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## Trade and Development Board

Sixtieth session  
Geneva, 16–27 September 2013

# Report of the Trade and Development Board on its sixtieth session

Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, from 16 to 27 September

**Report to the United Nations General Assembly**

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## Introduction

The sixtieth session of the Trade and Development Board was held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, from 16 to 27 September 2013. In the course of the session, the Board held nine plenary meetings, the 1103rd to the 1111th.

### I. Action by the Trade and Development Board on substantive items on its agenda

#### A. UNCTAD's contribution to the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries: Second progress report

##### Agreed conclusions 518 (LX)

###### *The Trade and Development Board*

1. *Expresses appreciation* for the report entitled "UNCTAD's contribution to the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries: Measuring and benchmarking productive capacities in the least developed countries";

2. *Takes note* of its main findings, namely that diversification in the least developed countries (LDCs) has narrowed over the years, when judged by the merchandise concentration index; that the share of manufacturing in the national economies of LDCs remains low; that only two LDCs have a total primary energy supply per capita above the average of other developing countries; and that most LDCs still have to reach an investment–gross domestic product ratio of above 25 per cent;

3. *Acknowledges* that several LDCs have made important strides in some areas of building productive capacities, such as increasing public spending on education and increasing the allotment of gross domestic product to research and development, but that big challenges remain to be overcome in the areas of physical infrastructure, export diversification and value addition, access to finance, information and communications technologies and improving the overall business environment;

4. *Notes with concern* that the state of productive capacities in LDCs is subject to severe limitations and inadequacies, and that such weak productive capacities are causes and consequences of weak production linkages and a lack of diversification and value addition in their economies;

5. *Recognizes* the importance of using indicators to understand the state of productive capacities in LDCs and to enable them to undertake specific actions aimed at accelerating structural transformation of their economies and monitoring the results achieved;

6. While recognizing that the task of measuring and benchmarking productive capacities is complex and difficult due to the number of areas to be assessed and measured and a paucity of data, *welcomes* the UNCTAD secretariat's initiative in this field, as part of its contribution towards the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries and fulfilling the Doha Mandate as specified in paragraph 65(e), and encourages UNCTAD to enhance its consultations with Governments of LDCs with the objective of supporting them in using this analytical work to identify and address policy gaps;

7. *Stresses* the need for LDCs to undertake actions in order to improve the quantity and quality of data in LDCs, including building national statistical capacities and national monitoring mechanisms, with the support of UNCTAD and development partners in a position to do so;

8. *Encourages* national governments of LDCs to continue efforts to stimulate their domestic economic environment, mobilize domestic resources and facilitate the growth and development of the private sector;

9. *Encourages* development partners to continue to support LDCs in the area of building productive capacities in line with the Istanbul Programme of Action;

10. *Underscores* the importance of the exchange of experiences and best practices among LDCs, other developing countries and development partners, to provide a stronger base for building their productive capacity;

11. *Requests* UNCTAD, within its mandate and available resources, to enhance its analytical work aimed at developing performance measures and quantifiable indicators to measure economy-wide productive capacities, with a view to providing an operational methodology and policy guidelines on how to mainstream productive capacities into national development policies and strategies in LDCs.

*1111th plenary meeting  
27 September 2013*

## **B. Economic Development in Africa: Intra-African trade: Unlocking private sector dynamism**

### **Agreed conclusions 519 (LX)**

#### *The Trade and Development Board*

1. *Recognizes* the importance of intra-African trade in the economic development of Africa and underscores the renewed political commitment by African leaders to boosting intra-African trade, as reflected in decisions of African Heads of State and Government at the African Union Summit held in Addis Ababa in January 2012;

2. *Welcomes* the UNCTAD secretariat's *Economic Development in Africa Report 2013* subtitled "*Intra-African Trade: Unlocking Private Sector Dynamism*";

3. *Takes note* of the main message of the report – that intra-African trade presents opportunities for sustained growth and development, and job creation – and stresses that seizing these opportunities requires, inter alia, unlocking private sector dynamism and adopting a development-based approach to regional integration;

4. *Notes* that despite some economic growth, intra-African trade remains low relative to the continent's trade potential and compared with other continents' intra-regional trade. There has been a significant decrease in the share of intra-African trade relative to African world trade over the past two decades;

5. *Recognizes* that the poor quality of infrastructure, lack of structural transformation, inadequate access to credit, political instability, lack of a conducive business environment, uneven implementation of regional trade agreements and in some cases limited private sector involvement in the regional integration process are some of the major obstacles to boosting intra-African trade;

6. *Acknowledges* that the private sector has a crucial role to play in boosting intra-African trade and stresses the need for regular dialogue between the State and the

private sector and for the latter to be an active participant in the regional integration process;

7. *Considers* that promoting entrepreneurship and building supply-side capacities are vital to enhancing the capacity of domestic enterprises to produce and export goods and in this regard, encourages African governments to strengthen private sector development through, among other things, improving infrastructure, developing human capacity, enhancing access to credit and simplifying procedures as well as laws and regulations governing businesses;

8. *Further considers* that improving the productive capacity and competitiveness of Africa is one of the important means to achieve sustainable development. Intra-African trade should be promoted by a State that plays an active role in economic development and supported by an enabling environment at all levels to advance national development objectives;

9. *Stresses* the need for better distribution of the benefits of regional trade across African countries, and for intra-African trade to be used as a stepping stone towards effective integration into the global economy;

10. *Encourages* Africa's development partners to continue and where possible, to strengthen support for regional integration in Africa as an important step towards enhancing competitiveness, creating employment and reducing poverty in Africa;

11. *Requests* UNCTAD, within its mandate and available resources, to continue its research and analysis on Africa's development issues and to strengthen the developmental impact of its activities through the three pillars of UNCTAD, and encourages UNCTAD to continue its collaboration with, among others, the African Union Commission, the Economic Commission for Africa and other relevant international organizations.

*1111th plenary meeting  
27 September 2013*

## **C. Review of the technical cooperation activities of UNCTAD**

### **Decision 520 (LX)**

#### *The Trade and Development Board*

1. *Takes note* of the technical cooperation activities carried out by the UNCTAD secretariat in cooperation with the beneficiaries, development partners and other international organizations and further notes that expenditures for UNCTAD technical cooperation remained stable in 2012 as compared to 2011;

2. *Expresses concern* about the decrease in contributions as reflected in chapter I of document TD/B/WP/253 taking into consideration the constraints caused by the global financial and economic crisis;

3. *Encourages* development partners in a position to do so to make multi-year contributions to UNCTAD technical cooperation in order to increase transparency and predictability in the planning and sustainability in the implementation of the relevant technical assistance programmes, and underlines the relevance of non-earmarked trust funds;

4. *Appreciates* that expenditures in support of the least developed countries continued to grow and urges the secretariat to continue to ensure that priority is assigned to the least developed countries;

5. *Takes note* of the increased involvement of UNCTAD in activities linked to the implementation of the Enhanced Integrated Framework and calls on the secretariat to continue to strengthen its contribution to the Enhanced Integrated Framework;

