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Trade and Development Board
Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission
Fifth session
Geneva, 29 April–3 May 2013
Item 2 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Provisional agenda and annotations

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II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

1. The Accra Accord, adopted at UNCTAD XII, established the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission. Paragraph 202 states that:

...The Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission will have the mandate of the previous Commission on Investment, Technology and Related Financial Issues, and will also assume responsibility for enterprise and ICT [information and communication technology] issues from the previous Commission on Enterprise, Business Facilitation and Development.

2. Paragraph 203 of the Accra Accord stipulates:

The outcomes of commission sessions will be agreed conclusions from the policy dialogue and recommendations to the secretariat achieved within the scheduled time of the session...These conclusions and recommendations should be focused, brief and directly related to the agenda of the session and should provide inputs to the research and analysis pillar and the technical cooperation pillar...

3. Paragraph 206 of the Accra Accord also provides that:

The commission meetings will have as their inputs: substantive documentation prepared by the secretariat, providing secretariat views and recommendations based on secretariat research and analysis; reports of expert meetings; inputs from the Global Network of Development Think Tanks, civil society and the private sector; and secretariat activity reports...

Item 1

Election of officers

4. In accordance with rule 18 of the rules of procedure of the main committees of the Trade and Development Board, the Commission is to elect a Chair, five Vice-Chairs and a Rapporteur from among the representatives of its members, taking into account the need to ensure equitable geographical distribution. In accordance with rule 19 of the rules of procedure, the Bureau of the Commission shall consist of seven members: four members from lists A and C combined, two members from list B and one member from list D, referred to in the annex to General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX) as amended.

5. Accordingly, following the cycle of rotation established after UNCTAD IX, the Bureau for this session of the Commission will be as follows: the Chair from list D; the Rapporteur from list A; three Vice-Chairs from lists A and C combined; two Vice-Chairs from list B.

Item 2

Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

6. The agenda for the fifth session of the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission was prepared in accordance with paragraph 204 of the Accra Accord and as approved by the Trade and Development Board at its fifty-fifth executive session (TD/B/EX(55)/4).

7. With regard to the organization of the work, the Commission session will have a duration of five days, and this time period will include a break of one day for informal consultations. The first three days will focus on the substantive items of the agenda, comprising two topics and consideration of the reports of expert meetings and workplans.

Following a break of one day, on the last day of the session, the Commission will address the institutional issues on the agenda and adopt any agreed outcome.

Documentation

TD/B/C.II/19 Provisional agenda and annotations

Item 3

Reports of expert meetings

8. The Commission will have before it and will consider (a) the Report of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Investment, Innovation and Entrepreneurship for Productive Capacity-building and Sustainable Development on its first session; and (b) the Report of the Expert Meeting on Assessing the Impact of Public–Private Partnerships on Trade and Development in Developing Countries. The meeting cited in (a) considered the issue of regional integration and foreign direct investment.

Documentation

TD/B/C.II/MEM.4/3 Report of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Investment, Innovation and Entrepreneurship for Productive Capacity-Building and Sustainable Development on its first session

TD/B/C.II/EM.3/3 Report of the Expert Meeting on Assessing the Impact of Public–Private Partnerships on Trade and Development in Developing Countries

Item 4

Promoting entrepreneurship for productive capacity-building

9. The global and financial crisis and its aftermath continue to have serious implications for enterprise development in developing countries, and to lead to new developments in the area of entrepreneurship and enterprise policies. Responding to the mandates spelled out by the sub-theme 4, paragraphs 65(g), (h) and (m) of the Doha Mandate, the Commission will discuss these policy challenges and measures, including from the perspective of the newly developed Entrepreneurship Policy Framework with a view to enhancing the productive capacity of developing countries and strengthening the resilience of their enterprises to the global crisis and tomorrow's challenges.

10. The UNCTAD Entrepreneurship Policy Framework, while cautioning that one size does not fit all, suggests policy options and recommended actions in six priority areas that have a direct impact on entrepreneurial activity. These areas are:

- (a) Formulating national entrepreneurship strategies;
- (b) Optimizing the regulatory environment;
- (c) Enhancing entrepreneurship education and skills;
- (d) Facilitating technology exchange and innovation;
- (e) Improving access to finance;
- (f) Promoting awareness and networking.

