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Fifty-fourth session

Report of the Trade and Development Board on its nineteenth executive session' (Geneva, 15 December 1998)

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^{*} The present document is an advance version of the report of the Trade and Development Board on its nineteenth executive session, held at the United Nations Office at Geneva on 15 December 1998. It will appear in final form, together with the reports of the twentieth, twenty-first and twenty-second executive sessions and the forty-sixth session of the Board, as Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 15 (A/54/15/Rev.1).

INTRODUCTION

1. The nineteenth executive session of the Trade and Development Board was held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, on 15 December 1998. The executive session consisted of one meeting - the 901st plenary meeting of the Board. The agenda of the nineteenth executive session is reproduced in annex I below.

Introductory statements

- 2. The Secretary-General of UNCTAD said that the work of the Second Committee of the General Assembly had ended on a successful note from UNCTAD's point of view, thanks in large part to the constructive approach of delegations from all regions. As a reflection of the current economic crisis, the Committee's session had been characterized by a perceptible shift towards "hard-core" economic issues such as globalization and finance, relegating to a secondary level issues not regarded as of the same urgency. This had led to the formulation of new resolutions in some critical areas (e.g. globalization, financial crisis) and to a considerable qualitative improvement in some other resolutions in terms of their substantive contents and the role of the United Nations in interrelated areas of finance, trade, investment and sustainable development. UNCTAD had been requested by all groups to provide support throughout the negotiating process.
- 3. Several resolutions of direct relevance to UNCTAD had been adopted by consensus, and the resolution on trade and development had been co-sponsored by a broad and heterogeneous group, which augured very well for UNCTAD X

preparations. The Assembly had mandated UNCTAD to undertake analysis of current trends in global financial flows and modalities to improve early warning, prevention and response capabilities for dealing with the emergence and spread of financial crisis in a timely manner, taking a comprehensive and long-term perspective, while remaining responsive to challenges of development and the protection of the most vulnerable countries and social groups. On commodities, new elements such as international support for industrial transformation in commodities had been highlighted, while on business and development, UNCTAD was requested to assist member States in implementing relevant conventions, declarations and instruments to combat corruption and bribery in international commercial transactions. On finance and related areas agreement had been reached on two key areas, namely the circumstances under which restrictions on short-term flows could be applied, and the need for a regulatory framework for currency trade. Concerning external debt, the agreed formulations on problems relating to debt workouts by countries hit by financial crisis and on the slow progress in the implementation of the World Bank/IMF HIPC initiative represented a significant advance in international consensus on the subject. On globalization and interdependence, a new resolution highlighted the role of UNCTAD in preparing the Secretary-General's report for the next session of the General Assembly. Finally, the Committee had adopted a resolution on the Third Conference on LDCs which had received widespread support.

4. Further to one of the United Nations Secretary-General's organizational reforms in the area of economics and development, work was well advanced on a new report on the world economy being produced jointly by UNCTAD and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA). Provisionally entitled World Economic

Prospects, this short and sharp publication would carry the authority of the whole of the United Nations. It was expected that the report would be published in January or February 1999.

5. With regard to the Partners for Development Summit, held in Lyon, France, in November 1998, some 170 states had been represented, and this very impressive turnout paid tribute to the success of an idea: that the pursuit of profit and of development were not mutually irreconcilable. It had also shown that concrete partnerships that served identified development goals could be established between Governments, businesses, large and small, development NGOs, and other actors, such as regional development banks, in what could be described as "variable geometry" configurations, tailored to circumstances and specific needs. Further time would be needed before firm conclusions could be drawn regarding the practical implications of this experiment, and a more considered, analytical assessment would be provided in the near future, possibly at the next executive session of the Board. The approach taken to the Partners for Development meeting had been a pragmatic one, involving the selection of topics or projects where conceptual and practical work was already well advanced within the secretariat, and the themes selected were not intended to reflect the full range of work carried out by UNCTAD. While the outcomes in most of the Lyon programme areas were very positive indeed, they did not, by any means, exhaust the potential inherent in this practical approach to meeting development needs. They served as further evidence of the value of linking analytical research with operational projects where UNCTAD could play the role of a matchmaker or neutral forum to help reconcile sometimes conflicting interests between the private sector, NGOs and Governments. Suggestions on how best to proceed, as well as feedback on the initial batch of 18 partnerships officially launched in Lyon would therefore be very valuable.