6. *Takes note* of the secretariat's efforts to consolidate UNCTAD technical cooperation activities into multi-donor, multi-year thematic trust funds, with a view to promoting greater coherence in the planning and implementation of those activities while ensuring country ownership, and requests the secretariat to ensure effective monitoring and accountability mechanisms for these funds as well as to continue to guarantee effective synergies among the three pillars of UNCTAD work;

7. *Also takes notes* of the secretariat's continued efforts to ensure and expand results-based management approaches, emphasizes the importance of this process in the delivery of technical assistance, including the utilization of standard United Nations performance indicators that measure impact, during planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation and carrying out technical assistance in an effective and transparent manner, contributing to the efficiency and effectiveness of UNCTAD's work and requests the secretariat to further pursue these efforts;

8. *Encourages* all donors to use the compilation of requests prepared by the secretariat as a relevant tool to allocate their contributions according to the needs and priorities of beneficiary countries with a view to ensuring transparency and ownership in UNCTAD technical cooperation;

9. *Notes with appreciation* the lead role of UNCTAD in the United Nations Inter-Agency Cluster on Trade and Productive Capacity;

10. *Takes note* of the draft UNCTAD fundraising strategy for technical cooperation, recognizes its importance and looks forward to its further consideration and improvement in a formal setting to ensure that fundraising efforts lead to the necessary levels of resources to meet the increasing demand for technical cooperation.

*1107th plenary meeting  
20 September 2013*

#### **D. Follow-up to the Joint Inspection Unit report and the agreed conclusions of the twenty-sixth special session of the Trade and Development Board on 6 July 2012**

##### **Decision 521 (LX)**

*The Trade and Development Board,*

*Recalling* the decision taken at UNCTAD XIII regarding the Joint Inspection Unit report, as well as reaffirming its decision at its twenty-sixth special session contained in document TD/B(S-XXVI)/L.1, and with a view to strengthening UNCTAD,

1. *Decides:*

(a) *To express* its appreciation to the secretariat for its efforts to prepare the Progress report on the implementation of the workplan for enhancing the management and administration of UNCTAD, as contained in the document TD/B/60/5;

(b) *To request* the secretariat to enhance the management and administration of UNCTAD through the implementation of the presented workplan and based on the Trade and Development Board's deliberations at its sixtieth session under agenda item 12(a);

2. *Expects* at its sixty-first session a comprehensive progress report on the implementation, as well as welcomes updates to be given before the session.

*1111th plenary meeting  
27 September 2013*

## **E. Other action taken by the Board**

### **UNCTAD's contribution to the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries: Second progress report**

1. At the Board's 1111th (closing) plenary meeting, on 27 September 2013, the Chair of Sessional Committee I presented his report to the Board. The Board took note of the report of Sessional Committee I as contained in document TD/B/60/SC.I/L.1 and endorsed the agreed conclusions in document TD/B/60/SC.I/L.2 (see chap. I, sect. A, above).

### **Economic Development in Africa: Intra-African trade: Unlocking private sector dynamism**

2. Also at the 1111th (closing) plenary meeting, on 27 September 2013, the Vice-Chair of Sessional Committee II presented her report to the Board. The Board took note of the report of Sessional Committee II as contained in document TD/B/60/SC.II/L.1 and endorsed the agreed conclusions in document TD/B/60/SC.II/L.2<sup>1</sup> (see chap. I, sect. B, above).

### **Review of the technical cooperation activities of UNCTAD**

3. At its 1107th plenary meeting, on 20 September 2013, the Board adopted the draft decision on the technical cooperation activities of UNCTAD and their financing as contained in document TD/B/WP/255, annex I.

### **Report on UNCTAD assistance to the Palestinian people**

4. At its 1109th plenary meeting, on 24 September 2013, the Board took note of the report by the UNCTAD secretariat (TD/B/60/3) and the statements made by delegations. The Board decided, in accordance with General Assembly decision 47/445, that the report of the Trade and Development Board on its sixtieth session to the General Assembly would include an account of the deliberations under this item.

### **Report of the UNCTAD Public Symposium**

5. At its 1110th plenary meeting, on 24 September 2013, the Board took note of the Report on the fourth UNCTAD Public Symposium as contained in document TD/B/60/6.

### **Other matters in the field of trade and development**

6. At its 1107th plenary meeting, under this agenda item the President of the Board informed member States of the progress made, at a meeting of the Bureau of the Board and regional coordinators on 18 September 2013, regarding the consideration of the substantive topics for the sixth session of the Trade and Development Commission and the sixth session of the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission. After presenting the topics, the Board approved the topics for the Trade and Development Commission as follows:

<sup>1</sup> This document was distributed in the room as a non-paper.

- (a) The role of international trade in the post-2015 development agenda;
- (b) Developing sustainable and resilient transport systems in view of emerging challenges.

7. The Board also approved the topics for the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission as follows:

- (a) Entrepreneurship and productive capacity-building: Creating jobs through enterprise development;
- (b) Technology and innovation for inclusive development.

**Progressive development of the law of international trade: Forty-sixth annual report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law**

8. At its 1107th plenary meeting, the Board took note of the annual report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law at its forty-sixth session (A/68/17), held in New York, the United States of America, from 8 to 26 July 2013.

**Report of the Trade and Development Commission**

9. Also at its 1107th plenary meeting, the Board took note of the Report of the Trade and Development Commission on its fifth session (TD/B/C.I/31).

**Report of the Working Party on the Strategic Framework and the Programme**

10. Also at its 1107th plenary meeting, the Board took note of and endorsed the agreed conclusions and the draft decision of the Working Party at its sixty-fifth session, contained in TD/B/WP/255.

**Report by the President of the Advisory Body set up in accordance with paragraph 166 of the Bangkok Plan of Action on the implementation of courses by the secretariat in 2012–2013 and their relevant impact; and the appointment of members of the Advisory Body for 2014**

11. Also at its 1107th plenary meeting, the Board took note of the report of the Advisory Body as contained in TD/B/60/CRP.2.

**Other business**

12. At the 1111th (closing) plenary meeting, the Board approved the proposed amendments to the certificate of origin of the Generalized System of Preferences, Form A, as contained in document TD/B/60/10.

13. Also at its closing plenary meeting, the Board noted that it had considered the remaining draft terms of reference for the third and fourth sessions of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Promoting Economic Integration and Cooperation and for the Expert Meeting on the Impact of Access to Financial Services, Including by Highlighting Remittances on Development: Economic Empowerment of Women and Youth. The Board decided that regional groups would continue consultations and finalize the terms of reference under delegated authority at a future meeting of the Bureau or consultations of the President of the Trade and Development Board.

## II. President's summary<sup>2</sup>

### A. Opening statements

14. The following speakers made opening statements: the Minister of Culture, Arts and Heritage of Qatar and President of UNCTAD XIII; the outgoing Presidents (Estonia, Kazakhstan) of the Trade and Development Board at its fifty-ninth session; the President of the Trade and Development Board at its sixtieth session; the Secretary-General of UNCTAD; the representative of Ecuador, speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China; the representative of Ethiopia, on behalf of the African Group; the representative of the Dominican Republic, on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States; the representative of Iraq, on behalf of the Asian Group; the representative of the European Union; the representative of Japan, on behalf of the JUSSCANNZ group; the representative of Hungary, on behalf of Group D; the representative of Benin, on behalf of the LDC Group; the representative of Paraguay, on behalf of the landlocked developing countries; the representative of Sri Lanka, on behalf of the Group of 15; the representative of China; the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; the representative of the United States of America; the representative of South Africa; the representative of Japan; the representative of Honduras; the representative of Thailand; the representative of Mexico; the representative of Morocco; the representative of Switzerland; the representative of Nepal; the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela; the representative of Argentina; the representative of Malaysia; the representative of Egypt; the representative of Burkina Faso; the representative of Rwanda; the representative of the Russian Federation; the representative of Algeria; and the representative of the International Trade Union Confederation.