11. Based on the Entrepreneurship Policy Framework, a high-level panel will review and discuss lessons learned and challenges encountered in promoting entrepreneurship for productive capacity building. The UNCTAD secretariat has prepared an issues note to

guide the deliberations and the *UNCTAD Entrepreneurship Policy Framework and Implementation Guidance* will serve as background documentation.

Documentation

TD/B/C.II/20 The UNCTAD Entrepreneurship Policy Framework and its implementation

UNCTAD/DIAE/ED/2012/1 *UNCTAD Entrepreneurship Policy Framework and Implementation Guidance*

Item 5

Investment, innovation and technology for development

12. Under this item, which deals with the review of policies related to international investment, the Commission will review countries' experiences in designing strategies and policies for attracting and benefiting from foreign investment for sustainable development and inclusive growth. A panel will be convened which will consist of high-level government representatives, international experts and representatives from the private sector. It is expected that the deliberations will take the form of peer reviews, with the panel formulating forward-looking recommendations on how to maximize the contribution of foreign direct investment to sustainable development. To facilitate the discussions, the UNCTAD secretariat will make available background documentation comprised of investment policy reviews and a conference room paper.

13. Enabling and fostering innovation has long been recognized as a core strategic goal of economic policy in the more advanced economies and is one that receives increasing attention in most developing countries. The Doha Manar (paragraph 9) declares that:

...the development of a strong science, technology and innovation capacity...are important aspects of capabilities for mobilizing gains from the globalized and knowledge-based economy of the twenty-first century.

Under this agenda item the Commission is invited to undertake a policy dialogue about the available options and good practices that Governments may consider in supporting knowledge creation, adaptation, adoption and diffusion to develop strong science, technology and innovation capacities.

14. Public policy has a central role in developing such science, technology and innovation capacities. Policies that promote technological learning and innovation are among the most powerful levers that can be used to stimulate structural change, improve the competitiveness of firms and create growth and jobs. Given the complex, systemic nature of innovation processes, innovation policy needs to address a broad range of problems that include aspects such as the ability of firms to learn, the connections between the various players in the innovation system, weaknesses in the infrastructure and environment needed for innovative activities and the effects of trade and investment linkages on technological learning processes. Among the many different concerns of innovation policy, investing in the creation and development of innovation capabilities has always been and remains a major role for government action.

15. A background note by the UNCTAD secretariat considers the issue of public and private investment for innovation and presents some experiences of developing countries in using various funding mechanisms for the development of innovation capabilities. The secretariat will also make available the Report of the Expert Meeting on the Contribution of Foreign Direct Investment to the Transfer and Diffusion of Technology and Know-how for Sustainable Development in Developing Countries, Especially Least Developed Countries,

as well as the UNCTAD *World Investment Report 2005 – Transnational Corporations and the Internationalization of R&D*.

Documentation

TD/B/C.II/21	Investing in innovation for development
TD/B/C.II/EM.2/3	Report of the Expert Meeting on the Contribution of Foreign Direct Investment to the Transfer and Diffusion of Technology and Know-how for Sustainable Development in Developing Countries, Especially Least Developed Countries
UNCTAD/WIR/2005	<i>World Investment Report 2005 – Transnational Corporations and the Internationalization of R&D</i>

16. The presentation of the Investment Promotion Awards 2013 will also take place within the framework of the fifth session of the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission. Inaugurated in 2002, the awards are given to investment promotion agencies on an annual basis to honour best-practice agencies in various fields of investment promotion. The 2013 awards will go to the world's best agencies in promoting export-oriented foreign direct investment.

Item 6

Promoting and strengthening synergies among the three pillars

17. Under this item, the secretariat will report on progress made in promoting and strengthening the synergies among the three pillars of UNCTAD's work in the areas covered by this Commission. A presentation of the progress accomplished since the last session of this Commission will be made by the Director of the Division on Investment and Enterprise and the Director of the Division on Technology and Logistics.

Documentation

UNCTAD/DIAE/2013/1	<i>Division on Investment and Enterprise: Results and Impact Report 2013</i>
UNCTAD/DTL/2013/1	<i>Division on Technology and Logistics Activity Report 2012</i>

Item 7

Other business

18. Under this agenda item, the Commission may also wish to consider and recommend to the Trade and Development Board for approval, the substantive topic(s) for the sixth session of the Commission.

Item 8

Adoption of the report of the Commission to the Trade and Development Board

19. The report of the fifth session of the Commission will be submitted to the Trade and Development Board.