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Report of the Trade and Development Commission on its third session

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I. Agreed conclusions¹

The Commission,

1. *Expresses concern* over the uneven trade and economic recovery from the global economic crisis; over the continuing high levels of inequality, poverty and unemployment in many countries, in particular developing countries – especially the least developed countries (LDCs), as well as other groups of countries with special needs – and also countries with economies in transition; and also over both new and persistent protectionist measures and the risk of double-dip recession;

2. *Recognizes* that trade and development are inextricably interlinked. Trade and trade policies need to be streamlined and augmented with complementary policies for building competitive and diversified agricultural, industrial and services productive capacities, in particular for developing countries – especially LDCs, as well as other groups of countries with special needs – and also countries with economies in transition, with supportive services infrastructures, and with adequate human, regulatory and institutional frameworks, to ensure inclusive and sustainable development and the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals. There is a need to tailor policies to countries' specificities, avoiding one-size-fits-all approaches;

3. *Considers* that trade can have an impact on employment, and emphasizes that trade policies should contribute to both the quantity and quality of employment. Policies that highlight employment creation as an explicit target, address sectors with high potential for employment creation, ensure smooth adjustment in labour markets, and make available social safety nets, especially in developing countries with large informal sectors, are important. Therefore, there is a need to further explore policy options for utilizing trade to promote equitable and stable employment across income levels;

4. *Expresses the importance* of building services supply capacities, including infrastructure services, to promote diversification, competitiveness, employment creation and increased trade, including all modes of supply of services as defined under the General Agreement on Trade in Services. Comprehensive national services development policies need to be developed and implemented;

5. *Emphasizes the importance* of continuing to make substantial efforts for an early and successful conclusion of the WTO Doha Round of trade negotiations, with an ambitious, comprehensive, balanced and development-oriented outcome, thus ensuring a more open, equitable, rules-based, predictable and transparent multilateral trading system, and in this regard, underlines the serious difficulties faced by the LDCs in effectively and meaningfully integrating into the multilateral trading system; further emphasizes the importance of preventing current and new forms of protectionism and eliminating WTO-inconsistent non-tariff barriers, and of providing a stimulus to global economic recovery;

6. *Highlights* that South–South trade has been increasing and offers important opportunities for trade and development; notes the conclusion of the São Paulo Round of negotiations on the Global System of Trade Preferences among Developing Countries (GSTP), in December 2010; and calls upon the UNCTAD secretariat, within existing resources, to continue analysing and providing information on the evolution of the GSTP;

7. *Requests* UNCTAD to continue to monitor, analyse and assess the evolution of the international trading system, regional integration, and regional and free trade agreements, and to assist developing countries – especially LDCs, as well as other groups

¹ As adopted at the final plenary meeting held on 10 June 2011.

of countries with special needs – and also countries with economies in transition, to better integrate into and gain from the international trading system;

8. *Calls upon* UNCTAD, in accordance with its mandate, to continue supporting the WTO-acceding developing countries, particularly LDCs and countries with economies in transition, by providing technical assistance and capacity-building prior to, during and in the follow-up to the process of accession;

9. *Recognizes* that improvements in transport and trade facilitation, including in infrastructure, can assist all developing countries, with due regard to their specific needs to trade competitively, in particular the LDCs and LLDCs. Requests UNCTAD to continue its support in building capacities in developing countries, particularly in the LDCs and LLDCs, in accordance with both their national priorities and development strategies in the areas of transport, trade facilitation and infrastructure;

10. *Requests* UNCTAD, within its mandate, to continue its research and analysis on the contribution of migrants' remittances to development;

11. *Emphasizes* that over the last three decades, global supply chains (GSCs) – where efficiency, including cost-reduction strategies, results in goods being produced with intermediate inputs originating from several countries, including developing economies – have become common in many industries, and have been accompanied by a spectacular growth of world trade in intermediate parts and components;

12. *Notes* that participation in GSCs is viewed by many developing countries as an important tool for diversifying and increasing exports and for their value addition, as well as for attracting foreign direct investment. In this context, supportive trade and industrial policies can help integrate domestic firms into GSCs, but they are not sufficient. In order to keep competitiveness on track to integrate into GSCs, such policies should be complemented by trade facilitation measures and substantial improvements in the overall business environment, including those related to developing transport and infrastructures, fostering competition in logistics and other trade-related services, enforcing the rule of law, improving customs procedures, and investing in the human capital necessary to rise along the value chain;

13. *Expresses concern* that enterprises of LDCs as well as other groups of countries with special needs are frequently confronted with substantial disadvantages in integrating into GSCs, in particular due to higher transport and other trade costs, low skill and technology levels, the often small size of their enterprises, and weaker management skills. In this regard, trade facilitation that aims to reduce trade-related costs, including non-tariff measures, should be further strengthened, and efforts should be made, including taking into consideration development assistance and domestic policies, to upgrade human and social capital;

14. *Encourages* UNCTAD, in accordance with the mandate of the Accra Accord, to analyse the evolution of GSCs and the methodologies, both at national and international levels, necessary to ensure increasing involvement and benefits for developing countries and their enterprises, as well as in terms of adding value to their exports;

15. *Takes note* of the Report of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Commodities and Development on its third session (TD/B/C.I/MEM.2/16); the Report of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Services, Development and Trade: the Regulatory and Institutional Dimension on its third session (TD/B/C.I/MEM.3/9); the Report of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on International Cooperation: South–South Cooperation and Regional Integration on its third session (TD/B/C.II/MEM.2/9); the Report of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Transport and Trade Facilitation on its third session (TD/B/C.I/MEM.1/9); and the Report

of the Expert Meeting on Maximizing the Development Impact of Remittances (TD/B/C.I/EM.4/3);

16. *Recognizes the value* of the expert meetings as a platform to strengthen UNCTAD's programme of work in all the three pillars and to encourage the sharing of experiences and best practices. Recalling the Accra Accord, the Commission should use the reports of the expert meetings as inputs to its work.

II. Chair's summary

A. Opening of the session

1. The Deputy Secretary-General of UNCTAD, Mr. Petko Draganov, made an opening statement. The Minister of Trade of Indonesia, Ms. Mari Pangestu, made a special presentation by video link entitled "Promoting inclusive growth and sustainable development through trade". Statements were made by (a) the representative of Lesotho on behalf of the Group of 77 and China; (b) the representative of Ghana on behalf of the African Group; (c) the representative of Thailand on behalf of the Asian Group; (d) the representative of the European Union delegation on behalf of the European Union and its member States; (e) the representative of El Salvador on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean Countries; (f) the representative of Nepal on behalf of the Least Developed Countries; and (g) the representative of Paraguay on behalf of the Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs). Statements were then given by representatives of the United States of America, China, Cuba and Mozambique.