15. The President of UNCTAD XIII said that UNCTAD's holistic mandate opened up opportunities for member States to discuss all aspects of the global development process and seek ways to deliver on internationally agreed development promises. UNCTAD should ensure that the global economic system was based on the mutual respect and responsibility of all stakeholders as they strove to articulate and deliver on a post-2015 development agenda. That agenda needed to be sustainable and better, and such an approach would require a candid evaluation of what had worked and what had not worked. The fact that UNCTAD XIV would be held in 2016 would create a unique opportunity for member States to participate in the first major global event to implement the new development agenda.

16. The outgoing President (Estonia) of the Trade and Development Board said that the fiftieth anniversary of UNCTAD would provide an opening to promote UNCTAD's work. The outgoing President (Kazakhstan) of the Trade and Development Board, looking to the future, said that by enhancing UNCTAD cooperation with initiatives such as the Astana Economic Forum, greater coherence and focus could be brought to addressing the global development agenda, which was of particular importance considering the preparations for 2015 and UNCTAD XIV.

17. The President of the Trade and Development Board at its sixtieth session welcomed the decision to make the celebration of UNCTAD's fiftieth anniversary a forward-looking event and noted several upcoming international processes, such as the review of the

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<sup>2</sup> Electronic versions of statements by delegates are available in PDF format on the UNCTAD website in the form and language in which they were received (<http://unctad.org/meetings>). Audio files (floor/English) of general statements and statements made at the high-level segment, among others, are available upon request.

Millennium Development Goals and the articulation of a post-2015 global development agenda. In this context, he pledged to make it a high priority to work with the Secretary-General on ensuring that UNCTAD made the expected contributions to these processes. At the same time, the preparations for UNCTAD XIV and the regular work of UNCTAD would continue. Inspired by these opportunities, he intended to begin holding ambassadorial-level meetings.

18. The Secretary-General of UNCTAD highlighted the profound transformation of the global economic landscape, with the emergence of the global South. He stressed the leading role of UNCTAD in documenting and analysing the policy implications of the shift in the balance of the world economy and the growth in South–South trade. UNCTAD, with its innovative research and analysis on a range of development issues, could be a key resource in rethinking development strategies. He had confidence that UNCTAD, as a non-negotiating forum, could help overcome the stalemate of negotiations in the Doha Round. He took seriously the criticism of management and administration that UNCTAD had faced and pledged his full support for results-based management. UNCTAD policy recommendations and ideas should be translated into concrete, implementable actions as the relevance of the work of UNCTAD would be measured by its impact at the country level. He would reinforce UNCTAD cooperation with partner agencies in the United Nations system in countries and partners at United Nations Headquarters, such as the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the United Nations Development Programme, and reinforce partnerships with civil society. Strengthening the relevance and impact of UNCTAD’s work required a stronger partnership and better communications with member States. He also called on member States to deepen their engagement as UNCTAD was member driven. Finally, he intended to claim UNCTAD’s rightful place in contributing to the creation and management of sustainable development goals for the post-2015 development agenda and to increase the visibility of its work internationally.

19. Almost all delegates noted the celebration of UNCTAD’s fiftieth anniversary in 2014 and urged using the occasion to reflect upon the achievements, prospects and challenges of UNCTAD so as to chart its future contributions on trade and development.

20. Almost all delegates agreed that UNCTAD should have a fundamental role in the generation of the post-2015 development agenda. UNCTAD’s mandate to treat trade, investment, development and finance in an integrated manner gave it an unmatched opportunity to contribute towards creating ambitious and achievable targets.

21. Some delegates expressed concern about the insufficient and uneven progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals. They and several other delegates pledged their full commitment to provide technical and financial assistance aimed at eradicating extreme poverty. The representative of one group of developing countries expressed concern regarding the fall in official development assistance over the last two years.

22. Some delegates and representatives of regional groups noted their support for a timely and effective follow-up of the report by the Joint Inspection Unit and welcomed the focus on transparency, accountability and achievement of results-based management.

23. Some representatives of regional groups raised the need to strengthen support for LDCs and Africa; a few mentioned success stories that had resulted from ongoing support to these countries. The importance of building interregional partnerships in attracting foreign direct investment, one of the findings of the *Economic Development in Africa Report 2013*, had led to positive outcomes for many. UNCTAD should continue to fulfil the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries.

24. Many delegates reiterated their continued support for UNCTAD work in the areas of investment and technical support, especially for LDCs, which contributed to UNCTAD's visibility.

25. The representative of one regional group said that the recommendations of UNCTAD in areas such as the services sector had been important for landlocked developing countries. The implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action needed to be updated.

26. Two representatives of regional groups called on UNCTAD to consolidate the efforts initiated in support of development for the Palestinian people. One representative noted the need for a focal point for member States to interact with UNCTAD on the broader implications of this topic.

27. Many representatives of regional groups and delegates commended UNCTAD for the analysis and the policy ideas in the *Trade Development Report, 2013*. They endorsed the report's view that the global financial and economic crisis reflected a structural change in the world economy that needed to be addressed by changing the dominant growth strategy. In particular, they supported the need to move away from export-led strategies to a growth process driven by domestic demand and greater regional integration. Some delegates endorsed the recommendations regarding regulation of the financial sector and channelling of funds towards the real economy.

28. The representatives of several regional groups said that the world was still suffering from the economic slowdown, and this affected vulnerable countries more. The *Trade and Development Report, 2013* had been raised as an example of UNCTAD's successful contribution that served as a guide for many countries. They also expressed appreciation of UNCTAD research and publications such as the *Economic Development in Africa Report*.

29. The representative of one regional group noted his concern that the forthcoming ministerial meeting of the World Trade Organization in Bali, Indonesia, would not have tangible results for developing countries. The representative of another regional group said that the meeting would change the situation and that UNCTAD needed to protect the interests of the most marginalized countries. Some delegates agreed that no country could solve the current development challenges alone and recognized UNCTAD's unique position for building consensus among its global members.

30. The representative of one group of developing countries noted that the asymmetric impact of globalization could only be addressed through an all-inclusive financial sector reform, one that required renewed global partnerships and reduced the trade gap between developed and developing countries.

