



**United Nations Conference
on Trade and Development**

Distr.: General
22 March 2011

Original: English

Trade and Development Board

Trade and Development Commission

Third session

Geneva, 6–10 June 2011

Item 6 of the provisional agenda

Promoting and strengthening synergies among the three pillars

**Progress report on the implementation of the provisions of
the Accra Accord related to cross-divisional
capacity-building**

Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

Executive summary

This report provides information on the implementation of the provisions of the Accra Accord related to the areas of work covered by Paragraph 162 on cross-divisional capacity-building programmes. In particular, it focuses on UNCTAD's work in training and building capacities for trade practitioners in trade, investment and development, training for policymakers in the integrated treatment of trade, investment, finance, technology and development, and supporting the development of local teaching and research capacities for academics in trade and development. This report places particular emphasis on the sharing of knowledge and the strengthening of local capacities. It is complemented by an annex presenting the list of outputs of these three programmes. More detailed information can be found in the *DTL Activity Report 2010* (UNCTAD/DTL/2011/1).

Introduction

1. The activities reported below cover cross-divisional capacity-building programmes in accordance with Accra Accord paragraph 162 which are carried out by the Knowledge Sharing, Training and Capacity Development Branch of the Division on Technology and Logistics.
2. Accra Accord Paragraph 162 states: “UNCTAD should enhance its assistance in cross-divisional capacity-building programmes, including training for policymakers on the integrated treatment of the trade, investment, finance, technology and development issues referred to in paragraph 166 of the Bangkok Plan of Action, which must ensure wide and inclusive participation of developing countries. It should also continue to support the development of local teaching and research capacities in member countries’ academic institutions through the Virtual Institute, and foster training and capacity-building aimed at trade practitioners in order to assist member countries in developing a sustainable local capacity in trade, investment and development issues through TrainForTrade. UNCTAD should also continue to use these programmes to strengthen the synergies between its research and capacity-building activities.”

I. Activities of TrainForTrade

3. In 2010, the TrainForTrade programme pursued its capacity development activities through its three core programmes: the Programme on International Trade and Investment, the Programme on Sustainable Tourism for Development and the Port Training Programme. These cross-divisional programmes expanded in 2010 thanks to the commitment and support of donor countries and partners, and to the wide recognition of their quality by beneficiaries. As in previous years, these programmes have pursued the integration of innovative methods and tools in their activities in order to provide sustainable support at the local level. A total of 26 activities (16 seminars, 7 face-to-face and 3 distance-learning) benefited almost 900 trade operators (of whom 33 per cent were women) from 41 developing countries, including 12 least developed countries (LDCs).
4. TrainForTrade is increasingly recognized as a key player in distance learning tools by Geneva-based organizations. The programme continued to develop its activities as a model of excellence in e-learning which, in 2010, and resulted in the joining of forces with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the United Nations Office at Geneva’s Staff Development and learning Section (UNOG/SDLS) to collaborate on e-learning activities and an e-platform.
5. Technical assistance was provided under the Programme on International Trade and Investment Issues. For instance, the four-year TrainForTrade project in Angola, funded by the European Commission, successfully continued with the implementation of the agreed plan of action. Within this framework, the country’s capacity to implement the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Kyoto Protocol was improved through the delivery of a first course on “Climate Change and the Carbon Market” in Portuguese from several Ministries (Environment, Energy and Water, Oil, Agriculture, Rural Development, and Fisheries and Commerce), the civil society and other institutions. Furthermore, a seminar was held on consumer protection, which led to the current drafting of consumer protection law regulations by the Government with the assistance of TrainForTrade in collaboration with the Competition and Consumer Policies Branch in UNCTAD. Also, a national study on investment was published in Portuguese

with the aim of systematizing information on the legal framework of investment, with specific attention to the local situation in Angola. Finally, TrainForTrade organized the launch in Angola of the UNCTAD *Least Developed Countries Report 2010* in the presence of Ms. Maria Idalina de Valente, Minister of Commerce, and other high-level representatives.