2. The Deputy Secretary-General of UNCTAD stated that export-led growth remained a priority for developing countries in generating employment and reducing poverty. However, serious structural problems were confronting many developing countries in their efforts to enhance the contribution of trade to overall development, such as increasing commodity concentration, restrictive trade measures, and trade imbalances which were exacerbated by exchange rate misalignments. Moreover, the variability and fragility of the recovery of the global economy and trade in the wake of the recent crisis had raised fears of a double-dip recession. The close interconnections between trade, development and employment underlined the necessity for trade-led growth strategies to be complemented by broad development policies to enhance production capabilities, structural transformation, economic diversification and value-addition. The likelihood of substantial adjustment costs arising from trade liberalization underlined the case for strategic and gradual liberalization, particularly with a view to attenuating job losses in the industrial sectors. With regard to market access for developing countries, reducing tariffs on labour-intensive goods would help create employment, especially for low-skilled workers, and would facilitate diversification into value-adding manufactures. The Deputy Secretary-General noted that the Doha Round could contribute in that regard, but that it may need new approaches in order to move forward, including through an early harvest of issues of key commercial interest to LDCs. Furthermore, the integration of developing countries into global supply chains enhanced their participation in international trade. It required, inter alia, industrial policies with targeted financial and technical support.

3. The Deputy Secretary-General highlighted the new opportunities emerging from green goods and technologies, for which the supply response from developing countries had been significant. He also referred to the important role played by transport in addressing low-carbon-economy imperatives, and the need to promote energy-efficient transport, favouring investment in low-carbon and climate-resilient infrastructure and operations. He emphasized that UNCTAD XIII could aim to contribute to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development being held in 2012.

4. In her presentation by video link, the Minister of Trade of Indonesia, Ms. Mari Pangestu, stressed the importance of ensuring open trade and investment in facilitating the recovery in the global economy and contributing to inclusive growth. She emphasized that the increased role of developing countries in the global recovery – especially emerging economies – brought new opportunities for enhanced South–South trade. Such trade had been growing dynamically in recent times. At the international level, inclusive growth through trade implied integrating more countries into the international trading system, and at the national level, it implied integrating poverty-sensitive sectors and communities such as women, and creating jobs. National, regional and multilateral policies must be linked in a coherent package. The conclusion of the Doha Round under a single undertaking was important in further opening markets, but that may require more time. A package could be carved out in 2011 for LDCs at the Eighth WTO Ministerial Conference, while other issues on the Doha agenda could be concluded in the future. The conclusion could also help remove certain distortions in some sectors, such as agriculture. The package for LDCs would need to include duty-free quota-free treatment with simple rules of origin. Such treatment should also be provided in the regional context. A strengthened multilateral trading system could stop protectionism from impeding flows of trade and investment. This was needed, in view of the slight increase recently in the protectionist trend.

5. Ms. Pangestu stated that the benefits of liberalization were not necessarily broad-based or equitably distributed across populations, sectors and enterprises. Therefore, it was necessary to ensure that trade led to benefits that were inclusive nationally, if it was to serve as a true means to development. Some key issues for developing countries in regard to achieving inclusive growth through trade were (a) job creation in all sectors and not just in export-oriented ones; (b) providing better support for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs); (c) providing effective social safety nets, bearing in mind the large number of people in the informal sector; (d) integrating women into global trade activities, through better education and equal access to capital, markets and enterprises; and (e) developing productive capacities and creating jobs through services trade, including through outsourcing and labour services. In the absence of an agreement in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, there was a potential danger of protectionism emerging, especially in the form of product standards. Product standards needed to be developed in a scientifically based and transparent manner, and ideally should be similar to those of other countries, otherwise they could disrupt trade. In this regard, there was also a need (a) for an action plan; (b) to allow time for producers in developing countries to adjust to the new standards; and (c) for provision of capacity-building support to meet the standards. The production of palm oil in Indonesia was an example where dialogue with European importers and the use of independent process auditors were facilitating the transition towards sustainable production for export.

6. Many delegations stressed that the recent economic and financial crisis had had a seriously adverse impact on development, and that even if the global economy and global trade had begun to rebound, many LDCs, LLDCs, and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies were continuing to struggle to put their economies onto a sustained development path, create employment, and reduce poverty. World trade had rebounded strongly in 2010, expanding by 12 per cent. However, distribution of the benefits of trade growth had varied among countries and regions. Services trade had increased too, but with performance varying by region. Commodity exports had become more concentrated. Developing countries – especially the emerging economies – were recovering faster, and were serving as demand sources and export destinations for the world economy. It was stated that countries existed along a continuum of development, and that each one had its own unique set of needs and challenges. These experiences underlined the fact that trade and development were closely interlinked and mutually reinforcing. Such linkages necessitated policy coherence (i.e. between trade, industrial, agricultural and services policies), as well as integrated development approaches. Delegates expressed appreciation for the work carried out by UNCTAD in that regard.

7. It was noted that the recovery remained fragile and could be further adversely affected by the threat of protectionism and by the stalemate in the Doha Round, which was a major concern for all. LDCs and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies were at particular risk of being affected. Despite reinvigorated efforts to complete the Round by the end of 2011, there was the possibility for further delay. Most delegations agreed that concluding the Doha Round on the basis of its full mandate was important, in order to strengthen the multilateral trading system, prevent protectionism, and lay the basis for sustained trade recovery and economic growth. New approaches could be considered to advance the negotiations and bring about inclusive development outcomes: for example, an early harvest in areas that would be easy to agree on, such as duty-free quota-free market access for LDCs and simplifying rules of origin, providing implementation capacities for trade facilitation, special and differential treatment, and services – especially mode 4. The need for concrete support through Aid for Trade, especially for LDCs, and through the Enhanced Integrated Framework, was also stressed.

8. Some delegations stated that in the medium term, it would be imperative to review the conventional focus of the multilateral trading system on trade liberalization and to align it with broader development objectives on productive capacities, employment generation, and development. Furthermore, they noted that such a realignment should be undertaken in the Doha Round. A free and fair trading system could be an effective engine for growth, poverty reduction, and improvement in living standards.

9. Several delegations expressed concern over the long delays in concluding negotiations on the accession of developing countries to the World Trade Organization (WTO). Such negotiations should be accelerated, and commitments undertaken by developing countries should be comparable to the commitments by countries at a similar level of development that are currently members of WTO.

10. Delegates stated that services trade and development played an important role in enhancing and diversifying supply capacities, and in creating competitive and efficient economies.

11. Delegates noted that it was essential to build services supply capacities – including infrastructure services – that would facilitate flows of trade and make trade transactions cost-effective, especially in LDCs. Comprehensive national services development policies and plans should be drawn up and implemented. UNCTAD's work and support in the area of services trade and development was acknowledged.