- 6. He thanked the French Government as well as the City of Lyon for their unwavering support in this endeavour. The French Government's proposal that a centre be established in Geneva, linking UNCTAD to its natural partners in ITC and the WTO, to further business/NGO ties that could have a development impact was welcome, as was France's offer to help finance a small administrative unit in this regard.
- 7. The Lyon meeting had helped pave the way to UNCTAD. However, inputs from civil society could be obtained in different ways, and one such input could be in the form of "cahiers d'espérances". Through this device, borrowed from the pre-French revolution period, groups around the world concerned and knowledgeable about development-related issues could be invited to articulate their hopes and views in a productive fashion, feeding into the major development stocktaking exercise that would run parallel to the Conference itself. Any call to civil society worldwide needed to be well framed and organized, so as to capture the best thinking and the most relevant experiences. The secretariat was currently developing a structured programme of activities for development NGOs, academic institutes, trade unions and other civil society groups during 1999, to act as the vehicle for the upward channelling of these ideas to the Conference.
- 8. The representative of the **United States of America**, referring to the Partners for Development Summit, asked for confirmation that all the partnerships

entered into during the Summit had been cleared from the legal point of view at United Nations Headquarters in New York.

- 9. The Secretary-General of UNCTAD said that the partnerships had received legal clearance in Geneva in accordance with regular procedures and with the rules and regulations of the United Nations.
- 10. The representative of Bangladesh welcomed the fact that the Second Committee of the General Assembly had approved a draft resolution relating to the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries. The preparations for the Conference should now be launched. He further welcomed the success of the Partners for Development Summit, and he noted that the WTO had received a complete report from the Executive Secretary of the Summit, which represented a good example of inter-organizational cooperation. His Government considered that civil society had a positive role to play in development, and in Bangladesh the Government and NGOs were working hand in hand in the field of micro lending, as a result of which a real breakthrough in terms of escaping the poverty trap now seemed possible. Bangladesh would be pleased to help evolve mechanisms to integrate the endeavours of NGOs into cooperative activities involving civil society, UNCTAD, WTO and ITC.
- 11. The representative of **Brazil** Said that it would be useful if the members of UNCTAD could also have a complete report from the Executive Secretary of the Partners for Development Summit.

I. DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR UNCTAD X

(Agenda item 2)

- 12. The **President** recalled that, at its forty-fifth session, the Board had requested the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to prepare and submit to delegations, through the Bureau, a draft provisional agenda for UNCTAD X for the purposes of consultations with a view to approving the provisional agenda at the Board's nineteenth executive session. On 4 November 1998, the Secretary-General of UNCTAD had made available his proposal for the substantive item of the draft provisional agenda for UNCTAD X as a broad framework for discussion, and a first exchange of views had taken place on that occasion. Since then, consultations had been held within and among groups, and Ambassador Benjelloun (Morocco), in his capacity as Chairman of the Preparatory Committee of the Group of 77 for UNCTAD X, had been leading these discussions within the Group of 77 and on behalf of the Group of 77 with other delegations and groups.
- 13. The representative of Morocco, speaking in his capacity as Chairman of the Preparatory Committee of the Group of 77 for UNCTAD X, appealed to all delegations not to spend too much time on negotiating the agenda for UNCTAD X, since doing so would reduce the time available for the more important substantive discussions that would follow. He hoped that consensus could be reached on the provisional agenda for the Conference by the end of January 1999.

Action by the Board

14. The Board decided that, since further time was needed to reach agreement in the ongoing informal consultations, the draft provisional agenda for UNCTAD X would be taken up at the next executive session of the Board or in the monthly consultations of the President of the Board.

