Development Board, AZOLCA may be classified in the General Category under the provision of paragraph 12 (a) of Board decision 43 (VII).
3. The Board may wish to take action on the above-mentioned application at its current session in the light of the recommendation of the Bureau.
4. Some information regarding AZOLCA is annexed.

<p>This document is at this stage intended for the information of States members of UNCTAD and its distribution is, therefore, restricted for their exclusive use. It is proposed to de-restrict the document in due course.</p>
--

## Annex

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN FREE ZONE ASSOCIATION

#### History

1. The Latin American and Caribbean Free Zone Association (AZOLCA) was established at the conclusion of the first Forum of Latin American and Caribbean Free Zones by virtue of a decision of its General Assembly taken on 20 October 1987. The Forum was convened in the light of the desire expressed by the free zones of the region for the establishment of a Free Zone Association in order to strengthen their capacity through commercial, technical and financial cooperation. The establishment of the Association was an important step in the increased emergence of these bodies as promoters of international trade in their respective countries.

#### Aims and objectives

2. The objectives of AZOLCA are to promote and strengthen cooperation among free zones, free ports and other organizations specified in AZOLCA's by-Laws, in order to encourage economic and social development in general and to promote the industrialization of the zones and their areas of influence, in particular by: coordinating policies and strengthening relations through constant exchange of information; cooperating with international organizations with similar goals; unifying criteria and channelling efforts to improve members' negotiating positions with respect to foreign investors by exchanging methods of evaluation of investment proposals and by providing information with respect to potential investors and markets; producing and circulating among members statistical information on potential investors and markets; preparing training courses for members' personnel on administrative techniques, promotion, legislation, incentives, operating systems, procedures and other items considered necessary for specialized work in free zones; organizing exchange visits for personnel for their mutual benefit; motivating transfer of technology and constant flow of information to members regarding technical advances; and undertaking promotional campaigns or improved service to industries installed in zone areas.

#### Membership

3. The Association is composed of governments, official bodies, free zones, industrial parks, free ports, assembly plants, import and export systems, private entrepreneurs and their associations. There are currently members in the following countries and territories: Aruba, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Curaçao, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Puerto Rico, Spain, Uruguay and Venezuela.

#### Structure

4. The organs of AZOLCA are the General Assembly, the Council, and the secretariat. The General Assembly, which is the supreme organ of the Association, has, inter alia, the following responsibilities: election of the

President, the Executive Secretary and deputy Executive Secretary, for a term of two years; approval of the by-laws and rules of procedure of the Association; approval of the annual report of the Executive Secretary; determination of the overall policy and work programmes; approval of the budget. The Council is composed of a President, who also acts as President of the General Assembly, and members elected by the General Assembly. The President recommends to the Council the initial work programme which is submitted to the General Assembly for approval, represents the Association at meetings and exercises all powers deemed necessary by the Assembly or the Council. In addition to functions delegated to it by the General Assembly, the Council also recommends budget and financial statements for approval by the General Assembly, acts as the members' advisory body for the preparation of studies and projects relating to the Association's objectives and organizes annual forums to take place concurrently with meetings of the General Assembly. The secretariat, which is composed of the Executive Secretary and its personnel, carries out all executive, administrative and technical functions, under the general direction and supervision of the Council, through the President.

#### Financial resources

5. AZOLCA's resources are derived from admission and membership fees, as determined by the General Assembly, and revenue from services, such as training, consultancy on specific points and international promotion.

#### Relations with other international organizations

6. AZOLCA maintains working relations with the following organizations: United Nations Development Programme, Organization of American States, Interamerican Development Bank, Institute for Latin American Integration and Latin American Association of Trading Companies.

#### Publications

7. AZOLCA has published the following studies: Comparative document on the free zones of Latin America and the Caribbean (three volumes), Inventory of products processed and marketed in the free zones of Latin America and the Caribbean, and an inventory of the free zones of Latin America and the Caribbean.

#### Liaison

8. Liaison with UNCTAD will be maintained by the President and Executive Secretary of the Association, Mr. Hector Trujillo Vélez.

Address

9. Asociación de Zonas Francas de Latinoamerica y el Caribe  
San Diego, calle de la Tablada 7-96 Of.102  
Apartado Aéreo 2775  
Cartagena de Indias  
Colombia

Telephone: (5753) 65 60 79 / 64 11 71

FAX: (5753) 65 60 79

10. The working language of the Association is Spanish.

-----