31. Several representatives of regional groups and one intergovernmental organization highlighted UNCTAD's unique expertise and contribution in the area of investment, and the value of research findings presented in UNCTAD reports on investment-related issues. Many delegations stressed the importance of global value chains (GVCs) for trade and development and highlighted the opportunities for growth and progress that could arise from participating in GVCs, pointing out the relevance of UNCTAD research on the topic. However, two delegates expressed caution regarding the exclusion of a number of developing countries from GVCs, while one delegate and one representative of a civil society organization highlighted the risks involved for developing countries in participating in GVCs, such as remaining locked into low value added activities, considering wages as costs and denying workers' rights, and increasing developing countries' dependence. Some delegates called for greater policy-development assistance to help developing countries to advance from commodity-oriented economies and to move up in GVCs. One representative asked UNCTAD to provide more information about alternatives to reform the investor-State dispute settlement mechanism. Many representatives and delegates encouraged

UNCTAD to continue to support developing countries in their efforts to build capacity and to design and implement comprehensive, integrated and coherent national trade and development strategies.

32. A few representatives of regional groups noted that improving technological and innovation capacity played an important role in successful growth and development strategies in developing countries. Two delegates also noted the need for the transfer of technology along with capacity-building to enable developing countries, especially LDCs, to join and benefit fully from GVCs. Another delegate noted that trade contributed best to development in developing countries when it stimulated domestic manufacturing and technological upgrading.

33. Two delegates noted the special constraints of transport and logistics infrastructure on improving trade performance in landlocked developing countries, which made it difficult for these countries to participate in GVCs. Several representatives of regional groups and delegates also noted the potential opportunity of a World Trade Organization agreement on trade facilitation to be negotiated in Bali, Indonesia, in December 2013 to benefit developing countries.

## **B. High-level segment: Beyond the curve: UNCTAD and new patterns of growth for trade and development**

(Agenda item 3)

34. During the high-level segment, panellists and participants explored the notion of new growth patterns and discussed factors that would enable developing economies to achieve sustainable growth. They focused on the failures of past and present development models, as well as trends in technology and intellectual property rights.

35. In the panel presentations, the Minister of Trade and Handicrafts of Tunisia described the failures of the development model that had been applied in his country since the 1950s. The accumulation of wealth had been unequally distributed, creating serious policy concerns and leading to “two countries” in one: one that was highly developed and the other, characterized by income inequality and unemployment. It was important to design policies that included measures channelling public expenditures towards employment creation. Moreover, employment and wealth creation should be equally distributed among the classes; this would boost domestic demand and support the economy. There should be a global approach to growth, and UNCTAD should continue its research on a new global economic development model, while taking into account the framework of globalization and the need to give the countries of the South a greater say.

36. The Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union focused on the role of information and communications technologies (ICTs) in the services sector as a catalyst to growth and development. He said that ICTs and the services sector were a winning combination. Traditionally, the services sector had been a major purchaser of ICT equipment; at the same time, ICTs had transformed the services sector by improving performance and quality. It was important not to overlook the unprecedented opportunities for achieving sustainable social and economic development.

37. The Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization said that two main trends affected the intellectual property sector in particular and economic growth in general. The first was evidence of a general shift in the centre of world creation from tangible to intangible assets, namely intellectual capital and a knowledge base. The second trend related to the shift in inputs – the creation of knowledge and investment in research and development – and outputs, from the West to the East. Despite a growing capacity to move information and data around the world, culturally rich countries in the South faced

difficulties in translating cultural assets into commercial assets. An important area for future work lay in helping developing countries monetize their cultural wealth.

38. The representatives of two regional groups said that the role of UNCTAD in the debate on growth and development strategies was highly relevant. Several delegates mentioned the findings of the *Trade and Development Report, 2013* and said that more importance should be given to domestic demand for growth strategies.

39. One delegate asked what policymakers could do to benefit from the gains achieved in intellectual property. Countries faced new policymaking challenges relating to capacities and strategies, while struggling to achieve sustainable development with an agriculture-based economy. In reply, the Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization said that it was essential to work on both capacity and strategy. Capacity served to enhance passive knowledge, i.e. building human resources and enabling access to scientific literature. It was important to develop a strategy for a knowledge-based economy at the country level and one that would enable countries to compete effectively in international markets.

40. The representative of a regional group suggested that UNCTAD should continue its work on the advantages and disadvantages of development models with a view to proposing alternatives for economic policy at the national and international levels. Key areas of study should include the regulation of the international financial system, the volatility of capital flows and commodity prices, and cautious trade and macroeconomic policies aimed at achieving sustainable growth.

### C. Interdependence: Towards new patterns in global growth

(Agenda item 4)

41. During the session, panellists and delegates discussed new patterns in global growth and their implications for development policy, drawing on chapter I of the *Trade and Development Report, 2013* that the UNCTAD secretariat presented. The representative of one regional group noted that globalization implied a constant state of interdependencies, which evolved and changed over time, an observation underlying the discussion. Some panellists and delegates stated that developed countries were still experiencing a sluggish recovery, reflecting a long-term trend of declining labour income, squeezed household consumption and low investment. Lending helped to prop up demand, but also contributed to financial volatility. Boom–bust capital flows were driven by short-term gains. The representative of one intergovernmental organization described recent recovery policies that had been put in place in Europe. Modest growth was expected, although youth unemployment remained a problem. Alongside this, the secretariat noted that the share of developing economies in world income growth and trade had risen sharply; however their exports and imports had not recovered to pre-crisis levels, and employment remained stagnant. The secretariat and some delegates agreed that developing countries were not decoupled from the macrofinancial dynamics of global trade and capital flows. The continued slow growth of the advanced economies was dampening the South–South trade flows that had, until now, served as an engine of growth for the global economy.

42. Given these trends, the debate centred on the search for new models for development and growth. The representatives of some regional groups and panellists noted the extent to which more balance was needed between strategies that focused on global trade and those that emphasized domestic and regional demand, a point discussed broadly. Some panellists and delegates said that policies to promote regional demand included social protection policies, wages and income policies, taxation, finance and regional integration. The representative of one regional group noted that large countries could benefit from

domestic markets, and smaller countries, from regional demand. Industrial promotion policies accompanied by public investment in infrastructure and education were essential. Several panellists and delegates suggested that redefining the financial system was also important. Some delegates questioned whether their countries could improve the complementarity between their production processes and products and those of developing country neighbours to which they were currently similar.

43. The representative of one intergovernmental group disagreed with the policy recommendations of the report. She also said there should be more synergies created between UNCTAD's work on trade, development and investment. Some other representatives endorsed the recommendations. Another delegate recommended joint deliberation on the *World Investment Report* and the *Trade and Development Report*. The secretariat noted the collaboration within UNCTAD, as well as with external agencies, on the treatment of statistics related to these topics.

**D. UNCTAD's contribution to the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries: Second progress report**  
(Agenda item 5)

44. During discussions under this agenda item, statements were made by the Deputy-Secretary-General of UNCTAD; the Director of the Division for Africa, Least Developed Countries and Special Programmes; the Union Minister of National Planning and Economic Development of Myanmar; the representative of the Group of 77; the Chief of Policy Coordination for Least Developed Countries, on behalf of the Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States; the representative of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States; the representative of the Asian Group; the representative of the African Group; the representative of the European Union; the representative of the LDC Group; and the representatives of the following countries: China, Angola, Bangladesh, Barbados, Ethiopia, Nepal, South Africa and the United States of America.

