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TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Forty-third session
Geneva, 7 October 1996

**DRAFT REPORT OF THE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
ON ITS FORTY-THIRD SESSION**

Rapporteur: Mrs. Violeta Fonseca de Sanabria (Venezuela)

AGENDA ITEM 8 AND PROCEDURAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

Speaker: Vice-Chairman of the Joint Advisory Group on the
International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO (Uruguay)

Note for Delegations

This draft report is a provisional text circulated for clearance by delegations.

Requests for amendments - to be submitted in English or French - should be communicated by **Friday, 25 October 1996, at the latest** to:

The UNCTAD Editorial Section
Room E.8106
Fax No. 907 0056
Tel. No. 907 5654 or 5655

Chapter III

OTHER MATTERS IN THE FIELD OF TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

(Agenda item 8)

- (a) Progressive development of the law of international trade: twenty-ninth annual report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law

1. For its consideration of sub-item 8 (a), the Board had before it the report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its twenty-ninth session, held in New York from 28 May to 14 June 1996 (A/51/17), which had been circulated to the Board under cover of a note by the UNCTAD secretariat (TD/B/43/3).

Action by the Board

2. At its 880th meeting, on 16 October 1996, the Board took note of the report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its twenty-ninth session (A/51/17).

- (b) Report of the Joint Advisory Group on the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO on its twenty-ninth session

3. For its consideration of sub-item 8 (b), the Board had before it the report of the Joint Advisory Group on the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO on its twenty-ninth session, held in Geneva from 15 to 19 April 1996 (ITC/AG(XXIX)/157), which had been circulated to the Board under cover of a note by the UNCTAD secretariat (TD/B/43/4).

4. Introducing the report, the Vice-Chairman of the Joint Advisory Group (Uruguay) stated that the Group had vigorously reaffirmed the relevance and importance of ITC's mandate in today's trade environment and fully supported the Executive Director's continuing efforts to improve the efficiency of the organization, particularly through institutional reform and closer relations with its parent bodies. Appreciation had been expressed for ITC's technical cooperation activities in 1995 which were judged to be pragmatic, result-oriented and responding to the countries' needs and potential for trade promotion and export development. The Group had also welcomed ITC's initiative to develop a mission statement and expressed its full support for the formulation of ITC's strategy, core services, values and modus operandi. It had also noted ITC's

contribution to the United Nations Medium-term Plan for the period 1998-2001. Recalling its endorsement of the proposal for setting up a Global Trust Fund at its twenty-eighth session, the Group expressed its satisfaction at the establishment of the Global Trust Fund and the effective functioning of its Consultative Committee.

5. Finally, he reported that, as was the practice each year, government representatives had announced at the twenty-ninth session confirmed or possible voluntary contributions to ITC. On behalf of the Group, he expressed gratitude to the Governments of Canada, China, Denmark, Finland, Germany, India, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland for this support.

Action by the Board

6. At its 880th meeting, on 16 October 1996, the Board took note of the report of the Joint Advisory Group on the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO on its twenty-ninth session (ITC/AG(XXIX)/157).

Chapter IV

PROCEDURAL, INSTITUTIONAL, ORGANIZATIONAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND RELATED MATTERS

A. Opening of the session

1. The forty-third session of the Trade and Development Board was opened on 7 October 1996 by Mr. William Rossier (Switzerland), the out-going President of the Board.

B. Election of officers ^{1/}

(Agenda item 1 (a))

2. At its 875th (opening) plenary meeting, on 7 October 1996, the Board elected by acclamation Mr. Patrick Sinyinza (Zambia) to act as President of the Board for the duration of its forty-third session.

