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**INCLUSION OF A NATIONAL NON-GOVERNEMENTAL ORGANIZATION
IN THE REGISTER IN CONFORMITY WITH DECISION 43 (VII) OF THE
TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

Executive summary

1. Palakkad District Consumers' Association, a non-governmental organization, has applied for inclusion in the Register of such bodies provided for under Board decision 43 (VII), section III and IV.
2. In accordance with Board decision 43 (VII) and further to consultation with the member State concerned, the Secretary-General of UNCTAD has included Palakkad District Consumers' Association in the Register.
3. Information concerning Palakkad District Consumers' Association is provided below.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON PALAKKAD DISTRICT CONSUMERS' ASSOCIATION

1. History

Palakkad District Consumers' Association was founded in 1991 with the aim of protecting the rights and interests of consumers, mainly working in the consumer education and awareness sector.

2. Aim and Objectives

The principal objective of Palakkad District Consumers' Association is to protect and promote the interests of consumers, through awareness and education, by conducting awareness seminar debates and discussions on various important consumer issues affecting consumers on new governmental policies and decisions on trade and development.

3. Membership

Palakkad District Consumers' Association is composed of individual members, classified into four types: Formation members, Life members, Institutional members and Ordinary members. Life and Institutional members are elected by the Central Committee, and Ordinary members are elected by the Local Unit Committee.

4. Structure

Formation members, Life members, representatives of the Institutional members, and the elected Secretary and President of Local Units constitute the General Body. Meetings of the General Body are convened at least twice a year. The annual meeting is normally held each year in January.

The activities of the Local Units are controlled by the Local Executive Committees.

The governing body of the association is the Central Committee, which includes the President, two Vice-Presidents, the General-Secretary, the Secretary, the Treasurer and the executive member. They are elected by the General Body, comprising all members of the association.

The term of the Central Committee is two years. Its meetings can be convened when necessary with five days' notice, a time limit which is not applicable in case of emergency.

5. Current members of the Central Committee:

President:	Dr. K.K. Falgunan
Vice-presidents:	Prof. G. Sobharani
	Smt. VR. Sushama
General-Secretary:	V. Vijayaghavan
Treasurer:	K. Sankaranarayanan
Executive member:	S. Rajendran

6. Financial resources

The association's financial resources come from members' subscriptions and contributions.

7. Relations with other organizations

Palakkad District Consumers' Association has an informal relationship with WTO. It also maintains good relations with the United Nations Information Centre in India.

8. Publications

Palakkad District Consumers' Association has published a handbook for students (free of charge) entitled "Consumer is not a leisure time talk". The other publication was the 12th anniversary celebration souvenir.

9. Liaison

Liaison with UNCTAD will be maintained by the Secretary-General, Mr. Padiyankattil Ayyappan Surendran.

10. Address:

Palakkad District Consumers' Association
Kit's College, Court Road, Palakkad – Kerala State
678001 Kerala India
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Mobile: 944 744 2505
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11. The working language of Palakkad District Consumers' Association is English.

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