45. All speakers and participants echoed the need to gear national policies of LDCs and international support from development partners towards enabling at least half of LDCs to meet the criteria for graduation from LDC status by 2020, in accordance with the Istanbul vision. This objective could not be achieved without undiminished international cooperation, particularly in support of productive capacity-building. One representative noted that delays in the graduation of some LDCs were disappointing given the importance of maintaining the credibility of the United Nations in the periodic reviewing of the list of LDCs. Some delegates expressed the need to ensure that the goals of the Istanbul Programme of Action would be reflected in ongoing discussions on the post-2015 development agenda.

46. There was a strong consensus about the importance of productive capacity-building as the only realistic avenue for sustained and inclusive economic growth and poverty reduction in LDCs and ultimately for progress towards graduation from LDC status. Several delegates emphasized that the goal of building productive capacities should be at the heart of relevant national and international policies. The participants generally recognized that the process of structural transformation, in which productive capacity-building was embedded, went beyond mere sectoral rotation from agriculture to manufacturing or services. Enhancing production and competitiveness within a given sector could also be an important part of the transformational process. Genuine structural change could happen when there were beneficial shifts of resources or shifts from activities with

low productivity and low value addition to production with high productivity and high value addition.

47. Several speakers and participants highlighted the essential role of the private sector in enhancing productive capacities in LDCs. They recalled that domestic and foreign investors should play an important role in modernizing and upgrading the productive capacities of an LDC and in making it internationally competitive. However, some other participants pointed to the highly fragmented enterprise landscape in LDCs which had been dominated by small-scale enterprises, most of which operated in the informal sector. This situation was a hindrance to productive capacity development. One of the most difficult questions in the debate concerned therefore how to come out of informality without jeopardizing the existence of those enterprises. These difficulties notwithstanding, several participants considered it essential to tap into the productive potential in LDCs and, for that purpose, to invest in education and fight youth unemployment.

48. The recognized importance of rising from informality to global competitiveness focused the discussion on the goal of enabling LDCs to exist at higher levels of international value chains rather than remaining at the bottom of, or outside, GVCs. One delegate stressed that the beneficial integration of an LDC into any international value chain of production always required significant productive capacity development. Some speakers echoed this concern by describing as serious challenges the deficiencies posed by physical infrastructure, energy supply, the status of ICTs and the regulatory environment.

49. Most delegations looked forward to the completion of UNCTAD's work on measuring and benchmarking productive capacities in LDCs.

## **E. Economic Development in Africa: Intra-African trade: Unlocking private sector dynamism**

(Agenda item 6)

50. At the plenary session of Sessional Committee II, chaired by the President of the Trade and Development Board, the Director of the Division for Africa, Least Developed Countries and Special Programmes introduced the *Economic Development in Africa Report 2013: Intra-African Trade: Unlocking Private Sector Dynamism*.

51. Several delegates expressed appreciation for the concept of developmental regionalism put forward in the report. The report was a direct response to the call of the African Union for the United Nations system to support the region in creating a continental free trade area. UNCTAD should intensify its trade-related capacity-building programmes to enhance the capacities of both government and the private sector in Africa and support members of the African Group in negotiating economic partnership agreements to reach win-win outcomes.

52. Other recommendations relating to UNCTAD's role in the regional integration agenda in Africa and in trade and development issues in general called for UNCTAD to play a role in the New Asia–Africa Strategic Partnership and continue serving as a bridge for the sharing of experiences and best practices between Asia and Africa. The Organization, in partnership with the International Trade Centre, should analyse ways of utilizing the analysis and recommendations of the report to benefit African exporters and step up its managerial capacity-building activities aimed at African policymakers in LDCs.

53. The Chair of the Committee presided over the informal meeting that followed the plenary session. Drawing from the report and its overview (UNCTAD/ALDC/AFRICA/2013 and TD/B/60/4), the panel of experts from the Permanent Delegation of the African Union to the United Nations, the African Capacity

Building Foundation and Africa Growth Initiatives of the Brookings Institution, discussed the opportunities for and challenges in boosting intra-African trade, Africa's approach to regional integration and the role of the African private sector in regional integration.

54. The Secretary-General via video link said that the theme of the report was pertinent and timely, especially in view of the renewed political commitments of Governments in Africa, the current action plans of the African Union, the high economic growth of African countries and low intraregional trade. Developmental regionalism, as proposed by the report, deserved serious reflection by Governments in Africa, and a constant dialogue was needed between the private sector and the State to enable the private sector to play a more proactive role in regional integration.

55. According to the panellists, there were many opportunities for boosting intra-regional trade: investing in regional infrastructure and human capital, increasing value addition to raw materials, harmonizing national and regional policies, and enhancing institutional development. Other opportunities lay in improving the efficiency of small private enterprises, creating linkages between big and small firms and between firms in the formal and informal sectors, developing local and regional value chains and reducing dependence on external donor resources.

56. Several delegates wished to know why some action plans had not been fully implemented. In response, the Secretary-General and panellists identified factors that could speed up the implementation of such plans. These included deeper political commitments with time frames for measurable outcomes, less dependence on tariff revenues, increased intraregional foreign direct investment, a rise in middle incomes in Africa and growing peace and stability in the region.

57. The UNCTAD secretariat said that UNCTAD was working closely with the New Partnership for Africa's Development and assisting in tripartite agreements between subregional groupings in Africa.

## **F. Evolution of the international trading system and its trends from a development perspective**

(Agenda item 7)

58. Discussions drew upon the secretariat's report entitled "Evolution of the international trading system and its trends from a development perspective" and upon a wide range of inputs provided by the Secretary-General of UNCTAD, the Director-General of the World Trade Organization, the Executive Director of the International Trade Centre, guest speakers and the Director of the Division on International Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities.

59. The Secretary-General noted that since the adoption of the Millennium Development Goals in 2000 important progress had been made in reducing extreme poverty and tackling related social, economic and environmental challenges. However extreme poverty; income, wealth and gender inequalities; and environmental degradation and climate change had continued unabated in many developing countries. This had provided the *raison d'être* for a new post-2015 development agenda, as mandated by the 2010 United Nations Summit on the Millennium Development Goals and the 2012 Rio+20 Conference.

60. Several speakers and delegations, as well as the Secretary-General and the secretariat, concurred on the importance of international trade in goods and services as a catalyst for achieving poverty eradication and sustainable development in its economic, social and environmental dimensions. International trade in goods and services should be mainstreamed into the design of the post-2015 agenda as a prominent part of a stand-alone

goal or as an enabler of other possible thematic goals. Many participants suggested that quantitative targets on trade might need to be accompanied by qualitative assessments.

61. The multilateral trading system was a key global public good, and a positive outcome was needed from the ninth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization to be held Bali. Based on recent trends in international trade and emerging policy dynamics such as GVCs, the rise of the South and the digital economy, several speakers noted that it was necessary to adjust, adapt and/or modernize trade rules, and to discipline trade. Policies, measures, regulations and institutions should harness new opportunities and address new threats. It was necessary to achieve greater coherence among trade and development policies at the national and international levels. Further, UNCTAD should continuously monitor the evolving trading system and trade policy to inform member States and help them shape national and international policies.

62. The Secretary-General proposed the establishment of an open working group to take stock of the progress of the post-2015 deliberations in New York and elsewhere. The working group would focus on the areas in which international trade could be integrated into the new development goals, including in the context of the 2014 session of the Trade and Development Commission, the next session of the Trade and Development Board and the fiftieth anniversary celebration of UNCTAD. The work of the group would be supported by the secretariat with the Director of the Division as focal point. Several representatives welcomed the proposal and called for openness, transparency and a member-State-driven process in designing trade's contribution to development in the post-2015 framework.

