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TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Working Party on the Medium-term Plan
and the Programme Budget
Fortieth session, first part
Geneva, 13 – 17 January 2003
Agenda items 3 and 4

REVIEW OF THE WORK PROGRAMME: DRAFT PROGRAMME BUDGET
FOR THE BIENNIUM 2004-2005

INDICATORS OF ACHIEVEMENT

Agreed conclusions *

The Working Party,

Having considered the proposals for the draft work programme for UNCTAD for the biennium 2004-2005,

1. *Concurs* with the amended text, as contained in document UNCTAD/EDM/Misc.241/Rev.1;

2. *Reaffirms* the role of the Working Party, as a sectoral intergovernmental reviewing body, in defining the work programme of UNCTAD and that the decisions taken by the Working Party should be duly taken into account in the finalization of the UNCTAD section of the proposed Programme Budget 2004-2005;

3. *Expresses* satisfaction with the presentations made by the secretariat on various areas of work, as well as with the detailed information provided in response to questions raised by the Working Party;

* As adopted by the Working Party at its 155th (closing) plenary meeting at the first part of its fortieth session on Thursday, 16 January 2003.

4. *Notes* that the programme of work contains provisions with respect to the implementation of the Millennium Declaration, the follow-up to major United Nations conferences, in particular the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, the Conference on Financing for Development and the World Summit on Sustainable Development, and the Fourth WTO Ministerial Meeting, as requested by the Mid-term Review;

5. *Encourages* the secretariat to continue its efforts in streamlining its work programme;

6. *Considers* that the work programme for 2004-2005 should take into account, at an appropriate time, the outcome of the Fifth WTO Ministerial Meeting, to be held in Cancun in September 2003, and the results of UNCTAD XI, as well as other relevant United Nations meetings;

7. *Encourages* the UNCTAD secretariat to further develop its cooperation with other related United Nations organizations, the World Trade Organization, and Bretton Woods institutions;

8. *Recalls* the recognition of the usefulness of the *Least Developed Countries Report* and the recommendation of the Board to the Working Party to consider at the second part of its fortieth session the possibility of the annual publication of the report within resources at the disposal of UNCTAD;

9. *Stresses* that, as a cross-cutting issue, the question of least developed countries should be further integrated in all UNCTAD sub-programmes;

10. *Requests* the secretariat to consider compiling internally on a specific web site the main country and regional data on UNCTAD technical assistance programmes, to complement the UNCTAD database on bilateral technical assistance programmes, including through a link with the existing OECD/WTO database on trade-related capacity building, and to report back to the Working Party at its forty-first session dealing with technical cooperation;

11. *Supports* the efforts made by the African countries in the framework of the implementation of the objectives contained in NEPAD in accordance with General Assembly resolution 57/2 adopted on 16 September 2002 at its fifty-seventh session;

12. *Recalls* the pioneering role played by UNCTAD in relating indicators with the work programme and the contribution it has made to the development of the results-oriented budgetary approach, and *encourages* UNCTAD to continue in this vein;

13. *Appreciates* the efforts made to improve and refine the indicators of achievement, in particular with respect to their quantitative dimension, and *encourages* the secretariat to make further efforts to enhance the qualitative aspects of the indicators whenever possible, with particular emphasis on relevance and impact;

14. *Invites* the member States to bring their contribution to the better definition of indicators, in particular qualitative indicators, and *encourages* further interaction between the secretariat and the member States in this respect;

15. *Reiterates* the importance of readership surveys of UNCTAD publications, *takes note* of the reports submitted regularly by the secretariat in connection with the consideration of the work programme, and *emphasizes* the importance of enhancing the response rate, in particular from member States;

16. *Emphasizes* the importance of UNCTAD's work on trade and development as identified in its mandate, and *welcomes* continued efforts to make the activities more effective.