12. Some delegations emphasized that concrete implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action, which had come out of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (LDC-IV), could promote the productive capacities of LDCs and the fuller integration of LDCs into the global trading system.

13. The importance of South–South trade was highlighted by several delegations. It was stated that growth in South–South trade should receive a further boost from the conclusion of the São Paulo round of negotiations under the GSTP. UNCTAD's support for the GSTP was commended.

14. Delegations commended UNCTAD on its continuing work on the evolution of the international trading system, on its thorough analyses, and on its support for developing countries to benefit from better integration into the global trading system. Delegations requested UNCTAD to continue to provide technical assistance on policy matters relating to regional and multilateral trade negotiations and liberalization, taking into account fully the needs of developing countries and LDCs.

15. Some delegations noted that participation in GSCs increased with openness in trade and with supportive measures – especially financial and industrial policies aimed at investments in education and infrastructure. They welcomed the secretariat's ideas on the elements essential to building trading capacities in developing countries (including supply-

side capacity-building), which were likely to improve competitiveness, growth and integration. Regional integration, a good business environment, developing domestic markets, trade facilitation (especially improved transport and logistics), technology transfer, investment, public-private partnerships, gender mainstreaming, increased Aid for Trade and official development assistance (ODA), more effective utilization of the Enhanced Integrated Framework, building human resources, and the role of the State were also noted as important elements. The private sector was seen as the main driver of the supply chain, and therefore needed to be supported by governments. Support also needed to be provided to SMEs and to women – through access to finance, markets, networks, and compensatory measures for liberalization. The importance of technology, information and communications technologies (ICTs) and innovation, in enhancing developing countries' competitiveness and their integration into global value chains, was noted.

16. Most delegations recognized that inefficient and inadequate transportation, logistics, trade-related infrastructure and services could severely impede a country's ability to compete on a global scale. Access to cost-efficient and sustainable international transport infrastructure and services remained a major challenge for developing countries. Those difficulties were compounded by increases in the price of oil, and by concerns relating to climate change and its impact on transport. There was a need for increased understanding of these issues and of their economic impacts, with a view to adopting the requisite transport-related policies. It was noted that UNCTAD should reinforce its work relating to the nexus between energy-related development issues, transport costs, and climate change. Another important issue calling for attention was the need to build the resilience of transport infrastructure to adapt to current and potential climate-change impacts on LDCs, LLDCs and small island developing States. Equally important was the role of the private sector in developing and maintaining transport infrastructure, including through public-private partnerships. Additionally, the transport and trade facilitation reforms that were being pursued at the multilateral, regional and national level were crucial to reducing barriers to trade and costs. UNCTAD was encouraged to continue its support to transport, trade facilitation and infrastructure development, including through the TrainForTrade Port Training Programme.

17. With regard to the expert meetings, it was noted that these meetings raised important policy issues for member States and pointed to areas for further research by UNCTAD. One delegate noted that experts participated in their own personal capacity at such meetings, and that the outcomes of the meetings should therefore be seen in that perspective. Appreciation was expressed for UNCTAD's efforts in convening and servicing the Sixth United Nations Conference to Review All Aspects of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices, which had reaffirmed UNCTAD's unique role in the United Nations system in promoting policy and regulations to address anticompetitive practices and to enhance consumer welfare.

18. Some delegations expressed appreciation for the level of implementation, the outreach to a large number of developing countries, and the emphasis on practical policy options, in UNCTAD's activities as noted in the secretariat's activity reports on the implementation of the Accra Accord in 2010 in the areas of trade, commodities, transport and trade facilitation, and training.

B. Reports of expert meetings

Report of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Commodities and Development

(Agenda item 3(a)(i))

19. The Commission took note of the Report of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Commodities and Development (TD/B/C.I/MEM.2/16), which was presented by the secretariat.

20. The Commission welcomed the review by experts of price volatility issues, and stressed the need to continue analysing the functioning of futures markets. Given increased uncertainty, the Commission considered the issue of price-setting at various levels of commodity value chains, and the role of the public sector in managing risks to commodity producers. Several factors contributed to the complexity of the commodity price volatility, including supply and demand fundamentals such as supply shocks, lack of transparency, exchange rates, and input cost fluctuations. It was noted that these factors may be exacerbated by financialization and speculation.

21. The Commission noted the ongoing proposals with regard to the scope and nature of government intervention in food markets. These included moving from costly national buffer stocks to regional stocks, particularly among small countries, and improving market transparency via enhanced information systems on prices and standards for farmers.

22. The Commission noted the importance (a) of reliable process standards and information flows in commodity chains, from the farm via customs to consumers, in order to ensure product safety; and (b) of surmounting supply-chain discontinuity in inputs markets and other linkages, in order to integrate developing countries' agroindustry into global value chains.

Report of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Services, Development and Trade: the Regulatory and Institutional Dimension

(Agenda item 3(a)(ii))

23. The Commission took note of the Report of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Services, Development and Trade: the Regulatory and Institutional Dimension on its third session (TD/B/C.I/MEM.3/9), which was presented by the Chair of the meeting, Ms. Marion Williams (Barbados).

24. Delegations welcomed the particular emphasis that the expert meeting had put on the need for an integrated and coherent strategy for the development of infrastructure services sectors. They concurred with the importance of such a coherent overall strategy for the sector, and added that it was crucial for policymakers to take into account countries' supply constraints and broader development policies, and that international trade – in particular, services – played an important role in such a strategy. Openness to trade, in combination with sound regulatory policies, helped to create more competitive and efficient infrastructure services. It was also noted that the expert meeting had rightly highlighted the major role that the State needed to play in developing such an integrated and coherent strategy for infrastructure services sectors. The importance was reiterated of strengthening the services capacity of developing countries, and also of adopting the necessary regulatory frameworks for infrastructure services sectors. Some delegations highlighted the issue of coherence between regulatory frameworks and other policies and the major role of the State in that regard, as well as the role of the State in developing best-fit regulatory practices, taking into account national specificities and development needs.

Report of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on International Cooperation: South–South Cooperation and Regional Integration

(Agenda item 3(a)(iii))

25. As the Report of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on International Cooperation: South–South Cooperation and Regional Integration had already been presented at the meeting of the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission held in May 2011, it was not presented at the current meeting.

Report of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Transport and Trade Facilitation

(Agenda item 3(a)(iv))

26. The Commission took note of the Report of the Expert Meeting on Transport and Trade Facilitation (TD/B/C.I/MEM.1/9), which was presented by the secretariat.