3. Also at its opening plenary meeting the Board completed the election of officers to serve on the Bureau of the Board throughout its forty-third session by electing 10 Vice-Presidents and the Rapporteur. Accordingly, the elected Bureau was as follows:

<u>President:</u>	Mr. Patrick Sinyinza	(Zambia)
<u>Vice-Presidents:</u>	Mr. Anton Bebler	(Slovenia)
	Mr. Krit Garnjana-Goonchorn	(Thailand)
	Mrs. Arundhati Ghose	(India)
	Mr. Peter R. Jenkins	(United Kingdom)
	Mr. Andrei Kolossovsky	(Russian Federation)
	Mr. Alexander A. Kravetz	(El Salvador)
	Mr. Björn Skogmo	(Norway)
	Mr. Daniel L. Spiegel	(United States of America)
	Mr. Fisseha Yimer Aboye	(Ethiopia)
	Mr. Jun Yokota	(Japan)
<u>Rapporteur:</u>	Mrs. Violeta Fonseca de Sanabria	(Venezuela)

^{1/} The officers of the Bureau are elected to serve for the year-long period beginning with the forty-third session of the Board.

4. In accordance with past practice, the Board agreed that the regional coordinators and China, as well as the Chairmen of the Sessional Committees, would be fully associated with the work of the Bureau.

C. Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work of the session

(Agenda item 1 (b))

5. At its opening meeting, the Board adopted the annotated provisional agenda for the session contained in TD/B/43/1 and Add.1.

6. At the same meeting, in accordance with the organization of work for the session in TD/B/43/1/Add.2, the Board established two sessional committees: Sessional Committee I to consider and report on items on its agenda, as follows:

Sessional Committee I:

Item 4: Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s:

- (a) Review of implementation of the Programme of Action for the LDCs for the 1990s;
- (b) UNCTAD's contribution to the work of relevant international organizations in the implementation of the Uruguay Round Final Act Decision on Measures in Favour of the Least Developed Countries by assisting the LDCs that are WTO members to take maximum advantage of the special and differential measures provided for in the Uruguay Round Agreements

Item 5: UNCTAD's contribution to the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s and the role of UNCTAD in the implementation of the United Nations System-wide Special Initiative on Africa

Sessional Committee II:

Item 6: Review of technical cooperation activities of UNCTAD

Item 7: Matters requiring action by the Board in follow-up to the ninth session of the Conference and arising from or related to reports and activities of its subsidiary and other bodies:

- (a) Report of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD on preparations for a meeting with actors in development; ^{2/}
- (b) Improving the participation of developing countries' experts in UNCTAD meetings, including the question of financing their participation

Item 10: Other business

- UNCTAD's publication policy
- Issue of coordination and cooperation between UNCTAD and relevant international organizations

Sessional Committee I

7. At its 1st meeting, Sessional Committee I elected the following officers to serve on its Bureau:

Chairman: Mr. Bozorgmehr Ziaran (Islamic Republic of Iran)

Vice-Chairman-cum-
Rapporteur: Mr. Rénauld Clérismé (Haiti)

Sessional Committee II

8. At its 1st meeting, Sessional Committee II elected the following officers to serve on its Bureau:

Chairman: Mr. Markus Kummer (Switzerland)

Vice-Chairman-cum-
Rapporteur: Mr. Petko Baev (Bulgaria)

9. At the same meeting, Sessional Committee II, acting upon the recommendation made by the Bureau of the Board at its pre-sessional meeting on 4 October 1996, agreed that consideration of agenda item 7 (a) (i.e. Report of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD on preparations for a meeting with actors in development) should be postponed until a later date, in order to allow for adequate preparation of this item by the secretariat.

^{2/} In connection with sub-item 7 (a), see also para. 8 below.

10. At its ... (closing) plenary meeting, on 18 October 1996, the Board took note of the reports of Sessional Committee I (TD/B/43/SC.1/L.1 and Add.1-2) and Sessional Committee II (TD/B/43/SC.2/L.1 and Add.1) and decided to incorporate them in the final report of the Board on its forty-third session.

D. Adoption of the report on credentials

(Agenda item 1 (c))

[To be completed as appropriate]

**E. Provisional agenda for the forty-fourth session
of the Board**

(Agenda item 1 (d))

[To be completed as appropriate]

**F. Institutional, organizational, administrative
and related matters**

(Agenda item 9)

(a) *Review of the lists of States annexed to General Assembly
resolution 1995 (XIX)*

[To be completed as appropriate]

*(b) Designation of intergovernmental bodies for the purposes
of rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the Board*

11. At its 880th plenary meeting, on 16 October 1996, the Board took note that there were no new applications from intergovernmental organizations. The Board also took note that, following the entry into force of the Grains Trade Convention, the International Wheat Council, which had been granted status by the Board at its second session, had changed its name to the International Grains Council.

