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TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Working Party on the Medium-term Plan

and the Programme Budget

Forty-fourth (resumed) session

Geneva, 30–31 May 2005

Agenda item 5

OTHER BUSINESS

Agreed conclusions on financing of experts¹

The Working Party on the Medium-term Plan and the Programme Budget,

Recalling the guidelines adopted by the Trade and Development Board at its nineteenth special session on finding a long-term solution for predictable financing of the participation of experts from developing countries and countries with economies in transition in UNCTAD intergovernmental expert meetings based on the principle of equitable geographic representation, beneficiary needs, in particular LDCs, and the expertise of the experts concerned,²

Recognizing further the need to adopt, as soon as possible, appropriate measures to improve the financing of experts in UNCTAD expert meetings, including, *inter alia*, through the adoption of appropriate and innovative modalities in accordance with the administrative and financial and budgetary rules and regulations of the United Nations and relevant resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly,

1. *Requests* the Chairman of the Working Party to continue his consultations on this subject with a view to arriving at an appropriate solution within the next two months, and to report thereon to the President of the Trade and Development Board for appropriate consideration;

¹ As agreed by the Working Party at its 167th plenary meeting on Tuesday, 31 May 2005.

² Report of the Trade and Development Board on its nineteenth special session (Mid-term Review) (TD/B(S-XIX)/7, chap. I, sect. A.2).

2. *Recommends* the designation by the Secretary-General of UNCTAD of a focal point at an appropriately senior level, within existing resources, to be responsible for all matters related to financing of experts, including coordination of the UNCTAD divisions, and mobilization and tracking of contributions to the Trust Fund, and to report thereon to the Trade and Development Board;

3. *Recommends further* that the focal point assist in identifying appropriate modalities as mentioned above, and monitoring their operation if established.