27. One delegate noted that the subjects dealt with at the expert meeting were topical, relevant to international events, and particularly pertinent to LDCs and LLDCs. Support was given for UNCTAD to continue its research and analytical work to improve understanding of some of the main challenges facing international transportation, including the nexus between energy and transport costs, as well as the broader economic impact of higher transport costs and the related implications for trade and competitiveness.

28. Another delegate stressed the importance of UNCTAD's work – in collaboration with the World Bank, government agencies and various customs administrations – on maximizing the use of ICTs in customs to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of specific processes.

Report of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy

(Agenda item 3(b))

29. Under this agenda item, the Commission took note of the Report of the Sixth United Nations Conference to Review All Aspects of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices (TD/RBP/CONF.7/11), which was presented by the secretariat.

Report of the Expert Meeting on Maximizing the Development Impact of Remittances

(Agenda item 3(c))

30. The Commission took note of the Report of the Expert Meeting on Maximizing the Development Impact of Remittances (TD/B/C.I/EM.4/3), which was presented by Ms. Rina Soemarno (Indonesia) on behalf of the Chair of the expert meeting, Mr. Dian Djani (Indonesia).

31. Several delegates described the meeting as being timely, well prepared, and widely appreciated in terms of the high quality of the documentation and the participation of high-level officials. Delegates stressed that migration and the productive use of remittances were a win–win pro-development opportunity in the context of globalization. Remittances had a clear positive linkage to poverty reduction, economic growth and social development, which could be enhanced through proactive and targeted policies. Remittances were linked intrinsically with migration, and had become a particular driver of the economies of many developing countries. Remittances must be integrated into the overall migration management policy and national development strategy. The importance was stressed of agreements on temporary and circular migration for facilitating the movement of migrants.

32. Delegates also emphasized that the development impact of remittances could be maximized by increasing remittance flows – including by formalizing and securing remittance flows and reducing the associated transaction costs, by establishing an enabling and competitive environment and a conducive regulatory framework, by improving

financial education and financial inclusion both for migrants and for the recipients of remittances, and by providing technical training on migrant entrepreneurship as well as incentives for their business operations.

33. Other delegations stated that remittances may improve a country's credit rating and may therefore improve its access to international capital markets. A coherent policy on remittances could also help maximize the benefits of remittances. Furthermore, developing countries that did not currently have remittances policies should put policies in place based on best practices. New remittances policies would maximize the impact of remittance flows on investment, growth and development, by enacting mechanisms to mobilize remittances through higher interest rates on time deposits, foreign-currency-denominated bank accounts, and tax incentives. Governments also needed to define policy schemes to record remittances through formal channels, and to improve the data on these inflows. Governments could also facilitate the use of remittances to build productive capacities, such as implementing education programmes, in order to help returning migrants, to develop the appropriate infrastructure, and to improve the investment climate and complement investment out of remittances.

34. Some delegations stated that UNCTAD should (a) focus on consolidating current country-specific reviews of financial regulations and payment systems affecting remittance flows, in order to assess best practices; (b) establish an analytical framework to evaluate countries' levels of financial inclusion and literacy; (c) produce a database on pro-development practices that would facilitate remittance flows; and (d) continue research and expert meetings that would explore the linkages between migration, remittances, trade, investment and development. It was stated that UNCTAD was a unique forum in the United Nations that could analyse the effects of migration and remittances on development, as well as how to maximize the positive effects for developing countries. Migration and remittances were vital for developing countries, and for other countries too, in view of the contribution that they made to the world economy. Some delegations requested UNCTAD to carry out further analysis in this area and to organize another expert meeting on migration, remittances and development.

C. Assessing the evolution of the international trading system and enhancing its contribution to development and economic recovery (Agenda item 4)

35. The Commission's deliberations under agenda item 4 were facilitated by a presentation of the secretariat's background note (TD/B/C.I/15) by Ms. Mina Mashayekhi, Officer-in-Charge, Division on International Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities, and by a high-level panel consisting of Mr. H.V. Singh, Deputy Director-General, WTO, and Mr. José Manuel Salazar-Xirinachs, Executive Director, Employment, International Labour Organization (ILO). A number of ambassadors and senior officials took part in the debate.

36. The secretariat's background note, which paid particular attention to the linkage between trade and employment, was commended for its thought-provoking analysis.

37. Participants noted that the "two-speed" recovery, characterized by faster growth in developing countries than in developed countries, demonstrated the structural changes under way in the global economy. Economic opportunities were shifting to the South, leading to a multipolar international trading system with the rise of emerging developing countries. Developing countries had been the major drivers of recovery, had provided important import demand for all economies, and had emerged from the crisis as even more important export destinations than before. Their robust import demand had helped many countries to resist global demand contraction during and following the crisis. The rapid and dynamic growth of developing countries had created new and additional poles of trade and

growth, as over half of global growth was expected to originate in developing countries in the coming years. Furthermore, their different demand composition – centred on raw materials, energy and food products – was expected to create unique opportunities for developing countries. Conversely, high and persistent levels of unemployment, and jobless growth, were matters of particular concern for many countries.

38. A variety of challenges continued to confront developing countries in the recovery process. Pervasive unemployment, widening inequality, high youth unemployment, and a large informal economy all continued to threaten the inclusiveness and sustainability of the recovery, with adverse implications for the fight against poverty and for achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. Despite dynamic trade and economic recovery in some regions, world exports were yet to regain their pre-crisis levels, and many developing countries continued to suffer from the legacy of the crisis – especially those whose exports depended on primary commodities. Recent surges and continued volatility in commodity prices were causing significant challenges for both exporters and importers, with the recent high food prices raising concerns over food security. Developing countries' external competitiveness had come under pressure, owing to appreciation of their currencies prompted by increased capital inflows that necessitated capital controls.

39. Trade had become more important to the economic growth and development of all countries, and to achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, with the growing interconnectivity in terms of trade expansion between countries marked by global supply networks and the increased role played by emerging economies. Trade-led growth remained a valid strategy for development, particularly for smaller economies that relied on external demand to sustain growth. Larger economies with trade surpluses could place more emphasis on domestic-demand-driven growth, although trade continued to be important for them. Greater interdependence meant that the effects of national trade measures affected the smooth functioning of production processes in other countries. In that regard, reference was made to the recent increase in trade-restrictive measures applied by the G-20 countries, covering 0.6 per cent of their imports.

40. However, it was stressed that trade did not automatically lead to growth and development. Freer trade was a necessary condition, but not the only condition, for realizing economic growth and development. A one-size-fits-all liberalization approach was not optimal in all cases, either. The trade policy choices of countries, including determining a reasonable level of protection, depended on the level of development of the country, the size of the market, and sequencing and timing, as well as complementary policies.