6. In Guinea, international negotiations capacities were strengthened through the development of trade-related training capacities and the delivery of a workshop on theories and techniques of international negotiations through the joint project UNCTAD/TrainForTrade and the International Trade Centre (ITC).

7. In cooperation with the regional integration organizations of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU) and the Latin American and Caribbean Economic System (SELA), TrainForTrade organized seven train-the-trainer courses, including on distance-learning techniques for African, Asian and Latin American trade operators. As a result, 261 trainees were trained by local trainers on capacity-building all around the world. Some of the activities included (a) an international trade financing training course addressing difficulties faced by African exporters that was delivered for national directors of commerce in partnership with ECOWAS; (b) TrainForTrade participation in the launching of WAEMU's Regional Trade Promotion programme in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire, in the framework of a cooperation agreement signed by UNCTAD with WAEMU in 2008; (c) the organization of two courses, on "Negotiators of International Investment Agreements" and "Legal Aspects of Electronic Commerce" (the latter delivered through the TrainForTrade platform) for Latin American countries in close cooperation with SELA, with the financial support of the Government of Spain.

8. TrainForTrade also participated through the Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF) Regional workshop for Central and West Africa and Haiti in Bamako, Mali, to promote the integration of LDCs in global trade. This event led to expressions of interest for TrainForTrade support from six African countries.

9. The second programme of TrainForTrade on sustainable tourism for development focused on collaboration mechanisms with national authorities, civil society and the private sector throughout 2010. A seminar and training courses were held in Angola as well as in Burkina Faso in collaboration with the WAEMU secretariat for member States. In addition, a study was organized for the tourism sector of Benin to Senegal leading to the preparation of project proposals and technical assistance missions were carried out to El Salvador and Nicaragua as a follow-up to a regional training course undertaken in 2009.

10. In its capacity as executive secretariat of the UNCTAD Task Force on Sustainable Tourism for Development, TrainForTrade was also active in the preparations for the High-Level International Meeting of Experts on Sustainable Tourism for Development in the Least Developed Countries held in Caen, France, in October 2010. The outcome of the event is shown in the Caen Conclusions, with 18 specific points instrumental in recognizing sustainable tourism as one of the key tools for poverty reduction and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals for LDCs. A specific recognition was also given to capacity-building, vocational and human resources development activities, of paramount importance to sustain countries' efforts towards the development of a sustainable tourism sector. These inputs can be considered as a relevant contribution to the preparation process of the forthcoming Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (LDC-IV).

11. A large number of activities were undertaken within the framework of the TrainForTrade Port training programme. Its strong cross-divisional capacity was among other highlighted through its cooperation participation in UNCTAD's Multi-year Expert

Meeting on Transport and Trade Facilitation, focusing on emerging challenges and recent development affecting transport and trade facilitation that took place in December 2010. At the same occasion, port partners of the Port Training Programme Networks discussed their support to the beneficiary countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

12. Within the port networks, a second training of technical tutors for English-speaking Port Communities was carried out in the United Republic of Tanzania in cooperation with the Dublin Port Company and Irish Aid. Furthermore, training modules were delivered in each country of the English-speaking Port Network as well as coaching workshops on the pedagogic aspect of the TrainForTrade methodology, and Port certificates were handed out.

13. New training cycles were organized for the members of the French-speaking African Ports and a train-the-trainer seminar was held in Marseille, France, for the port members and new potential port members. Moreover, UNCTAD signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Marseille Fos Port Authority, France, with the aim to support the French-speaking port communities of Africa. The memorandum is a result of a long-term collaboration that has been developed since 1996.

14. TrainForTrade also delivered modules on port management in Portuguese in Angola, of which some were done by local instructors, which is a new development in the project of Angola. In addition, an interactive ICT-based chat session took place between participants in Angola, experts from Port of Sines in Portugal and TrainForTrade in Geneva.

