

SUMMARY OF MEETINGS

Friday, September 2008

Sessional Committee I - informal meeting

Item 4 Review of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010

The meeting was chaired by Mr. Ravi Bhattarai (Nepal), Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur of Sessional Committee I.

Sessional Committee I concluded its consideration of the draft agreed conclusions on item 4.

Final plenary meeting

Sessional Committee I adopted its agreed conclusions.

Sessional Committee II - informal meeting

Item 5 Economic development in Africa: Trade liberalization and export performance in Africa

The meeting was chaired by Mr. Joannes Ekaprasetya Tanjung (Indonesia), Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur of Sessional Committee II.

Sessional Committee II concluded its consideration of the draft agreed conclusions on item 4.

Final plenary meeting

Sessional Committee II adopted its agreed conclusions.

Closing plenary (1029th meeting)

The meeting was chaired by H.E. Mr. Debapriya Bhattacharya (Bangladesh), President of the Trade and Development Board.

Item 4 Review of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001

The report of Sessional Committee I was introduced by the Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur, Mr. Ravi Bhattaria (Nepal).

The Board took note of the report of Sessional Committee I as contained in document TD/B/55/SC.I/L.1 and endorsed the agreed conclusions contained in document TD/B/55/SC.I/L.2.

Item 5 Review of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001

The report of Sessional Committee II was introduced by the Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur, Mr. Joannes Tandjung (Indonesia).

The Board took note of the report of Sessional Committee II as contained in document TD/B/55/SC.II/L.1 and endorsed the agreed conclusions (to be issued as document TD/B/55/SC.II/L.2).

Item 1 Procedural matters

(c) Adoption of the report on credentials

The Board adopted the report of the Bureau on the credentials of representatives participating in the fifty-fifth session of the Board, as contained in TD/B/55/L.3.

(d) Provisional agenda for the fifty-sixth session of the Board

The Board decided to refer consideration of this item to consultations of the President. The provisional agenda will be drawn up and submitted for approval at an appropriate time.

**Item 11 Matters requiring action by the Board in the follow-up to the twelfth session of the Conference and arising from or related to reports and activities of its subsidiary and other bodies
– Hearing of Civil Society**

Mr. Adalbert Nougá, of Village Suisse ONG, presented the report.

The Board took note of the report as contained in document TD/B/55/L.2/Add.1.

Item 14 Institutional, organizational, administrative and related matters

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

The Board was informed that the list of intergovernmental organizations in status with UNCTAD was contained in TD/B/IGO/LIST/7, and that there were no new applications to be considered.

(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 the list of non-governmental organizations in status with UNCTAD was contained in TD/B/NGO/LIST/9. The Board approved one new application for observer status:

- The World Forum of Civil Society Networks (UBUNTU): the background information on this organization is contained in document TD/B/55/R.1.

(d) Review of the calendar of meetings

The Board approved the calendar of meetings for the remainder of 2008 and the provisional calendar of meetings for 2009 as contained in a non-paper dated 26 September 2008.

(e) Membership of the Working Party for 2009

The Board approved the membership of the Working Party for 2009 as follows: Albania, Belarus, China, Congo, Djibouti, El Salvador, Finland, France, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Mexico, Morocco, Peru, Philippines, Russian Federation, Sweden, Switzerland and United States of America.

(f) Review of the lists of States contained in the annex to General Assembly Resolution 1995 (XIX)

There were no new applications for membership of the Board, which still stands at 151.

(g) Administrative and financial implications of the actions of the Board

The Board was informed that the actions of the Board at its current session had no financial implications for the current programme budget.

Item 15 Other business

Topics and terms of reference for expert meetings

The Board approved the compilation of topics and terms of reference as a whole contained in a non-paper dated 26 September and requested the secretariat to issue the compilation as an official document of the Board to be translated into all official United Nations languages.

Executive session

The Board requested the extended Bureau to meet in the following week to decide on the holding of an executive session in mid November and to approve its agenda.

Training and capacity building

The representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran made a statement.

Item 16 Adoption of the report

The Rapporteur, Mrs. Falkonaki-Sotiropoulos (Greece), introduced the draft report of the Trade and Development Board on its fifty-fifth session, as contained in TD/B/55/L.1; TD/B/55/L.2 and Add.1-9, TD/B/SC.1/L.1 and L.2 and TD/B/SC.2/L.1. The Board adopted the draft report and authorized the Rapporteur to complete the report for transmission to the General Assembly.

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

Closing statements were made by the following representatives: Mexico; Zimbabwe (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China); Indonesia (on behalf of the Asian Group); Kyrgyzstan (on behalf of Group D); Bangladesh (on behalf of the least developed countries); France (on behalf of the European Union); Peru (on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States); and Chad (on behalf of the African Group).

The President of the Board made concluding remarks.