II. REVIEW OF THE FUNCTIONING OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL WORKING GROUP OF EXPERTS ON INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS OF ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING AND THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL GROUP OF EXPERTS ON COMPETITION LAW AND POLICY

(Agenda item 3)

- 15. The President said that the Bureau of the Board, acting on the basis of the outcome of the Mid-term Review (TD/B(EX-18)/4), had agreed to a review of the functioning of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting and the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy. The item had been inscribed on the agenda of the consultations of the President of the Board on 4 November 1998, and at those consultations it had been decided that the Vice-President of the Board (Uganda) should conduct informal consultations on that matter on behalf of the President and report his findings to the nineteenth executive session of the Board.
- of the Board, said that consultations had been held on 30 November 1998, but it had been felt that it would not be possible to complete the task at hand in time for the Board's nineteenth executive session, firstly because delegations needed more time to consult and secondly because the necessary interpretation facilities were not available. In that connection, some delegations had insisted that no consultations could be held unless interpretation was provided into all official languages. At the consultations, it had been suggested that, in addition to the

inputs provided by the secretariat, the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting should undertake a self-assessment, as had been done by the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy in July 1998. It was therefore proposed that the deadline for the consultations on this issue should be extended to March 1999 and the outcome of the consultations reported to the following executive session of the Board. The Board could also request the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting to conduct a brief review of the functioning of the work of the Group with a view to providing substantive inputs or expert views to the consultations.

Action by the Board

17. The Board took note of the report of the Vice-President of the Board (Uganda), speaking in his capacity as Chairman of the informal consultations on the functioning of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting; decided to extend the Vice-President's mandate in order to allow the resumption of consultations in March 1999; and requested the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting to conduct a brief review of the functioning of the Group with a view to providing the consultations with substantive inputs or expert views.

III. REPORTS OF THE SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF THE BOARD

(Agenda item 4)

- (a) Report of the Working Party on the Medium-term Plan and the Programme

 Budget on its thirty-second session
- The representative of Morocco, speaking in his capacity as Chairman of 18. the Working Party at its thirty-second session, said that the Working Party had held its resumed thirty-second session on 10-11 November but had not been able to complete its work. With regard to the evaluation of the Trade Point programme, a discussion had been held involving the States members, the However, eight of the independent evaluation team and the secretariat. evaluation team's 15 recommendations remained to be discussed. partial cost recovery (PCR) for selected technical cooperation programmes, five informal consultations had been convened pursuant to the decision of the Board at its forty-fifth session, and a number of proposals had been put forward by the secretariat and by member States on the modalities for PCR. Considerable progress had been made, and the Working Party felt that it was close to reaching a compromise that could provide a basis for a decision on PCR, but it had not had enough time to complete its discussions. With respect to the rolling three-year technical cooperation plan, once again there had not been enough time to conclude the work satisfactorily. He therefore suggested that the Board accord the Working Party two days of consultations in order to complete its work on the issues before it.

Action by the Board

19. The Board took note of the report of the Chairman of the Working Party and agreed to his recommendation to convene consultations to address outstanding issues relating to partial cost recovery for selected UNCTAD technical cooperation programmes, the rolling three-year technical cooperation plan for 1999-2001, and the in-depth evaluation of the Trade Point programme. The consultations would be convened on 14-15 January 1999, as a result of which the thirty-third session of the Working Party would be rescheduled to 25-29 January 1999. The twentieth executive session of the Board would be held on 5 February 1999.

(b) Reports of the Commissions on their third sessions

- 20. The **President** said that, according to paragraph 9 of Trade and Development Board decision 446 (EX-16), the Board should examine and evaluate the work of the Commissions and determine the direction of new work; it should not just take note of the Commissions' reports. However, the Mid-term Review had just been concluded in October, and he suggested that the Board therefore limit its discussions on the Commissions' work at the present session.
- (i) Report of the Commission on Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities on its third session
- 21. The representative of Tunisia, speaking in her capacity as Vice-Chairperson of the Commission on Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities

and introducing the report of the Commission (TD/B/45/10), said that the deliberations of the Commission had yielded substantive and far-reaching results in terms of agreed conclusions, the future agenda and the topics for expert meetings. The Commission's excellent results in effect challenged the international community, UNCTAD member States and the UNCTAD secretariat to deliver concrete progress in terms of expanding trade of developing countries and the least developed countries in particular. Such progress should be marked by increased trade under trade preferences and trade in specific services sectors in which developing countries had a comparative advantage. The deliberations of the Commission had been greatly facilitated by the expert meetings that had been held. The discussion of issues in these meetings had been of a high technical calibre, and had provided useful advice on policy research and the exchange of experience.