41. The services sector, including infrastructure services, as well as services trade, had come to provide a real opportunity for developing countries as a launching pad for economic growth. This sector had increased its share in value added, played an increasing role in export diversification, enhanced economic efficiency, delivered on public goals (e.g. health and education), and absorbed a large labour force by job creation.

42. A large number of developing countries had not been able to benefit from the opportunities created by international trade. LDCs, LLDCs and smaller and more vulnerable economies continued to face important structural constraints in reaping the benefits of trade for development, especially supply-side constraints. Therefore, there was a strong need to address these constraints, by building competitive productive capacities, promoting infrastructure development, and supporting technology development and diffusion, inter alia through public-private partnerships, to enhance access to capital, skills and technology, and also to address pressing environmental and climate-change-related challenges. Reference was made in this regard to the importance of making progress as agreed at LDC-IV towards full and effective implementation of the Istanbul Plan of Action. The need was highlighted for further strengthening of Aid for Trade and the Enhanced Integrated Framework, as well as for broader ODA support, to ensure effective implementation of these programmes with equitable resource allocation.

43. It was recognized that the State had an important role to play by acting as a catalyst or enabler of structural transformation. Trade policy needed to be accompanied by industrial, labour-market and other complementary policies, and social safety nets, in a comprehensive and integrated development strategy to ensure the realization of gains: such as supply capacity enhancement, export diversification and employment creation, reducing inequality, poverty alleviation, and access to key services – especially by the poor. A toolbox of development-enhancing trade and related policies could be considered, combining a trade-led growth model with proactive, modern industrial and labour-market policies adapted to an increasingly open trade environment.

44. Participants noted that historically, the international trading system had focused predominantly on trade liberalization, and had often failed to fully take into account implications for productive capabilities, employment and development. It was thus considered important to review that conventional focus, and to align liberalization approaches and disciplines to broader development objectives. Developing countries should have the space to design adequate content, depth, pace and sequencing of liberalization approaches, as gradual reform was more likely to lead to a smooth labour-market adjustment, and to pre-empt job destruction in import sectors. This was also imperative in pre-empting de-industrialization and creating endogenous productive capabilities. Thus, special and differential treatment and less-than-full reciprocity were important principles to be fully operationalized in the international trading system.

45. Greater market access and entry enabled under the international trading system could further contribute to boosting labour demand, particularly in the export sector. It was emphasized that there was a need to ensure that these policies were designed in a smart way, by addressing the sectors with high potential for employment creation and productivity growth, including labour-intensive manufacturing, as well as agriculture and services, including through mode 4 and labour movement. Regional integration, particularly South–South integration and cooperation, was considered to play a particularly important role in overcoming size constraints and significantly improving export and job opportunities. The recent conclusion of the GSTP negotiations – which substantially increased product coverage and cut applied tariffs – was particularly significant in boosting the rapidly growing interregional South–South trade. Participants noted that carefully designed industrial policy instruments, such as performance requirements, could be instrumental in promoting local employment and human capital development. The need for greater policy space, as well as for policy coherence and good governance, was highlighted.

46. Policies that would facilitate labour-market adjustment to exogenous shocks and would create employment were essential in maximizing the beneficial effects of trade, as trade openness had increased workers' vulnerability and insecurity by increasing labour-market exposure to external shocks. It was stressed that implementing such policies was particularly challenging for developing countries, as most of them did not have access to unemployment insurance or other means of compensating the unemployed for income losses. Social protection was thus indispensable in open economies. It was also important to invest in capital and people to complement trade opening, especially as globalization implied an increasing skill premium. In that regard, it was considered important to support developing countries to implement such measures through aid for trade, development and employment. Strong and well-designed social protection schemes could also address issues of job and income insecurity.

47. It was emphasized that the multilateral trading system was the centrepiece of the international trading system. The open, equitable, transparent, predictable, non-discriminatory, rules-based multilateral trading system had played a major role in maintaining open markets and containing protectionism during the crisis, and its trade rules had generally proved their robustness. The current setback in the WTO Doha Round negotiations was a cause for serious concern. It was stressed that further prolongation could affect the credibility of the multilateral trading system, thus WTO needed to be

strengthened as the guardian of the multilateral trading system. The Doha Round was developing countries' best opportunity for addressing the existing imbalances, making the system more equitable and development-friendly, serving as a global stimulus, and enhancing job-creating effects. Therefore, efforts were needed to bring it to a conclusion under a single undertaking and with a strong development focus – paying special attention to issues of concern to LDCs, LLDCs and smaller and more vulnerable economies, including through the provision of strong Aid for Trade support.

48. As a way forward, participants stressed the importance of securing an early harvest of issues of key interest to LDCs, such as duty-free quota-free market access, cotton, a services waiver, and WTO accession, as well as a package of a few LDC-plus issues with strong development content, such as trade facilitation, by the end of the current year. There was a need to review the next steps, given that the results of the Round would set the terms of global trade for the next decades and would have a lasting effect on development and employment. Some participants emphasized the need to ensure a package that would effectively open markets to create new opportunities for growth. Other speakers stressed the importance of delivering on the entirety of the Doha Round package under a single undertaking in the near future, and of starting reflection on future work on pressing twenty-first century issues, such as the "Singapore issues" of competition and investment. In the longer term, participants noted the case for reflecting on further strengthening of the multilateral trading system and further improvements to its functioning, for example in respect of the single undertaking approach and broad-based agenda.

49. Participants praised UNCTAD's work as playing an important role in monitoring, assessing and analysing the evolution of the international trading system, and in supporting countries in addressing the development challenges they faced as they engaged in international trade and the international trading system – for example, national trade policy formulation and implementation, and multilateral and regional trade negotiations. Its analyses and intergovernmental deliberations were described as making a major contribution to building and advancing understanding on key issues on the trade policy and trade negotiations agenda, and to helping countries recognize the benefits to be gained from beneficial integration in the international trading system. UNCTAD's collaborative work with other organizations was welcomed – for example with ILO and WTO, and under the International Collaborative Initiative on Trade and Employment.