15. An intensive workshop for instructors on port management was organized in Gijón, Spain, for participants from Guatemala and Peru. In addition, UNCTAD organized the Coordination Meeting of its Port training programme for the Spanish-speaking Network in Valencia, Spain. Evaluations of the activities and the elaboration of the forthcoming programme of work were discussed at the meeting. Representatives from two new ports from Argentina and Colombia also attended the meeting and participated in the discussions for a plan of action.

II. Activities of key issues on the international economic agenda

16. The course on Key Issues on the International Economic Agenda is a priority training activity for UNCTAD. It is delivered in two forms: three-week regional courses and short (half-day) courses for diplomats in Geneva. The course gives government officials a comprehensive overview of how economic factors are related to one another, how they can positively impact on the economic and social development of their countries, and how appropriate policies in these areas can bring gains from the globalized economy. The programme is designed and delivered by resource persons from UNCTAD, United Nations regional commissions and host countries.

17. In 2010, two regional courses were organized in Baku, Azerbaijan, for economies in transition (July–August 2010), and in Beirut, Lebanon, for Western Asia (October–November 2010), for a total of 37 participants from 17 countries, and dealt with the developmental aspects of the trading and financial systems, foreign direct investment and enterprise development, technology and the knowledge economy, international transport and trade facilitation, and multilateral and regional trade agreements. In 2010, the Advisory Body approved the offers of Colombia and Singapore to host the next courses. It discussed as well the possibility of establishing permanent or semi-permanent venues in order to strengthen the course and address the challenge arising from the unpredictability of current course funding, including through the diversification of the financial resource base of the course and the reduction of the costs of preparation of each regional course. The Advisory Body requested the secretariat to develop terms of reference for permanent/semi-permanent

venues for future courses and expressed support to the efforts of the organization to raise the necessary funds for the delivery of the courses.

18. Six short courses for Geneva-based diplomats were offered in the spring and autumn sessions of 2010, in cooperation with relevant UNCTAD divisions. Almost 300 delegates from permanent missions of developing, transition and developed countries participated in the sessions in 2010.

III. Activities of the Virtual Institute

19. In 2010, the Virtual Institute (Vi) expanded its network to 55 universities from 32 countries, with four new universities from Brazil, Cameroon, China and the Russian Federation.

20. The Vi supported universities in Egypt, Senegal and the United Republic of Tanzania on the development of their trade-related Master's programmes or courses. It developed three teaching materials on international economic and legal issues (regional trade agreements, trade and poverty, and economic and legal aspects of foreign direct investment). Furthermore, the programme contributed through grants and expertise to local adaptations of its teaching materials (on regional trade agreements and commodities) to the national contexts of member universities in Argentina, Senegal and Uruguay, and organized five study tours at UNCTAD partner institutions (WTO, ITC, the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD), the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the South Centre) and permanent missions for students from the Caribbean, China, Colombia, Russian Federation and United Republic of Tanzania, as well as shorter sessions for its members in Spain, Switzerland and Germany.

21. The Vi also organized workshops on natural resources and economic development and on quantitative tools for trade and trade policy analysis, export market analysis, trade negotiations and modern teaching methods for academics from a number of Latin American and African countries delivered in cooperation with the World Trade Organization (WTO) Economic Research and Statistics Division, and the University of Applied Sciences Berlin. Academics, of which 5 from LDCs and 10 from Latin America, participated in the fellowship programme at UNCTAD.

22. Moreover, the Vi university network supported two projects on regional integration and cooperation and on corporate social responsibility in Latin America. It supported the exchange of teachers and students between different universities of the network through the sponsorship of teachers and scholarships for students.

23. The Vi website continued to provide access to teaching resources, developed multimedia teaching resources and organized videoconferences disseminating the findings of some of UNCTAD's flagship reports to students and academics at a few member universities. It continued to post news and electronic newsletters, and developed a section about graduate programmes underway in the network.

24. The Vi published a study on the contribution of academic capacity-building to the development of human resources and to policy support in developing countries prepared by Argentina's Latin American School of Social Sciences.

