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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

COMMITTEE FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND
ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

AD HOC GROUP OF EXPERTS ON STEEL

Second session, 24-25 March 1999

(Item 3 of the provisional agenda)

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE SECOND SESSION OF THE
COMMITTEE FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

Note by the secretariat

1. During its first session, in March 1998, the Committee for Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development approved the creation of the ad hoc Group of Experts on Steel and the ad hoc Group of Experts on the Chemical Industry. It instructed both Groups of Experts to put emphasis on the theme of "enterprise development", especially on privatization and restructuring. It also requested that an orientation paper on enterprise development should be prepared.
2. During its second session, the Committee decided the following:
 - a) to remain the body responsible for the further elaboration and implementation of the enterprise development programme;

- b) that work should begin at once on explicitly cross-sectoral projects. It would be a priority to make an inventory of the work relating to enterprise development in the transition economies which was being financed by other institutions. UN/ECE could thus define its niche more precisely with a view to adding value and ensuring that there was no duplication of work;
- c) that the UN/ECE strategy on enterprise development should include the problems of small and medium-sized enterprises development and include private-sector involvement and support;
- d) that such a strategy should cover matters of interest to all and not only to some UN/ECE member countries;
- e) to invite the secretariat to begin working, with existing resources, on the proposed project on Internet-based enterprise development. This work might be expanded as more resources became available;
- f) that both the ad hoc Group of Experts on Steel and the ad hoc Group of Experts on the Chemical Industry, should continue their mandates. Their programme of work and the progress of their projects would be reviewed at the next session of the Committee; and
- g) to revert to the issue of enterprise development at its next session.