Action by the Board

- 22. The Board took note of the report of the Commission on its third session and endorsed the Commission's agreed conclusions.
- (ii) Report of the Commission on Investment, Technology and Related Financial

 Issues on its third session
- 23. The representative of Japan, speaking in his capacity as Vice-Chairperson of the Commission on Investment, Technology and Related Financial Issues and introducing the report of the Commission (TD/B/45/9), said that the Commission's third session had been successful in terms of both its substantive

discussions and its outcome. The Commission had had fruitful exchanges of views on recent developments in foreign investment trends and policies and on the development dimension of a possible multilateral framework on investment, and it had adopted agreed conclusions.

- 24. The representative of the **United States of America** asked for information on the status of the technical papers on international investment issues which the secretariat was to produce.
- 25. The representative of the UNCTAD secretariat said that six papers were due for release by the end of January 1999 and the rest were scheduled to appear in 1999. A number of the papers dealt with topics that had not been covered in the existing literature and which were very sensitive. Every effort was therefore being made to produce material of high quality.
- 26. The representative of **India** said he shared the concern of the United States and regretted the delay in the production of the papers in question. The topics dealt with were indeed complex, but that was precisely why member States were particularly interested in them. The preparation of the papers should therefore be expedited, and the secretariat should not be overly concerned with the sensitivity of the topics involved.

Action by the Board

27. The Board took note of the report of the Commission on its third session and endorsed the Commission's agreed conclusions.

- (iii) Report of the Commission on Enterprise, Business Facilitation and Development
- 28. The representative of Ecuador, speaking in his capacity as Vice-Chairperson of the Commission on Enterprise, Business Facilitation and Development and introducing the report of the Commission (TD/B/COM.3/L.8-11), said that the Commission's third session had been successful in terms of both its substantive discussions and its outcome. With regard to enterprise development and inter-firm cooperation and clustering, the discussions had highlighted finance as a critical element, as well as awareness of international product standards. On electronic commerce, the discussions had highlighted the importance of electronic commerce for development and the role that UNCTAD could play in that connection.

Action by the Board

- 29. The Board took note of the report of the Commission on its third session and endorsed the Commission's agreed conclusions.
- (c) Administrative arrangements for the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO
- 30. The representative of Morocco, speaking in his capacity as Chairman of the thirty-first session of the Joint Advisory Group (JAG) of the International Trade Centre, recalled that the question of the revision of the administrative arrangements for the International Trade Centre had been considered by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ), which had

recognized the special situation of ITC and the need for simplified budgetary procedures responding to the concerns of WTO and conserving the role of the United Nations in the financial administration of the Centre. The proposals of ACABQ (A/53/7/Add.3) had been considered in October 1998 by the Fifth Committee, which had requested the Trade and Development Board and the JAG of ITC to consider the proposals on new administrative arrangements for ITC and further requested those bodies to submit their comments as a matter of priority for its consideration.

31. In his capacity as Chairman of the thirty-first session of JAG, he had organized a series of meetings where the proposals of ACABQ had been submitted to both members of WTO and members of UNCTAD prior to the meeting of JAG on 11 November. The proposals had been endorsed and a letter subsequently sent to the Chairman of the Board and to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee advising them of the endorsement. In compliance with paragraph 107 (e) of "A Partnership for Growth and Development", on 16 November 1998 the Bureau of the Board had also endorsed the proposals, and a letter communicating this endorsement had been sent to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee. The Fifth Committee had considered the matter on 2 December 1998. In an introductory statement to the Committee, he had called for greater coherence between Genevabased institutions dealing with Trade and Development and better coordination between members of delegations in New York and Geneva. He had also insisted on the fact that ITC was a technical cooperation organization and that the proposed revision was only a technical matter, although it would increase the accountability of the institution. The Chairman of the Fifth Committee had proposed that the Committee take note of the note of the Secretary-General

contained in document A/C.5/53/38 and endorse the administrative arrangement for the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO, as contained in paragraph 11 of the report of ACABQ, and the General Assembly had now approved this arrangement.