Annex

Progress report on the implementation of the provisions of the Accra Accord related to cross-divisional capacity-building (2010)

<i>Accra paragraph</i>	<i>Category</i>	<i>Delivered output</i>
162. UNCTAD should enhance its assistance in cross-divisional capacity-building programmes, including training for policymakers on the integrated treatment of the trade, investment, finance, technology and development issues referred to in paragraph 166 of the Bangkok Plan of Action, which must ensure wide and inclusive participation of developing countries. It should also continue to support the development of local teaching and research capacities in member countries' academic institutions through the Virtual Institute, and foster training and capacity-building aimed at trade practitioners in order to assist member countries in developing a sustainable local capacity in trade, investment and development issues through TrainForTrade. UNCTAD should also continue to use these programmes to strengthen the synergies between its research and capacity-building activities.	Parliamentary documentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress report on the implementation of the provisions of the Accra Accord related to cross-divisional capacity building: Note by the UNCTAD secretariat (TD/B/C.I/12)
	Publications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Study on Prospects for Harmonizing Cyberlaws in Latin America UNCTAD/DTL/STICT/2009/1 (in cooperation with DTL/STICT Branch) Virtual Institute teaching material on Regional trade agreements (UNCTAD/DTL/KTCD/2008/2) Capacity-building study for academia in trade for development: A study on contributions to the development of human resources and policy support for developing countries (UNCTAD/DTL/KTCD/2009/3) Virtual Institute teaching material on Trade and poverty (UNCTAD/SDTE/TIB/2007/4) Corporate social responsibility in Latin America: A collection of research papers from the Virtual Institute network (UNCTAD/DTL/KTCD/2010/2) Integración Regional en América Latina: Desafíos y Oportunidades: Monografía de la red del Instituto virtual de la UNCTAD (UNCTAD/DTL/KTCD/2010/3) Virtual Institute teaching material on Economic and legal aspects of International Investment Agreements (UNCTAD/SDTE/TIB/2007/5) Virtual Institute multimedia teaching resources on issues of poverty and inequality; financial crisis; FDI; environmental crisis/climate change; digital divide; transfer of technology; international investment disputes; and non tariff measures data (http://vi.unctad.org/resources-mainmenu-64/video-and-multimedia-mainmenu-129)

<i>Accra paragraph</i>	<i>Category</i>	<i>Delivered output</i>
	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting of the Advisory Body for the course on Key Issues on the International Economic Agenda (May)
	Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TrainForTrade training cycles for Port Training Programme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Spanish-speaking countries: organized in Peru, and in Guatemala ○ English-speaking countries: organized in Indonesia, Malaysia, Maldives, Ghana, United Republic of Tanzania ○ French-speaking countries: organized in Benin, Guinea, Senegal, Cameroon, Togo, Djibouti ○ Portuguese-speaking countries: Organized in Angola • TrainForTrade Training on Theories and techniques of international negotiations organized in Guinea (March) • TrainForTrade Training Instructor's workshop for French PTP network organized in Djibouti (January/February) • TrainForTrade Training on Climate Change and the Carbon Market organized in Angola (April) and in Distance Learning in Angola and Sao Tome and Principe (March) • TrainForTrade Training on International Investment Agreement organized in Dominican Republic (February) • TrainForTrade Training of trainers Modules 1 to 4 of "Modern Port Management" organized in France (April/May), • TrainForTrade Training on International Trade Financing procedures organized in Burkina-Faso (April) • TrainForTrade Training of instructors organized in Guinea (May/June), in Spain (June), Angola (October) • TrainForTrade Training of technical tutors organized in the United Republic of Tanzania (June) • TrainForTrade workshop on Consumer Protection organized in Angola (May) • TrainForTrade Training on Sustainable Tourism and Development organized in Burkina-Faso (October), Angola (October) • TrainForTrade Training on Legal Aspect