50. Summarizing this agenda item, the Chair reiterated that trade had become more important for the economic growth and development of all countries, and for achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. The growing interconnectivity in terms of trade expansion between countries had been marked by the role of emerging economies and changing GSCs. Trade growth, however, did not automatically lead to development, as the global crisis had shown. Furthermore, trade liberalization was a necessary condition but not the only condition for realizing economic growth and development, especially in developing countries. Trade policy needed to be accompanied by complementary policies and social safety nets in a comprehensive and integrated development strategy to ensure the realization of gains such as supply-side enhancement, export diversification and employment creation, poverty alleviation, and access to key services – especially by the poor. A toolbox of development-enhancing trade and related policies could be considered. For example, it was important to ensure that trade reforms had positive employment effects by putting in place domestic labour policies, and ensuring support for workers and firms. Globally, the multilateral trading system was the centrepiece of the international trading system. It should be strengthened by concluding the WTO Doha Round as mandated, under a single undertaking and with a strong development focus, paying special attention to issues of concern to LDCs, LLDCs and smaller and more vulnerable economies. In addition, WTO needed to be strengthened as the guardian of the multilateral trading system, providing the rules and disciplines needed to ensure an open, rules-based, predictable and transparent system. South–South trade also offered new opportunities for increased trade both between developing countries and with the rest of the world. Finally, UNCTAD

played an important role in monitoring the evolution of the international trading system, which was appreciated by countries. Its analyses and intergovernmental deliberations contributed to building and advancing understanding on key issues on the trade policy and trade negotiations agenda, and helped countries to consider appropriate policy options in addressing these issues nationally, regionally and multilaterally.

D. Integration of developing countries in global supply chains, including through adding value to their exports

(Agenda item 5)

51. The secretariat introduced this item and the accompanying background note entitled “Integration of developing countries in global supply chains, including through adding value to their exports” (TD/B/C.I/16), elaborating on the note’s main findings and policy conclusions. In particular, it was emphasized that for countries able to enter GSCs, the opportunities for export-led development were substantial. The secretariat highlighted the potential for the further liberalization of South–South trade and the reduction of tariffs on intermediate inputs, the need to properly address non-tariff measures, the need for a sound business environment and an effective government to establish the enabling environment to make domestic firms more attractive to global networks, the necessity for human capital development, and the relevance of transport and trade facilitation to GSCs.

52. The Commission’s interactive discussion was facilitated by a panel comprised of Mr. Francisco Monge-Ariño, Negotiator, Ministry of Foreign Trade, Costa Rica; Ms. El Iza Mohamedou, Chief Regional Integration and Trade Officer (NEPAD), Regional Integration and Trade Department, African Development Bank; Mr. Carlos Grau Tanner, Director-General, Global Express Association; and Mr. Robert B. Koopman, Chief Economist, United States International Trade Commission. The deliberations focused on policy analysis and on the identification of practical solutions.

53. The role of trade policy was emphasized – in substantially helping even small developing countries to obtain better security and predictability for their exports, and in allowing for a substantial and rapid export diversification and increase in value addition. In that regard, both the multilateral trading system and regional and bilateral agreements could be of significant value, in combination with attractive foreign direct investment (FDI) policies. Export processing zones also made important contributions to favourable integration into GSCs.

54. It was noted, on the other hand, that participation in GSCs also posed great challenges, both for governments and for the private sector. Particularly in the case of LDCs and small and vulnerable developing economies – especially those in Africa – there was less leverage in creating strong relational linkages with lead (regional and multinational) firms. These countries were mostly trying to get involved in global (or regional) supply and value chains through agricultural products and some labour-intensive products, unlike other developing economies such as those in East Asia. These sectors were marked by insufficient linkages between producers and suppliers. For example, in the case of agriculture, there was discontinuity at different levels of supply chains. Several case studies were presented, including on the rice agribusiness and on post-harvest losses for African farmers.

55. Several participants emphasized that the development of regional supply chains depended on policies that influenced the overall business environment, as well as policies related to transportation and other infrastructure, competition, government efficiency, the rule of law, efficient customs procedures, fiscal incentives, and the development of human capital. With regard to trade policies, there were special challenges in effectively addressing non-tariff measures and trade financing mechanisms. In that regard, the vibrant South–South cooperation was of increasing importance. These efforts would eventually

help developing countries to integrate regionally, in line with strengthening production networks, and by following and implementing South–South trade and economic cooperation initiatives.

56. The increasing incidence of GSCs had equally significant implications for trade statistics. The method currently used for establishing trade statistics might be problematic for countries with a high share of processing exports. It was argued that a new method for calculating domestic content shares was necessary. For example, China – which was the archetype of an economy that was well integrated into GSCs – imported raw materials, equipment, and other intermediate inputs, and then exported 37 per cent of its output to the world market (in 2006), which was huge when compared to the figures for the United States (8 per cent) or India (13 per cent). With the reputation of a “world factory”, China was a top supplier of manufacturing outsourcing for many global companies. However, imported inputs used in the production of exports reduced the share of value added generated by domestic producers.

57. According to a recently developed statistical method, the share of domestic content in China’s exports was about 50 per cent, much lower than that of most other countries. The well-known example of the iPod was mentioned, where China assembled units for Apple which were then exported to the United States and other countries. In trade statistics, the Chinese export value for a 30GB video model in 2006 was about \$150. However, the value added attributable to producers in China was recently estimated at only \$4. It was noted that the share of domestic content was particularly low in sectors that were likely to be labelled as sophisticated, such as electronic devices and telecommunications equipment. This implied that the competitive pressure that China’s exports placed on skilled workers in high-income countries was likely to be smaller than a cursory look at the raw trade data might suggest.

58. Several participants highlighted the growing significance of express deliveries in GSCs. Express delivery services grew at around 7–8 per cent per year between 2003 and 2008, as a result of economic growth and expanding GSCs. On average, there were 30 million express delivery shipments daily. In particular, time-sensitive cargo – ranging from documents to high-tech goods and pharmaceuticals – was increasingly moved by express shipment. It was predicted that by 2017, 36 per cent of all shipments by air would be express.

59. It was noted that express carriers had become a model for integrated, rapid and reliable global delivery services. They assumed end-to-end custody of the shipment, and offered an integrated service, from pick-up to delivery, which included customs clearance. A study, commissioned by the Global Express Association on how SMEs in developing countries could be assisted, had shown that exports from SMEs in developing countries were indeed delivered to clients all over the world. These enterprises used express air freight to ensure integrity and timeliness in the delivery.

60. It was estimated that one day’s delay in releasing a shipment cost 0.5 per cent of its value. Since, in many developing countries, clearance time was still measured in days rather than hours, the cost of trading was still rather high. Specific measures – such as a single window, advance electronic processing, risk-based selectivity, and separation of release and clearance – were critical for better integration of developing countries into GSCs. Trade facilitation thus increased countries’ connectivity and made them more attractive to global manufacturing networks and FDI.

61. Participants complimented the secretariat on its background note and the analytical presentations of this item.

62. It was emphasized that UNCTAD should play a key role in addressing the evolution of GSCs – including South–South aspects of GSCs – through research, analysis, and technical cooperation on, inter alia, trade facilitation and non-tariff measures.

