

UNCTAD



JOURNAL

of the Trade and Development Board
Fifty-third session,
27 September - 2 October & 10 October 2006

SUMMARY OF MEETINGS Tuesday, 10 October 2006

997TH CLOSING PLENARY MEETING

The Board approved Rwanda's request for membership of the Trade and Development Board.

Item 10(a) Report by the President of the Advisory Body set up in accordance with paragraph 166 of the Bangkok Plan of Action on the implementation of courses by the secretariat in 2005 – 2006 and their impact; and the appointment of the members of the Advisory Body for 2007

H.E. Ambassador Gyan Chandra Acharya of Nepal, President of the Advisory Body, gave a detailed report on the work of the Advisory Body.

The Board approved the membership of the Advisory Body for 2007 as follows: H.E. Mr. M. S. Ould Mohamed Lemine (Mauritania and President of the Board; H.E. Ms. Venetia Sebudandi (Rwanda); H.E. Hassan Doualeh (Djibouti); H.E. Mr. Sergei Aleinik (Belarus); M. Iouri Afanassiev (Russian Federation); H.E. Mr. Clemencia Forero Ucros (Colombia); H.E. Mr. Guillermo Valles Galmes (Uruguay); H.E. Manuel Rodríguez Cuadros (Peru); H.E. Mr. Ali Reza Moaiyeri (Islamic Republic of Iran); H.E. Mr. Ahmed Mohamed Masoud Al-Riyami, (Oman); H.E. Mr. Enrique A. Manalo (Philippines); Mr. Fredrik Arthur (Norway); Mr. Emmanuel Farcot (France); Mr. Shinichi Asazuma (Japan); and Mrs. Irene Knoblen (The Netherlands).

The Board took note of the report and thus concluded its consideration of this agenda item.

Item 8(a) Report on UNCTAD XI multi-stakeholder partnerships

Mr. Dirk Bruinsma, Deputy Secretary-General, presented a progress report.

The Board took note of the oral report by the secretariat and thus concluded its consideration of this agenda item.

Item 8(c) Report of the Working Party on the Medium-term Plan and the Programme Budget on its forty-sixth session

The Board took note of the report of the Working Party on its forty-sixth session, as contained in document TD/B/WP/186, and endorsed the agreed conclusions contained therein.

Item 9(a) Progressive development of the law of international trade: thirty-ninth annual report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (New York, 19 June - 7 July 2006)

The Board took note of the report of UNCITRAL on the work of its thirty-ninth session, as contained in document A/61/17, and thus concluded its consideration of this agenda item.

Item 9(b) Report of the Joint Advisory Group on the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO on its thirty-ninth session (Geneva, 24 - 28 April 2006)

The Chairman of the Joint Advisory Group, Mr. Zhang (China), introduced the report of the JAG on its thirty-ninth session (ITD/AG(XXXIX)/208). The Board took note of the report and thus concluded its consideration of this item.

Item 10(b) Designation of intergovernmental bodies for the purposes of rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the Board

The Board was informed that there are 112 intergovernmental organizations in status with UNCTAD as contained in document TD/B/IGO/LIST/6.

Item 10(c) Designation of non-governmental organizations for the purposes of rule 77 of the rules of procedure of the Board

The Board was informed that there are 196 non-governmental organizations in status with UNCTAD: 108 in the General Category and 88 in the Special Category, as contained in document TD/B/IGO/LIST/8.

The Board approved the accreditation of the World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (WAIPA) and decided to include the NGO in the Special Category. The background information on this organization was before the Board in document TD/B/53/R.1.

Item 10(d) Review of the calendar of meetings

The Board approved the calendar of meeting for the remainder of 2006 and the indicative calendar of meetings for 2007 as contained in document TD/B/53/CRP.3.

The Board, taking account of the other important meetings to be held in September 2007, decided to hold its fifty-fourth regular session during the first two weeks of October and decided to request the Second Committee of the General Assembly to arrange for its discussion on trade and development to be held at least two weeks after the conclusion of the Board's regular session.

Item 10(e) Membership of the Working Party for 2007

The Board approved the membership of the Working Party for 2007 as follows: Angola, Argentina, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belarus, Benin, China, El Salvador, France, Iran, Japan, Oman, Peru, Russian Federation, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, and Zimbabwe.

Item 11 Other business

The Board approved a text on the Fifth United Nations Conference to Review All Aspects of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices as contained in document TD/B/53/CRP.4. It decided to submit this text to the General Assembly for its consideration and adoption in the context of the resolution on international trade and development.

The Board approved the extension of the validity of the old Form A (notes 1996 and 2004) of the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) until existing stocks are exhausted.

The Board took note of the updated list for the membership of UNCTAD and the membership of the Trade and Development Board as contained in document TD/B/53/CRP.2. This list will be reissued as an information document.

Item 1(c) Adoption of the report on credentials

The Board adopted the report of the Bureau on the credentials of representatives attending the fifty-third session of the Board as contained in document (TD/B/53/L.3).

Item 1(d) Provisional agenda for the fifty-fourth session of the Board

The Board decided to refer consideration of this item to Consultations of the President with the Bureau and regional coordinators. The provisional agenda therefore will be drawn up and submitted for approval at an executive session at an appropriate time.

Item 3 Review of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010

The Board adopted the agreed conclusions as contained in document TD/B/53/L.4.

Item 4 Economic development in Africa: Doubling Aid - Making the "Big Push" work

The Board adopted the agreed conclusions as contained in document TD/B/53/L.5.

Item 5 Review of developments and issues in the post-Doha work programme of particular concern to developing countries

The Board took note of the President's summary as contained in document TD/B/53/L.6 and decided to include it in the report of the Board for transmission to the General Assembly.

Item 10(f) Administrative and financial implications of the actions of the Board

The Board was informed that there were no financial implications stemming from the actions of the session for the current programme budget.

Item 12 Adoption of the reports

The Rapporteur, Ms. Ana Inés Rocanova (Uruguay), introduced the draft report to the Board. The Board adopted the report as contained in TD/B/53/L.2 and Add.1-9) and authorized the Rapporteur to complete the report for transmission to the General Assembly, as appropriate.

Mr. Supachai Panitchpakdi, Secretary-General of UNCTAD, made a closing statement.

Concluding statement were made by the representative of: Philippines (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China); Rwanda; Finland (on behalf of the European Union and the acceding countries of Bulgaria and Romania); United States of America; Djibouti; Norway (on behalf of Group B); Benin (on behalf of the LDCs); and Russian Federation.

* * * * *