<i>Accra paragraph</i>	<i>Category</i>	<i>Delivered output</i>
		<p>of Ecommerce organized in Distance Learning in Argentina, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru, Paraguay, Surinam, El Salvador, Uruguay, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (November)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TrainForTrade Coaching workshop organized in Ireland (November) • Virtual Institute national professional development workshops on trade data analysis for universities in Peru (January), Uruguay (July), Colombia (October) and Brazil (October) • Virtual Institute national professional development workshop on international macroeconomics, finance and trade for Vi University member in Uganda (March) • Virtual Institute national professional development workshop on the use of WITS (World Integrated Trade Solution) for Vi university member in Senegal (May) • Virtual Institute national professional development workshop on market analysis for exports for Vi university member in Senegal (June) • Virtual Institute national professional development workshop on trade negotiations for Vi university member in Senegal (June) • Virtual Institute national professional development workshops/lectures on Chinese economy for Vi university members in Uganda (July) and United Republic of Tanzania (August) • Virtual Institute national professional development workshop on modern teaching methods for Vi university member in Uganda (August) • Virtual Institute videoconference presentation of the World Investment Report 2009 for lecturers and students from the Catholic University of Peru (February) • Virtual Institute videoconference presentation of the Information Economy Report 2009 for lecturers and students from the Moscow State Institute of International Relations, Russian Federation (April)

<i>Accra paragraph</i>	<i>Category</i>	<i>Delivered output</i>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Virtual Institute videoconference presentations of the World Investment Report 2010 for lecturers and students from the University of Campinas, Brazil (September), Colombian Vi university members (November) and Russian Vi university members (December) • Virtual Institute videoconference presentation of the Technology and Innovation Report 2010 for Russian Vi university members (September) • Virtual Institute videoconference presentations of the <i>Trade and Development Report 2010</i> for lecturers and students of the Institute for Applied Economic Research, Brazil (December) and the University of Jordan (December) • Virtual Institute fellowships for 10 researchers and lecturers from Latin American universities: Argentina (January–February); Brazil (April–May and May–June); Chile (May–June); Colombia (January–February; May–June (2); October); Peru (October); and Uruguay (March–April) • Virtual Institute fellowships for 5 researchers and lecturers from the least developed countries: Ethiopia (January–March and September–November); Senegal (September–October); United Republic of Tanzania (September–October); and Uganda (February–March) • Short Virtual Institute study tours to Geneva-based international organizations for students from the University of Barcelona, Spain (February), the World Trade Institute, Switzerland (February) and the University of Applied Sciences Berlin (December) • Virtual Institute study tours to Geneva-based international organizations for the University of Dar es Salaam Business School, United Republic of Tanzania (February), Russian Vi university members (April), the University of the West Indies (May), the University of International Business and Economics, China (September–October), and Colombian Vi university members (October) • Virtual Institute e-mentored research capacity development for academics from Argentina, Brazil, Peru, Senegal and Uruguay

<i>Accra paragraph</i>	<i>Category</i>	<i>Delivered output</i>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Courses on Key Issues on the International Economic Agenda for transition economies (Azerbaijan; July-August) and Western Asia (Lebanon; October–November) Short courses on Key International Economic Issues for Permanent Missions in Geneva (March, April, May, October, November and December)
	Advisory services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advisory services on the implementation of TrainForTrade training and capacity development activities provided to partner institutions in Angola, Benin, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Bhutan, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Djibouti, Ecuador, El Salvador, France, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea–Bissau, Honduras, Indonesia, Ireland, Jamaica, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, Mexico, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Dominican Republic, Sao Tome and Principe, Spain, Senegal, United Republic of Tanzania, Thailand, Togo, Uruguay, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Viet Nam Curricular advice on the development of trade-related courses for the University of Dar es Salaam Business School, United Republic of Tanzania (July) Curricular advice on the development of trade-related courses for the Cheikh Anta Diop University, Senegal (May–June) Curricular advice on the development of trade-related courses for the University of Cairo, Egypt (September)