63. Many participants applauded the Secretary-General's call for strengthening and harnessing "the unique, Geneva-based value chain of expertise in trade" embodied in UNCTAD, the World Trade Organization and the International Trade Centre so that it could play a major role in international efforts to achieve sustainable and inclusive development.

## **G. Development strategies in a globalized world: Growing domestic and regional demand for balanced and sustainable growth**

(Agenda item 8)

64. Under this agenda item, chapters II and III of the *Trade and Development Report, 2013* provided the background for the deliberations of the Board. The Deputy Secretary-General of UNCTAD made opening remarks and the Officer-in-Charge of the Division on Globalization and Development Strategies introduced the main themes of the debate. Three panellists – from the University of Cambridge in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Department of Trade and Industry in South Africa and the Central Bank of Argentina – corroborated the findings of the report by relating them to their country experience or academic research.

65. All speakers, including the Deputy Secretary-General, panellists and delegates, highlighted that the importance of domestic and regional demand did not rule out trade and export orientation. Rather, the emphasis was on adopting a more balanced development strategy where domestic demand was the basis for the expansion of trade. By implication, this should not result in lower trade flows, since the growth of domestic or regional markets could boost global and regional or South–South trade. A further qualification made in this regard stressed that while both external and internal demand were complementary, exports could be considered mostly as a means, for example, to earn foreign currency that was required to sustain capital investment and imports, while the growth of domestic demand was a goal intrinsic to the development process.

66. The presentations and further interventions by many delegates coincided around the following themes:

(a) Though the current configuration of global production and trade gave increasing prominence to developing countries, their growth could not depend exclusively on developed countries;

(b) The reorientation of growth dynamics could not happen automatically, and a more prominent role for policy was required, including fiscal policy, the support of central banks to productive endeavours, social development and the promotion of structural transformation through agriculture, industry and services;

(c) Developing countries should consider a well-calibrated insertion into world trade, consistent with the traditional principle of “infant industry” that had served countries that were now advanced.

## **H. Investment for development: Global value chains and development**

(Agenda item 9)

67. The secretariat presented the key findings and recommendations of the *World Investment Report 2013: Global Value Chains – Investment and Trade for Development*. Four panellists spoke on various aspects of that topic.

68. In the discussion that followed, many delegates said that the report and the UNCTAD investment policy framework for sustainable development were important policymaking tools for countries. The framework should continue to be used, as it provided valuable guidance for developing countries in formulating a new generation of national investment policies and international investment treaty models at a time when investment policymaking at the national and international levels was in transition. In this regard, many delegates called for further technical assistance.

69. Several delegations expressed concern about declining flows in foreign direct investment and the bumpy recovery of global investment and requested the secretariat to continue monitoring trends and analysing their impact on growth and development, particularly in developing countries.

70. Many delegates said that GVCs offered opportunities for developing economies to enter international production networks and to attract investment that could generate development benefits, including jobs, technology and market access.

71. Further, policies were important to make GVCs work for development. A number of delegates said that the policy recommendations and initiatives presented in the report were commendable and that countries should assess and make a strategic decision on whether and how to promote GVCs. Different countries or regions had had different experiences with those chains, and there was no single formula for a region or country to participate in them. Countries should be proactive to mitigate associated risks and maintain their competitiveness. Some delegates expressed concern about the challenges posed by GVCs and countries’ abilities to effectively participate in and benefit from them. Many delegations called on the secretariat to further advance relevant policy analysis and technical assistance to support developing countries in building regional value chains.

## **I. UNCTAD's contribution to the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields**

(Agenda item 10)

72. Many participants observed that the follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits should be fully integrated into the three pillars of work of UNCTAD and given adequate consideration by the Trade and Development Board. They further suggested that future sessions of the Board should allocate sufficient time to this agenda item. Those sessions could also include interaction with other United Nations entities, such as regional commissions.

73. Several representatives of regional groups underscored that one of the most important current multilateral processes was the preparation of the post-2015 development framework. Given its mandate, history and expertise, UNCTAD should make a major contribution to this process, through a critical assessment of experiences from the Millennium Development Goals process and the identification of key indicators to be included in the post-2015 framework. The fiftieth anniversary of UNCTAD presented an opportunity to exchange views in this regard.

74. The representative of one regional group noted the need to formulate a clear programme of work related to the post-2015 development framework, so that future meetings of the Board could be planned consequently. In addition, he suggested that UNCTAD make the necessary institutional arrangements, including through the designation of a focal point within the secretariat. Several representatives of regional groups encouraged UNCTAD to monitor the major development-related processes under way and to plan work accordingly along the three pillars to ensure that all efforts were well focused and complementary to those larger processes. They also requested that UNCTAD organize briefings for delegations before and after major conferences.

75. Several representatives highlighted the role of UNCTAD in fostering a more coherent and development-friendly global economic system. One delegate called for a holistic development agenda in the post-2015 deliberations. He identified three key areas for consideration, namely, a stable global economic system that placed development at the centre, the developmental impact of migration and the developmental implications of the vulnerability of countries to natural and man-made disasters.

76. One representative encouraged UNCTAD to continue to take into consideration the needs of middle-income countries in its work programme.

## **J. Report on UNCTAD assistance to the Palestinian people**

(Agenda item 11(b))

77. The UNCTAD secretariat introduced the Report on UNCTAD assistance to the Palestinian people (TD/B/60/3) and summarized the impact of persistent constraints on the economy of the Occupied Palestinian Territory. The Israeli occupation and settlements pre-empted Palestinian development, and fiscal sustainability under occupation was a mirage. Palestinian annual fiscal leakage to Israel represented 17 per cent of tax revenue and 18 per cent of the public wage bill; it had been accumulating since the establishment of the Palestinian Authority in 1994. UNCTAD's concern regarding Palestinian fiscal vulnerability was shared by the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and members of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee. The secretariat listed recommendations for stemming fiscal leakage from imports and smuggling from or via Israel.

78. Twenty-two delegates, including six regional groups, made statements on the report. All delegates but one expressed appreciation of the report's findings and commended the secretariat's work in support of the Palestinian people. Many delegates described the report as concise, convincing and insightful yet disturbing and relevant.

79. Most delegates concurred with the report's identification of the major obstacles to development in the Occupied Palestinian Territory and agreed with its recommendations, especially those related to stemming Palestinian fiscal leakage to Israel and the need to replace the Protocol on Economic Relations between Israel and Palestine, known as the Paris Protocol, with a balanced framework conducive to Palestinian development, fiscal independence and empowering the Palestinian people with the right to integrate into the world economy and have control over their land and resources. This would lessen their dependence on the Israeli economy, allow them to procure cheaper imports and improve fiscal conditions.

80. The vast majority of delegates also agreed that occupation elevated production costs, severed the Occupied Palestinian Territory from global markets, imposed the blockade on Gaza, restricted mobility, constructed a separation barrier, confiscated land, lowered productivity, weakened exports and increased imports, curtailed public services and damaged infrastructure. Many delegates reaffirmed solidarity with the Palestinian people and their legitimate struggle for an independent, viable and contiguous State with the 1967 borders and East Jerusalem as its capital. They welcomed the resumption of peace talks and many cited examples of the support their countries had been providing to the Palestinian people.