*(c) Designation and classification of non-governmental organizations for
the purposes of rule 77 of the rules of procedure of the Board*

12. Also at its 880th plenary meeting, the Board approved the applications of seven non-governmental organizations for designation under rule 77 of the rules of procedure of the Board and decided, in accordance with the recommendations of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD (TD/B/43/R.1) and of the Bureau, to classify them in accordance with paragraphs 12 (a) and 12 (b) of Board decision 43 (VII) as follows:

General category: World Wide Fund for Nature International (WWF) (TD/B/43/R.1/Add.2); International Council on Social Welfare (ICSW) (TD/B/43/R.1/Add.3); World Vision International (WVI) (TD/B/43/R.1/Add.4); World Trade Centers Association (WTCA) (TD/B/43/R.1/Add.5); Institute for Scientific Cooperation with Developing Countries (ISICODEC) (TD/B/43/R.1/Add.6) and Global Traders Conference (GTC) (TD/B/43/R.1/Add.7).

Special category: European Sea Ports Organisation (ESPO) (TD/B/43/R.1/Add.1) so that it may participate in the work of the Commission on Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities.

13. The Board was informed that the above documents had been derestricted.

14. The Board also took note that, following consultation with the member State concerned (Belgium), the Secretary-General of UNCTAD had included the National Centre for Overseas Development (NCOS) in the Register of national non-governmental organizations provided for under Board decision 43 (VII), sections III and IV. Background information on the organization was before the Board in TD/B/43/L.1.

15. The Board further took note that, in order to bring the classification of non-governmental organizations in the special category into line with the new intergovernmental machinery of UNCTAD, the Secretary-General of UNCTAD would carry out consultations with the organizations concerned to ascertain their wishes regarding their future association with UNCTAD, including their participation in the work of the new Commissions, and would report to the Board at an executive session.

16. The Board also noted that the Economic and Social Council, at its most recent session, had adopted resolution 1996/31 entitled "Consultative relationship between the United Nations and non-governmental organizations", which updated the arrangements on consultative relations with non-governmental organizations set out in ECOSOC resolution 1296 (XLIV) of 23 May 1968. In view of this, the Board further noted that the UNCTAD secretariat would review the arrangements for the participation of non-governmental organizations in the activities of UNCTAD, as contained in Board decision 43 (VII) of 20 September 1968, and would report to the Board at an executive session.

17. At the same meeting, the Board took note that the following non-governmental organizations had changed their names:

- (a) The Coordination Committee for the Textile Industries in the European Economic Community (COMITEXTIL), which had been granted status in the special category by the Board at the first part of its twelfth session, was now the European Apparel and Textile Organisation (EURATEX), incorporating the European Largest Textile and Apparel Companies (ELTAC) and the European Clothing Association (ECLA).
- (b) The Miners' International Federation (MIF), which had been granted status in the special category by the Board at its thirteenth session, had merged with the International Federation of Chemical, Energy and General Workers' Unions (ICEF) and was now the International Federation of Chemical, Energy, Mine and General Workers' Unions (ICEM).
- (c) The European Association for the Trade in Jute Projects (EATJP), which had been granted status in the special category by the Board at the first part of its tenth session, was now the European Association for the Trade in Jute and Related Products (EAJP).

- (d) The Association of West European Shipbuilders, which had been granted status in the special category at the first part of the thirty-fourth session of the Board, had changed its name to Association of European Shipbuilders and Shiprepairers, retaining the acronym AWES.

(d) Review of the calendar of meetings

[To be completed as appropriate]

- (e) Administrative and financial implications
of the actions of the Board*

[To be completed as appropriate]

**G. Adoption of the report of the Board
on its forty-third session**

(Agenda item 11)

[To be completed as appropriate]