63. Summarizing this agenda item, the Chair reiterated that for countries able to supply GSCs, the opportunities for export-led development were substantial. As well as creating employment and often paying better wages, there was the advantage that suppliers could obtain information on productive know-how, management skills and technology. Low labour costs and preferential market access remained important in attracting GSCs, but these were not sufficient in themselves. Developing countries' participation in GSCs was hindered by relatively higher trade and transactions costs, and also by a less favourable business climate and higher information costs. Improvements to logistics infrastructures, so as to reduce overall trade costs and improve information flows, were essential in order to enter GSCs. These improvements should be pursued through trade facilitation programmes beneficial both to domestic and foreign firms. GSCs required technical and management skills that were often lacking in developing countries. Developing countries that had invested in human capital – especially technical education – were more attractive for localization of production within global networks. Upgrading along the value chain was important, as rents were higher at the top of the chains; however, some developing countries had also benefited by an approach based on low value-added but higher volumes of exports.

E. Promoting and strengthening synergies among the three pillars

(Agenda item 6)

Progress report on the implementation of the provisions of the Accra Accord related to key trade and development issues

64. The secretariat reported on the implementation of the provisions of the Accra Accord related to key trade and development issues based on document TD/B/C.I/17, and also drawing upon the *DITC Activity Report 2010* (UNCTAD/DITC/2011/1). The mid-term evaluation and review of UNCTAD's implementation of the Accra Accord, by the fifty-seventh session of the Trade and Development Board, had been a milestone. The Board had expressed its satisfaction with the quality and large volume of the work undertaken by the Division. Three outcomes were particularly notable: (a) the successful conclusion of the São Paulo Round of GSTP negotiations, with important potential for expanding South–South trade; (b) the organization and servicing of the Sixth United Nations Conference to Review All Aspects of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices, which had affirmed the importance of promoting the use of competition laws and policies in enhancing domestic and international competitiveness; and (c) substantive support on trade issues, in the preparations for LDC-IV, which was reflected in the Istanbul Programme of Action.

65. Implementation of the Accra Accord was accelerated through integrated intergovernmental support, analysis and technical assistance. Based on the Division's reports and policy suggestions, intergovernmental deliberations were supported, with a view to building consensus on regulatory, institutional and policy frameworks conducive to making trade work for sustainable and inclusive development in the recovery period and addressing the challenges arising from the ongoing effects of the energy, food, financial and economic crises. Under the research and analysis pillar, the Division produced 30 analytical publications, training materials and handbooks on contemporary trade and development issues. These were disseminated to a broad audience, and they informed trade-policy formulation and implementation, beneficial integration into the international trading system, and trade negotiations and development. Under the technical assistance pillar, over 58 countries and many regional and global trade events benefited from the Division's support. One hundred and sixty-one workshops were organized, which benefited 7,516 participants, and 70 advisory missions were undertaken to countries and international

events. Expenditures on the Division's technical cooperation in 2010 amounted to \$5,338,000 – representing 14 per cent of total UNCTAD expenditure in 2010.

66. Delegations recognized and commended the high level of implementation and the quality of UNCTAD's work on trade and development in all three pillars, the outreach to a large number of developing countries in all regions, and the emphasis on practical policy options, as well as proposals for workable solutions to pending problems. Appreciation was also expressed for UNCTAD's work on developing countries' integration into the trading system, trade negotiations, and WTO accession, and it was asked that this important work be continued. Donors were encouraged to support this area of work. With respect to the financing of participation by experts in UNCTAD's expert meetings, one member State announced its contribution to UNCTAD's trust fund, which was welcomed. Others were encouraged to consider such financial contributions, in order to ensure exchanges of experiences and lessons learned.

Progress report on the implementation of the provisions of the Accra Accord related to commodities

67. The secretariat presented the "Progress report on the implementation of the provisions of the Accra Accord related to commodities" (TD/B/C.I/18). Highlights of the Unit's work were (a) monitoring current developments and challenges in commodity markets, with outlooks for the future; (b) providing a platform for intergovernmental forums and multi-stakeholder dialogues to build consensus among stakeholders, assess key problems in the commodities sector, and identify potential solutions; (c) the implementation of four main components of the All ACP Agricultural Commodities Programme funded by the European Union, namely market information systems, commodity finance, commodity exchanges, and the sustainability claims portal; (d) training and interdivisional cooperation; and (e) cooperation with other international organizations and commodity bodies in research and analysis and other activities to promote a comprehensive approach to commodity-sector development.

Progress report on the implementation of the provisions of the Accra Accord related to transport and trade facilitation

68. The secretariat presented the "Progress report on the implementation of the provisions of the Accra Accord related to transport and trade facilitation" (TD/B/C.I/19). Delegates' attention was also drawn to chapters 3 and 4 of the *Division on Technology and Logistics: Activity Report 2010* (UNCTAD/DTL/2011/1), in which activities related to transport, trade facilitation and legal frameworks, as well as customs automation through UNCTAD's largest technical assistance programme, the Automated System for Customs Data (ASYCUDA), were further described.

69. Within the framework of its mandate, the Division on Technology and Logistics carried out research, which resulted – inter alia – in the *Review of Maritime Transport 2010*, which received excellent feedback in the publications survey; the Liner Shipping Connectivity Index; and the Transport Newsletter, which is published quarterly. In the area of technical assistance, 69 projects were being implemented during the reporting period, 67 of which were being implemented by ASYCUDA. Advisory services were offered on transport and trade facilitation issues. In relation to consensus-building, a number of multi-year and ad hoc expert meetings took place, including in the area of facilitating understanding of key issues discussed in trade-related international negotiations.

70. A request was made to the secretariat to provide advance notice of the dates of ad hoc expert meetings on the impacts of climate change on international transport.

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

71. The secretariat presented the “Progress report on the implementation of the provisions of the Accra Accord related to cross-divisional capacity-building” (TD/B/C.I/20), and made reference to chapter 2 of the *Division on Technology and Logistics: Activity Report 2010* (UNCTAD/DTL/2011/1), in which additional information could be found. Donors and supporting agencies were thanked for the support that they had provided for the technical assistance activities undertaken.

72. The first cross-divisional programme presented was TrainForTrade; this included discussion about its areas of focus and its extensive use of ICTs. Next, a brief overview was given of the courses held in 2010 on Key Issues on the International Economic Agenda, which had attracted excellent feedback from participants. Emphasis was placed by the secretariat on the call for proposals made to member States for multi-year venues in transition economies, Western Asia and Africa. Finally, a presentation was made on the Virtual Institute, the services it provided, its expanding network that included North–South and South–South cooperation, and its focus on cross-divisional work.

F. Other business

(Agenda item 7)

Report on the Sixth Annual Meeting of the Global Network of Exim Banks and Development Finance Institutions (G-NEXID)

73. Mr. F. Mbroh, Director of Research, Planning and International Cooperation, Afreximbank, reported on the sixth annual meeting of G-NEXID, on behalf of Mr. Jean-Louis Ekra, Honorary President, G-NEXID, and Chair and President, Afreximbank. The meeting had been held on 6 June 2011 in Lisbon, Portugal.