81. Almost all delegates expressed concern about the dire economic conditions in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including gloomy growth prospects, worsening constraints on development, pervasive uncertainty, high unemployment, fiscal crisis, dismal labour market conditions, destruction of the productive base, violation of international law by the occupying Power and lack of Palestinian Authority control over borders, trade and trade data.

82. One delegate thanked UNCTAD for the accuracy of its report. He added that the settlement policy would lead to the failure of the two-State solution. He asked how development could be achieved while Palestinian people were banned from using roads constructed on their own land. The occupation and the siege of the Occupied Palestinian Territory were the reason for all economic crises. He requested UNCTAD and donors to hold the occupying Power accountable for its destructive policy and praised the European Union for its decision to exclude settlements from its bilateral agreement with Israel.

83. Another delegate said that the agenda item was an example of the politicization of UNCTAD, as it was dedicated to one people. Conflict and political polarization were not legitimate at UNCTAD and should be resolved elsewhere. UNCTAD's report recurrently accused Israel on every subject that affected Palestinian society and did not consider Israeli security concerns. As the security situation had been improving, only a few crossing blockades were activated when there was a security alert. She said that the Palestinian fiscal crisis was caused by overspending and decline in aid and added that Israel had twice transferred advance payments to the Palestinian Authority, which paid \$54 million to convicted terrorists in Israeli jails. She indicated that UNCTAD's estimation of Palestinian fiscal leakage misinterpreted the research of the Bank of Israel and was based on false assumptions. She emphasized that a flourishing Palestinian economy was in the interest of Israel and mentioned a number of Israeli initiatives to support Palestinian workers and agriculture. Israel looked forward to successful negotiations with the Palestinian side.

84. Most delegates praised UNCTAD for its decades of support to the Palestinian people, through technical cooperation including capacity-building projects, advisory

services and research. Referring to the report, they noted that occupation and settlements made development unattainable and that the international community should extend sufficient aid to the Palestinian Authority to maintain its institutional achievements and ease fiscal constraint. But putting an end to occupation and allowing the Palestinian people the right to self-determination and sovereignty was needed. Delegates emphasized the importance of the support of UNCTAD's exemplary programme, given the vulnerability of the Occupied Palestinian Territory to political and economic shocks, and called for mobilizing more resources to meet the special needs of the Palestinian economy and fulfil the Doha Mandate.

## **K. Report of the UNCTAD Public Symposium**

(Agenda item 12(b))

85. The Deputy Secretary-General of UNCTAD introduced the agenda item, noting that the fourth UNCTAD Public Symposium was an example of how UNCTAD engaged different stakeholders in an open and helpful exchange of views. The theme of the Symposium was new economic approaches for a coherent post-2015 agenda. He expressed special thanks to the Governments of Austria, China, India, Indonesia and Kazakhstan and to the Friedrich Ebert Foundation (Germany) for providing financial contributions to support the organization of the Public Symposium and the participation of civil society and resource persons from developing countries.

86. The report was presented by the Assistant Director in the Geneva Office of the International Trade Union Confederation. She noted that the Symposium provided a useful space for joining forces on specific themes and highlighted recommendations from the Symposium, such as a financial transactions tax and a restructuring of international trade and investment agreements to ensure equitable sharing of benefits. She concluded her address by stressing the need to institutionalize the Public Symposium as a regular event.

87. The representative one regional group said that it was the first time he had attended a Public Symposium and he found it very valuable. He invited all member States to attend the next Symposium.

88. One delegate praised the report of the 2013 Public Symposium for its focus on new economic approaches based on lessons learned. Another delegate said that she was glad to see the Public Symposium becoming a recurrent event.

## **III. Procedural and related matters**

### **A. Opening of the session**

89. The sixtieth session of the Trade and Development Board was opened on 16 September 2013 by Mr. Mukhtar Tileuberdi (Kazakhstan), outgoing President of the Board at its fifty-ninth session.

### **B. Election of officers**

(Agenda item 1)

90. At its 1103rd (opening) plenary meeting, the Board elected Mr. Triyono Wibowo (Indonesia) President of the Board at its sixtieth session.

91. The Board completed the election of officers to serve on the Bureau of the Board at its sixtieth session by electing 10 Vice-Presidents and the Rapporteur during the 1103rd and 1111th (closing) plenary meetings. Accordingly, the elected Bureau was as follows:

<i>President:</i>	Mr. Triyono Wibowo (Indonesia)
<i>Vice-Presidents:</i>	Mr. Abdul Samad Minty (South Africa)
	Mr. Léopold Ismael Samba (Central African Republic)
	Mr. Mikhail Khvostov (Belarus)
	Mr. Jüri Seilenthal (Estonia)
	Mr. Mohsen Naziri Asl (Islamic Republic of Iran)
	Mr. Efraín Díaz Arrivillaga (Honduras)
	Mrs. Victoria Marina Velásquez de Avilés (El Salvador)
	Mr. Thomas Fitschen (Germany)
	Mr. Thomas Wagner (France)
	Mr. Nicola Faganello (Italy)
<i>Rapporteur:</i>	Mr. Thomas Fitschen (Germany)

92. Following established practice, the Board agreed that the coordinators of regional groups and other recognized groups of UNCTAD would be fully associated with the work of the Bureau of the Board.

### C. Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work of the session

(Agenda item 2)

93. At its opening plenary meeting, the Board adopted the provisional agenda for the session contained in TD/B/60/1/Rev.1 (see annex I).

94. The following officers were elected to serve on the Bureau of Sessional Committee I to consider agenda item 5, UNCTAD's contribution to the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries: Second progress report:

<i>Chair:</i>	Mr. Thomas Fitschen (Germany)
<i>Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur:</i>	Ms. Lillian Saili Bwalya (Zambia)

95. The following officers were elected to serve on the Bureau of Sessional Committee II to consider agenda item 6, Economic Development in Africa: Intra-African trade: Unlocking private sector dynamism:

<i>Chair:</i>	Mr. Abdul Samad Minty (South Africa)
<i>Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur:</i>	Ms. Shumeng Li (China)

### D. Institutional, organizational, administrative and related matters

(Agenda item 15)

#### **Report by the President of the Advisory Body set up in accordance with paragraph 166 of the Bangkok Plan of Action on the implementation of courses by the secretariat in 2012–2013 and their relevant impact; and the appointment of members of the Advisory Body for 2014**

96. At its 1111th (closing) plenary meeting, the Board elected members of the Advisory Body for 2014 as follows: Mr. Triyono Wibowo (Indonesia), Mr. Md Abdul Hannan (Bangladesh), Mr. Abdulla Nasser al Rahbi (Oman), Mr. Minelik Alemu Getahum (Ethiopia), Mr. Nkopane Monyane (Lesotho), Mr. Boudjemaa Delmi (Algeria), Mr. Ulises Canchola Gutiérrez (Mexico), Mr. Alfredo Suescum (Panama), Mr. Luis Enrique Chávez

Basagoitia (Peru), Mr. Thomas Fitschen (Germany), M. Murad N. Najafbayli (Azerbaijan) and Mr. Raimonds Jansons (Latvia).

