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TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD  
Forty second session,  
First part  
Geneva, 11 September 1995  
Item (7) (b) 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 International Council of Environmental Law

Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

1. The UNCTAD secretariat has received an application from the Executive Governor of the International Council of Environmental Law (ICEL), 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, ICEL 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 ICEL is annexed.

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.

## Annex

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

#### History

1. The International Council of Environmental Law (ICEL) was founded in 1969 with the dual aims of encouraging advice and assistance throughout its network, and fostering the exchange and dissemination of information about environmental law, policy and administration among its members.

#### Aims and objectives

2. The principal aim of ICEL is to serve as a worldwide network of environmental legal professionals. ICEL also endeavours to disseminate environmental legal information, primarily for the use of its members. According to article 2 of its Statutes, ICEL acts as a clearing house between individuals and organizations dealing with the legal, administrative and policy aspects of environmental conservation. It promotes collaboration between its members and affiliated parties; develops an exchange of information on all legal, administrative and policy aspects of environmental conservation; and works in close cooperation with all organizations active in the various aspects of environmental conservation and supports their activities.

#### Membership

3. ICEL has about 400 members worldwide. According to article 3 of its Statutes, the Council is composed of: individual and corporate members and affiliated parties (public agencies, national and international governmental organizations); affiliated parties do not hold rights of members. Individual and corporate members are elected by the Board of Governors for two years and may be re-elected for subsequent two-year terms. Applications for recognition as an affiliated party are subject to ratification by the Board of Governors.

#### Structure

4. The governing body of ICEL is the Board of Governors consisting of seven international governors, who are the founders or their successors, two regional governors elected by each of the ten membership regions throughout the world, and one ex-officio governor, the Chairman of the Commission on Environmental Law. The Board of Governors elects two executive governors for a period of three years as well as individuals and institutions proposed for membership.

### Financial resources

5. The resources of ICEL are derived principally from non-profit foundations as well as from funding for specific projects through public and private donations.

### Relations with other international organizations

6. ICEL has category II consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). It is a member of the International Union of Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN).

### Publications

7. The principal publications of ICEL are the following: ICEL References, published four times a year, lists bibliographic references to literature on environmental law and policy; Environmental Policy and Law, ICEL's journal, which has a section on the activities of the United Nations system, and monitors international developments and regional and national affairs; Environmental Notes for Parliamentarians, a monthly newsletter produced jointly with the Inter-Parliamentary Working Group, is designed to provide parliamentarians around the world with references to current developments in environmental policy.

### Liaison

8. Liaison with UNCTAD will be maintained by one of the Executive Governors, Mr. Wolfgang Burhenne.

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10. The working languages of the Council are English and French.

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