74. G-NEXID expressed its appreciation for UNCTAD’s unwavering support for the network. G-NEXID was active in promoting and financing cross-border trade and investment flows. G-NEXID had revised its management processes and adopted a near-term work programme. There was growing global awareness of G-NEXID, as evidenced by its increasing membership, which had reached 23 by the end of April 2011, up from 5 at the first annual meeting of the network in 2006. The network was providing tangible services to its membership, including bilateral lines of credit among some members, and between partners and members of the network. For example, a line of credit of \$100 million had been extended by the Export-Import Bank of India to the ECOWAS Bank for Investment and Development; Afreximbank had received a line of credit of \$200 million from the International Finance Corporation (World Bank), and another of \$100 million from the China Development Bank; and the Development Bank of South Africa had offered Afreximbank a trade finance line of \$50 million to enable the Bank to address the critical import finance needs of some countries in the Southern African region that had been affected by the global crisis. G-NEXID was also preparing an internet-based credit database, in order to facilitate cross-border trade and project finance deals. In the long run, access to the database would be made available to both the public and private sector to assist in the evaluation and processing of cross-border trade and project finance deals.

75. Cooperation between G-NEXID and UNCTAD was being strengthened, with the signing expected shortly of a Memorandum of Understanding. Such cooperation was based on the shared goal of promoting and financing cross-border trade and investment flows for the economic well-being of peoples.

III. Organizational matters

A. Opening of the session

76. The third session of the Trade and Development Commission was opened at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, on 6 June 2011, by Ms. Erika Koszegi (Hungary), Vice-Chair of the Commission at its second session.

B. Election of officers

(Agenda item 1)

77. At its opening plenary meeting, on 6 June 2011, the Commission elected the following officers to serve on its Bureau:

Chair:	Dr. Tom Mboya Okeyo (Kenya)
Vice-Chairs:	Mr. Bakary Junior Bamba (Côte d'Ivoire)
	Mr. Vu Anh Quang (Viet Nam)
	Ms. Olivera Jovic (Serbia)
	Mr. Wolfgang Rechenhofer (Germany)
	Mr. Carlos Fidel Martín Rodríguez (Cuba)
Rapporteur:	Mr. Shiro Konuma (Japan)

C. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

(Agenda item 2)

78. At its opening plenary meeting, the Commission adopted its provisional agenda (TD/B/C.I/14). The agenda was thus as follows:

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
3. Reports of expert meetings:
 - (a) Reports of the multi-year expert meetings:
 - (i) Multi-year Expert Meeting on Commodities and Development
 - (ii) Multi-year Expert Meeting on Services, Development and Trade: the Regulatory and Institutional Dimension
 - (iii) Multi-year Expert Meeting on International Cooperation: South–South Cooperation and Regional Integration
 - (iv) Multi-year Expert Meeting on Transport and Trade Facilitation
 - (b) Report of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy
 - (c) Reports of the single-year expert meetings:
 - Expert Meeting on Maximizing the Development Impact of Remittances
4. Assessing the evolution of the international trading system and enhancing its contribution to development and economic recovery

5. Integration of developing countries in global supply chains, including through adding value to their exports
6. Promoting and strengthening synergies among the three pillars
7. Other business
8. Adoption of the report of the Commission to the Trade and Development Board

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

(Agenda item 8)

79. At its closing plenary meeting, the Commission authorized the Rapporteur, under the authority of the Chair, to finalize the report after the conclusion of the meeting.

Annex

Attendance^{*}

1. Representatives of the following States members of UNCTAD attended the Commission meeting:

Afghanistan	Jamaica
Algeria	Japan
Angola	Jordan
Argentina	Kazakhstan
Austria	Kenya
Azerbaijan	Kuwait
Barbados	Lesotho
Belarus	Madagascar
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Malaysia
Botswana	Mali
Brazil	Mauritius
Burkina Faso	Mexico
Burundi	Morocco
Cameroon	Mozambique
Canada	Nepal
Chile	Nigeria
China	Panama
Congo	Papua New Guinea
Costa Rica	Paraguay
Côte d'Ivoire	Peru
Cuba	Philippines
Czech Republic	Poland
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Portugal
Denmark	Republic of Korea
Djibouti	Romania
Dominican Republic	Russian Federation
Egypt	Saudi Arabia
El Salvador	Serbia
Ethiopia	Singapore
Finland	South Africa
France	Spain
Germany	Sudan
Ghana	Sri Lanka
Grenada	Swaziland
Guatemala	Switzerland
Haiti	Syrian Arab Republic
Hungary	Thailand
India	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Indonesia	Trinidad and Tobago
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Turkey
Iraq	Uganda
Italy	

^{*} For the list of participants, see TD/B/C.I/Inf.3.

Ukraine	Viet Nam
United States of America	Yemen
Uruguay	Zambia
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	Zimbabwe

2. The following intergovernmental organizations were represented at the session:
 - African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States
 - Afreximbank
 - African Development Bank
 - African Union
 - European Union
3. The following United Nations organs, programmes and bodies were represented at the session:
 - Economic Commission for Africa
 - International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO
4. The following specialized agencies and related organizations were represented at the session:
 - International Labour Organization
 - World Trade Organization
5. The following non-governmental organizations were represented at the session:
 - General category*
 - International Cooperative Alliance
 - Ingénieurs du monde
6. The following panellists participated in the session:
 - Ms. M. Pangestu, Minister of Trade, Indonesia
 - Mr. H.V. Singh, Deputy Director-General, WTO
 - Mr. Y.F. Agah, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Nigeria to WTO
 - Mr. J.M. Salazar-Xirinachs, Executive Director, Employment, ILO
 - Mr. F. Damico, Deputy Permanent Representative of Brazil to WTO
 - Mr. D.T. Djani, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations and Other International Organizations
 - Mr. M.D. Bhattarai, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Nepal to the United Nations and Other International Organizations
 - Mr. F.A. González, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Paraguay to the United Nations and Other International Organizations
 - Mr. X. Zhang, Deputy Permanent Representative of China to WTO
 - Mr. G. Houttuin, Deputy Permanent Representative of the European Union to WTO
 - Mr. D. Shark, Deputy Permanent Representative of the United States of America to WTO
 - Ms. El Iza Mohamedou, Chief Regional Integration and Trade Officer (NEPAD), Regional Integration and Trade Department, African Development Bank
 - Mr. F. Monge-Ariño, Negotiator, Ministry of Foreign Trade, Costa Rica
 - Mr. C.G. Tanner, Director-General, Global Express Association
 - Mr. R.B. Koopman, Chief Economist, United States International Trade Commission