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Agenda item 18

Macroeconomic policy questions

Report of the Second Committee*

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Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 2018, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-third session the item entitled:

“Macroeconomic policy questions:

“(a) International trade and development;

“(b) International financial system and development;

“(c) External debt sustainability and development;

“(d) Promotion of international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows and strengthen good practices on assets return to foster sustainable development”

and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on the item at its 8th and 9th meetings, on 11 October 2018. An account of the Committee’s discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records.¹ Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 2nd to 6th meetings, on 8, 9 and 10 October.² An account of the Committee’s further consideration of the item is provided in the addenda to the present report.

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in five parts, under the symbols [A/73/536](#), [A/73/536/Add.1](#), [A/73/536/Add.2](#), [A/73/536/Add.3](#) and [A/73/536/Add.4](#).

¹ [A/C.2/73/SR.8](#) and [A/C.2/73/SR.9](#).

² See [A/C.2/73/SR.2](#), [A/C.2/73/SR.3](#), [A/C.2/73/SR.4](#), [A/C.2/73/SR.5](#) and [A/C.2/73/SR.6](#).



Item 18**Macroeconomic policy questions**

Letter dated 4 October 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Ministerial Declaration adopted at the forty-second annual meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Group of 77, held in New York on 27 September 2018 ([A/73/417](#))

Letter dated 22 October 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Malawi to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Ministerial Declaration adopted at the annual ministerial meeting of the least developed countries, held in New York on 26 September 2018 ([A/73/455](#))

Item 18 (a)**International trade and development**

Report of the Secretary-General on international trade and development ([A/73/208](#))

Report of the Trade and Development Board on its sixty-sixth executive session, Geneva, 5–7 February 2018 ([A/73/15 \(Part I\)](#))

Report of the Trade and Development Board on its sixty-fifth session, part 1, Geneva, 4–8 June 2018 ([A/73/15 \(Part II\)](#))

Report of the Trade and Development Board on its resumed sixty-fifth session, part 1, Geneva, 25 and 26 June 2018 ([A/73/15 \(Part III\)](#))

Report of the Trade and Development Board on its sixty-fifth session, part 2, Geneva, 1–4 October 2018 ([A/73/15 \(Part IV\)](#))

Item 18 (b)**International financial system and development**

Report of the Secretary-General on the international financial system and development ([A/73/280](#))

Item 18 (c)**External debt sustainability and development**

Report of the Secretary-General on external debt sustainability and development ([A/73/180](#))

Item 18 (d)**Promotion of international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows and strengthen good practices on assets return to foster sustainable development**

No documents were submitted under this sub-item

4. At its 8th meeting, on 11 October, the Committee heard introductory statements by the President of the Trade and Development Board, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (under item 18 (a)); the Director of the Division on International Trade and Commodities, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (under item 18 (a)); and the representatives of the Financing for Sustainable Development Office, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (under item 18 (b)), and the Debt and Development Finance Branch, Division on Globalization and Development Strategies, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (under item 18 (c)).

5. At the 23rd meeting, on 8 November, the representative of the United States of America made a statement with regard to the draft resolutions before the Committee.³
6. At the 27th meeting, on 3 December, the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela made a statement with regard to the draft resolutions adopted by the Committee.⁴
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³ See [A/C.2/73/SR.23](#).

⁴ See [A/C.2/73/SR.27](#).