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TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD  
Commission on Investment, Technology  
and Related Financial Issues  
Expert Meeting on Competition Law and Policy  
Geneva, 13 November 1996  
Agenda items 4 and 5

WORK PROGRAMME, INCLUDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, ADVISORY  
AND TRAINING PROGRAMMES ON COMPETITION LAW AND POLICY

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE SECOND SESSION OF THE EXPERT MEETING

Draft agreed recommendations

The Expert Meeting on Competition Law and Policy, meeting in Geneva from  
13 to 15 November 1996,

Recalling the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices and the Third United Nations Conference to Review all Aspects of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices (13-21 November 1995),

1. Requests its Chairman to inform the forthcoming meeting of the Commission on Investment, Technology and Related Financial Issues of the consensus view of the experts on competition law and policy that they should meet at the expert level in 1997. They recommend that this meeting focus on the following topics:

- (a) Consultations on competition law and policy, including the Model Law and studies related to the provisions of the Set of Principles and Rules;
- (b) Work programme, including UNCTAD's technical assistance, advisory and training programmes on competition law and policy.

2. Further recommends that the UNCTAD secretariat be requested:
  - (a) To pursue, within the available resources, its technical cooperation activities in the light of the resolutions adopted by the Third Review Conference and UNCTAD IX in "A Partnership for Development" as well as the deliberations and consultations held during this meeting;
  - (b) To finalize the review of technical assistance in time for the next meeting, taking into account the comments and additional information to be received from Governments and international organizations by 31 January 1997;
  - (c) To prepare a study for consideration by the next meeting on empirical evidence of the benefits (including the benefits for consumers) to be gained by developing and least developed countries and countries in transition from applying competition law and policy principles to economic development in order to attain greater efficiency in international trade and development, on the basis of comments made at the present meeting, and comments to be received by 31 January 1997;
  - (d) To continue to publish as non-sessional documents:
    - (i) Further issues of the Handbook on Competition Legislation;
    - (ii) A revised version of the Commentary to the Model Law, taking into account new legislative developments in the field of competition; and
    - (iii) An updated version of the Directory of Competition Authorities.
3. Further recommends that the Commission request the secretariat to prepare for the next meeting specific consultations, covering the following important competition law and policy subjects:
  - (i) Non-price vertical restraints (selective distribution, exclusive dealing and franchising);
  - (ii) Ways and means of promoting a competition culture and making transparent the benefits to be derived from competition policy;
  - (iii) International aspects of competition and the problems for competition law enforcement, including international mergers and industrial concentration which affect other countries and the strengthening of international cooperation.