Action by the Board

32. The Board took note of the oral report of the Chairman of the Joint Advisory Group on the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO at its thirty-first session (Morocco), as well as of the action taken by the General Assembly on administrative arrangements for the International Trade Centre.

IV. INSTITUTIONAL, ORGANIZATIONAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND RELATED MATTERS

(Agenda item 5)

A. Opening of the session

33. The nineteenth executive session of the Trade and Development Board was opened on 15 December 1998 by Mr. Chak Mun See (Singapore), President of the Board.

B. Bureau of the nineteenth executive session

34. There being no change in the elected officers of the Bureau since the forty-fifth session, the Bureau of the Board at its nineteenth executive session was as follows:

<u>President</u>: Mr. Chak Mun See (Singapore)

<u>Vice-Presidents</u>: Mr. Nobutoshi Akao (Japan)

Mr. Carlos Amat Fores (Cuba)

Mr. Petko Draganov (Bulgaria)

Mr. Savitri Kunadi (India)

Mr. Roderic M.J. Lyne (United Kingdom of Great

Britain and Northern Ireland)

Mr. Syargei Mikhnevich (Belarus)

Mr. Alphonse Oseku (Uganda)

Mr. Carlos Pérez del Castillo (Uruguay)

Mr. Raimundo Pérez-Hernández (Spain)

Mr. Mounir Zahran (Egypt)

Rapporteur: Mr. Philippe Merlin

(France)

C. Adoption of the agenda

(Agenda item 1)

- 35. The Board adopted the provisional agenda for its nineteenth executive session (TD/B/EX(19)/1), as orally amended by the President. (For the agenda as adopted, see annex I).
 - D. Institutional, organisational, administrative and related matters

(Agenda item 5)

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

- 36. The Board approved the application of the South Centre to be designated under rule 76 of the rules of procedure to participate in the deliberations of the Conference, the Board and its subsidiary organs. (For information on the South Centre, see document TD/B/EX(18)/R.3.)
- (b) Designation of non-governmental organizations for the purposes of rule
 77 of the rules of procedure of the Board
- 37. The Board approved the applications of three non-governmental organizations for inclusion in the list provided for in rule 77 of the Board's rules of procedure and decided, in accordance with the recommendation of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD and the Bureau, to classify them as follows:

General category

Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy (IATP) (TD/B/EX(19)/R.4);

Special category

Advanced Networked Cities and Regions Association (ANCARA) (TD/B/EX(19)/R.1), to participate in the work of the Commission on Enterprise, Business Facilitation and Development;

International Council of Nurses (ICN) (TD/B/EX(19)/R.2), to participate in the work of the Commission on Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities.

- 38. The Board was also informed that, in conformity with the provisions of Board decision 43 (VII), sections III and IV, and after consultation with the Government concerned (India), the Secretary-General of UNCTAD had included the All India Association of Industries in the register of national non-governmental organizations. (For information on this organization, see document TD/B/EX(19)/L.1).
- 39. The Board further approved the request of the International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD), a non-governmental organization which had been granted status in the special category at the sixteenth executive session of the Board, to be reclassified in the general category, in accordance with paragraph 12 (a) of Board decision 43 (VII).

E. Other business

(Agenda item 6)

Approval of the membership of the Working Party for 1999

40. The Board approved the membership of the Working Party on the Medium-term Plan and the Programme Budget for 1999, as follows: Brazil; Bulgaria; China; Egypt; Ethiopia; France; Guatemala; Iran (Islamic Republic of); Japan; Kenya; Malaysia; Netherlands; Philippines; Russian Federation; Slovakia;

Turkey; United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; United States of America; Uruguay.

