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TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Commission on Investment, Technology and Related Financial Issues
Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on
International Standards of Accounting and Reporting
Twenty-third session
Geneva, 10–12 October 2006
Item 2 of the provisional agenda

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ANNOTATIONS

I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
3. Review of practical implementation issues of International Financial Reporting Standards
4. Comparability and relevance of existing indicators on corporate responsibility
5. Other business
6. Provisional agenda for the twenty-fourth session
7. Adoption of the report

II. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Item 1: Election of officers

1. In accordance with established practice, it is suggested that the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts elect a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson-cum-Rapporteur.

Item 2: Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

2. With respect to organization of work, the Group of Experts has three working days available to it. It is therefore suggested that the first plenary meeting on 10 October be devoted to procedural matters (items 1 and 2) and the introduction and detailed discussion of item 3. Subsequent meetings will be devoted to the introduction and detailed discussion of items 4–6. The secretariat will prepare a tentative schedule indicating the issues to be dealt with at each meeting. The tentative schedule will be available on the first day of the session.

Documentation

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Provisional agenda and
annotations

Item 3: Review of practical implementation issues of International Financial Reporting Standards

3. At its twenty-second session, ISAR agreed to conduct a further review of the practical implementation challenges of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), as well as ways to meet these challenges. It was also agreed that the further review could be conducted by preparing country case studies with a view to developing guidance on good practices in IFRS implementation. Accordingly, five country case studies covering Brazil, Germany, India, Jamaica and Kenya have been prepared for consideration by ISAR at its twenty-third session. The case studies identify a number of institutional and capacity-building issues. The Group of Experts will discuss the case studies with a view to drawing lessons from the experience of the countries concerned and facilitating sharing of experience among member States that are either implementing IFRS or intend to do so in the coming years.

Documentation

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Review of practical implementation issues of
International Financial Reporting Standards

Addenda 1-5

Case studies on practical implementation issues of
IFRS in Brazil, Germany, India, Jamaica and
Kenya, respectively.

Item 4: Comparability and relevance of existing indicators on corporate responsibility

4. At its twentieth, twenty-first, and twenty-second sessions, ISAR recognized the demand for increased relevance and comparability in corporate responsibility reporting, and also the need to provide voluntary technical guidance on such reporting as part of the information presented in corporate annual reports. At the twenty-second session of ISAR, it was also recognized that the use of national data, rather than globally consolidated data, should improve the relevance, usefulness and comparability of information. The UNCTAD secretariat has prepared draft guidance based on discussions that took place during the twentieth, twenty-first and twenty-second sessions of ISAR, as well as research on social and economic reporting practices, for consideration at the twenty-third session of ISAR.

Documentation

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Guidance on indicators of positive corporate contributions to social and economic development in annual reports

Item 5: Other business

5. Under “other business”, the Group of Experts may wish to discuss topics such as recent developments on corporate governance disclosures and results of surveys on corporate governance disclosure and corporate responsibility reporting that the secretariat conducted during the intersession period. The twenty-third session may wish to review recent developments in international accounting, auditing, corporate governance disclosures, corporate responsibility indicators, and other related issues by allocating time at the session for updates by other regional and international organizations engaged in these matters.

Item 6: Provisional agenda for the twenty-fourth session

6. The provisional agenda for the twenty-fourth session of ISAR will be discussed in the light of the deliberations of the twenty-third session of the Group of Experts, as well as its previous sessions.

Item 7: Adoption of the report

7. The Intergovernmental Working Group may wish to adopt agreed conclusions, as it deems necessary. The Chairperson may wish to produce a Chairperson’s summary. The final report will be compiled under the authority of the Chairperson after the conclusion of the session. It will be submitted to the eleventh session of the Commission on Investment, Technology and Related Financial Issues in 2007.

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