



## United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

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### Trade and Development Board

Fifty-seventh session

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Item 4 of the provisional agenda

## Economic development in Africa: South–South cooperation: Africa and the new forms of development partnerships

### Draft agreed conclusions

#### *The Trade and Development Board*

1. *Appreciates* the important role that other developing countries are playing and their contribution to Africa's economic development, and notes the rapid deepening of economic ties between Africa and other developing countries;
2. *Welcomes* the UNCTAD secretariat's *Economic Development in Africa Report 2010: South–South Cooperation: Africa and the New Forms of Development Partnership*;
3. *Stresses* that Africa's engagement with developing countries should be seen as a complement rather than a substitute for relations with developed countries;
4. *Recalls* that South–South cooperation is a cooperation among developing countries based on solidarity;
5. *Notes* the key message of the report – that South–South cooperation has the potential to enhance Africa's capacity to address its development challenges, but notes that the full realization of the benefits requires gearing cooperation more towards economic transformation and the development of productive capacities in the region;
6. *Stresses* that the environmental and social impacts of investments in Africa should be closely followed by all stakeholders;
7. *Encourages* African countries to ensure that new loans from developing-country partners are used to finance projects that enhance domestic capacity to avoid accumulation of unsustainable debt;
8. *Encourages* African countries to better integrate South–South cooperation, including regional and bilateral cooperation through existing development cooperation initiatives, in their national development strategies and plans, to ensure that it meets their development needs and priorities, and calls upon other developing countries to support this process;

9. *Encourages* the African Union Commission and the regional economic communities to play a more active role in coordinating Africa's relations with other developing countries, and to focus attention on regional priorities, and to ensure a wider spread of the benefits of these partnerships, particularly to the poor and most vulnerable;
10. *Stresses* the need for more and better information on development cooperation between Africa and other developing countries;
11. *Invites* developed and developing countries to strengthen the dialogue together with Africa through enhanced coordination and sharing of experiences and best practices;
12. *Invites* developed and developing countries to strengthen support for regional integration in Africa;
13. *Invites* regional and multilateral financial institutions to make resources available to support South-South cooperation projects. Also invites developed and developing countries and multilateral, regional and bilateral and development institutions to support South-South cooperation through, inter alia, triangular cooperation, including for capacity development;
14. *Reiterates* its call to UNCTAD, within its mandate and available resources and as agreed in the Accra Accord, to continue its work on offering technical assistance to developing countries in accession to the World Trade Organization, particularly least developed countries, and to continue capacity-building activities in trade in services;
15. *Stresses* the need for developing countries in their relations with African countries to address the impact of commodity dependence, as well as the need for industrialization and diversification. In that regard, encourages UNCTAD to continue its technical assistance to build productive capacity, and in particular to assist African countries, including with the process of transforming commodities into final goods;
16. *Notes* the relevance of science and technology for development as mentioned within the Accra Accord;
17. *Reiterates* its call to UNCTAD, within its mandate and as agreed in the Accra Accord, to continue to undertake insightful and critical analysis on Africa's trade and development issues and to widen the dissemination of its research findings, including improving availability of resources, especially human resources, of the Division for Africa, Least Developed Countries and Special Programmes, and of the Special Unit on Commodities, within existing budgetary resources.

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