Secretariat staffing

- 41. The representative of the **United States of America** requested information on the progress made in filling the two remaining senior-level vacancies in the **UNCTAD** secretariat. She also noted that three posts of director were filled by nationals from developed countries, and expressed the hope that the two vacant posts in question could be filled by nationals from developing countries.
- 42. The Deputy Secretary-General of UNCTAD said that, unfortunately, the candidate selected for the remaining unfilled director post had withdrawn and the selection process had had to be relaunched. It was expected that a new recommendation to the Secretary-General of UNCTAD would be made in February. Other vacant posts were in the process of being filled in accordance with United Nations rules and regulations. With regard to the post of Chief of Administration, a restructuring had been proposed which would allow some streamlining in the area of administration and programme support, and the proposal was under consideration at United Nations Headquarters.

F. Report of the Board on its nineteenth executive session

(Agenda item 7)

43. The Board authorized the Rapporteur to complete the report on its nineteenth executive session under the authority of the President.

AMMEXES

Annex I

AGENDA FOR THE MINETRENTH EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THE BOARD

- 1. Adoption of the agenda
- 2. Draft provisional agenda for UNCTAD X
- 3. Review of the functioning of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on
 International Standards of Accounting and Reporting and the
 Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy
- 4. Reports of subsidiary bodies of the Board:
 - '(a) Report of the Working Party on the Medium-term Plan and the Programme Budget on its thirty-second session
 - (b) Reports of the Commissions on their third sessions:
 - (i) Report of the Commission on Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities on its third session

- (ii) Report of the Commission on Investment, Technology and Related Financial Issues on its third session
- (iii) Report of the Commission on Enterprise, Business Facilitation and Development on its third session
- (c) Administrative arrangements for the International Trade Centre
 UNCTAD/WTO
- 5. Institutional, organizational, administrative and related matters:
 - (a) Designation of intergovernmental bodies for the purposes of rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the Board
 - (b) Designation of non-governmental organizations for the purposes of rule 77 of the rules of procedure of the Board
- 6. Other business
 - Approval of the membership of the Working Party for 1999
- 7. Report of the Board on its nineteenth executive session

Annex II

ATTENDANCE */

1. The following States members of UNCTAD, members of the Board, were represented at the session:

Algeria Ecuador

Argentina Egypt

Austria Ethiopia

Bangladesh Finland

Belarus France

Belgium Gabon

Bhutan Germany

Bolivia Ghana

Brazil Guatemala

Bulgaria Haiti

Burundi Honduras

Canada India

Chile Indonesia

China Iran (Islamic Republic of)

Costa Rica Iraq

Croatia Ireland

Cuba

Czech Republic Japan

Denmark Jordan

Kenya

Madagascar

Malaysia

Malta

Mexico

Morocco

Myanmar

Nepal

Netherlands

Nigeria

Norway

Oman

Pakistan

Panama

Paraguay

Peru

Philippines

Poland

Portugal

Republic of Korea

Russian Federation

Singapore

Slovakia

Spain

Sri Lanka

Sweden

Switzerland

Thailand

The Former Yugoslav

Republic of Macedonia

Trinidad and Tobago

Tunisia

Turkey

Uganda

Ukraine

United Kingdom of Great

Britain and Northern Ireland

United States of America

Uruguay

Venezuela

Viet Nam

Yemen

Zambia

Zimbabwe

 $^{^{\}star}/$ For the list of participants, see TD/B/19(EX)/INF.1.

2. The following other State member of UNCTAD, not a member of the Board, was represented as an observer at the session:

Rwanda

3. The following intergovernmental organizations were represented at the session:

Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation Arab Labour Organization European Community League of Arab States Organization of the Islamic Conference

4. The following specialized agencies and related organization were represented at the session:

International Labour Organization
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
International Monetary Fund
World Intellectual Property Organization
World Trade Organization

- 5. The International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO was represented at the session.
- 6. The following non-governmental organizations were represented at the session:

General Category

International Chamber of Commerce
International Confederation of Free Trade Unions
International Council of Environmental Law
World Confederation of Labour
World Federation of United Nations Association