97. The Board was informed that three nominations for the Advisory Body were still forthcoming from Group B.

**Designation of intergovernmental bodies for the purposes of rule 76 of the Rules of Procedure of the Trade and Development Board**

98. There were no new applications before the Board for its consideration. A list of the 114 intergovernmental bodies currently in status with UNCTAD is contained in document TD/B/IGO/LIST/10.

**Designation of non-governmental organizations for the purposes of rule 77 of the Rules of Procedure of the Trade and Development Board**

99. There were no new applications before the Board for its consideration. A list of the 211 non-governmental organizations in status with UNCTAD, including 124 in the general category and 87 in the special category, is contained in document TD/B/NGO/LIST/15.

**Review of the calendar of meetings**

100. At its closing plenary meeting, the Board approved the calendar of meetings for the remainder of 2013 and the indicative calendar of meetings for 2014 and 2015 as contained in document TD/B/60/CRP.1, with two amendments. The title of the meeting to be held from 11 to 15 November 2013 would be amended to read as follows: Ninth UNCTAD Debt Management Conference. The dates of two meetings would be amended as follows: the Global Commodities Forum would be held from 7 to 8 April 2014 and the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Commodities and Development, from 9 to 11 April 2014. The official calendar would be issued as document TD/B/INF.229.

**Membership of the Working Party for 2014**

101. The Board also approved the membership of the Working Party for 2014 as follows: Austria, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, China, Ecuador, Germany, Guatemala, India, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Russian Federation, Senegal, the Sudan, Switzerland and the United States of America.

**Review of the lists of States contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX)**

102. At its closing plenary meeting, the Board reviewed the list of States members of UNCTAD. The membership list was before the Board in document TD/B/INF.228.

**Administrative and financial implications of the actions of the Board**

103. Also at its closing plenary meeting, the Board was informed that the actions taken at its sixtieth session had no additional financial implications.

**E. Adoption of the report on credentials**

(Agenda item 16)

104. At its 1111th (closing) plenary meeting, the Board adopted the report of the Bureau on credentials of representatives participating in the sixtieth session of the Board, as contained in document TD/B/60/L.2.

**F. Provisional agenda for the sixty-first session of the Board**

(Agenda item 17)

105. Also at its closing plenary meeting, the Board decided to refer consideration of this item to the consultations of the President of the Board. The provisional agenda would be submitted for approval at an appropriate time.

**G. Adoption of the report**

(Agenda item 19)

106. Also at its closing plenary meeting, the Board adopted its report as contained in documents TD/B/60/L.1 and Add.1 to Add. 9, TD/B/60/SC.I/L.1, TD/B/60/SC.I/L.2, TD/B/60/SC.II/L.1, TD/B/60/SC.II/L.2<sup>3</sup> and TD/B/60/L.2 and authorized the Rapporteur to complete the final report as appropriate, taking into account the proceedings of the closing plenary, and to prepare the report of the Trade and Development Board to the General Assembly.

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<sup>3</sup> See footnote 1 above.

## Annex I

### **Agenda for the sixtieth session of the Trade and Development Board**

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work of the session
3. High-level segment: Beyond the curve: UNCTAD and new patterns of growth for trade and development
4. Interdependence: Towards new patterns in global growth
5. UNCTAD's contribution to the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries: Second progress report
6. Economic Development in Africa: Intra-African trade: Unlocking private sector dynamism
7. Evolution of the international trading system and its trends from a development perspective
8. Development strategies in a globalized world: Growing domestic and regional demand for balanced and sustainable growth
9. Investment for development: Global value chains and development
10. UNCTAD's contribution to the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields
11. Technical cooperation activities:
  - (a) Review of the technical cooperation activities of UNCTAD
  - (b) Report on UNCTAD assistance to the Palestinian people
12. Matters requiring action by the Board in the follow-up to the thirteenth session of the Conference:
  - (a) Follow-up to the Joint Inspection Unit report and the agreed conclusions of the twenty-sixth special session of the Trade and Development Board on 6 July 2012
  - (b) Report of the UNCTAD Public Symposium
13. Other matters in the field of trade and development:
  - (a) Progressive development of the law of international trade: Forty-sixth annual report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law
  - (b) Report of the Trade and Development Commission
14. Report of the Working Party on the Strategic Framework and the Programme Budget
15. Institutional, organizational, administrative and related matters:
  - (a) Report by the President of the Advisory Body set up in accordance with paragraph 166 of the Bangkok Plan of Action on the implementation of

- courses by the secretariat in 2012–2013 and their relevant impact; and the appointment of members of the Advisory Body for 2014
- (b) Designation of intergovernmental bodies for the purposes of rule 76 of the Rules of Procedure of the Trade and Development Board
  - (c) Designation of non-governmental organizations for the purposes of rule 77 of the Rules of Procedure of the Trade and Development Board
  - (d) Review of the calendar of meetings
  - (e) Membership of the Working Party for 2014
  - (f) Review of the lists of States contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX)
  - (g) Administrative and financial implications of the actions of the Board
16. Adoption of the report on credentials
  17. Provisional agenda for the sixty-first session of the Board
  18. Other business
  19. Adoption of the report

## Annex II

### Attendance<sup>4</sup>

1. Representatives of the following States members of the Trade and Development Board attended the session:

Afghanistan	Greece
Albania	Haiti
Angola	Honduras
Argentina	Hungary
Austria	India
Azerbaijan	Indonesia
Bahamas	Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Bangladesh	Iraq
Barbados	Israel
Belarus	Italy
Benin	Japan
Bhutan	Jordan
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Kazakhstan
Botswana	Kuwait
Burundi	Kyrgyzstan
Brazil	Lesotho
Bulgaria	Libya
Burkina Faso	Lithuania
Canada	Malaysia
Cape Verde	Maldives
Central African Republic	Malta
China	Mauritius
Colombia	Mexico
Congo	Mongolia
Côte d'Ivoire	Morocco
Croatia	Mozambique
Cuba	Myanmar
Czech Republic	Nepal
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Netherlands
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Nigeria
Djibouti	Oman
Dominican Republic	Pakistan
Ecuador	Peru
Egypt	Philippines
El Salvador	Poland
Estonia	Portugal
Ethiopia	Qatar
Finland	Republic of Korea
Georgia	Russian Federation
Germany	Rwanda
Guatemala	Saudi Arabia
Guinea	Seychelles
	Sierra Leone
	Singapore

<sup>4</sup> This attendance list contains registered participants. For the list of participants, see TD/B/60/INF.1.

Slovenia	Sri Lanka
South Africa	Sudan
South Sudan	Swaziland
Spain	Sweden
	Switzerland

2. The following observers attended the session:

Holy See  
State of Palestine

3. The following intergovernmental organizations were represented at the session:

African Union  
European Union  
Eurasian Economic Commission  
Organization of Eastern Caribbean States  
Organization of Islamic Cooperation  
Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat  
South Centre

4. The following United Nations organizations were represented at the session:

International Trade Centre  
United Nations Commission on International Trade Law  
Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked  
Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States

5. The following specialized agencies and related organizations were represented at the session:

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations  
International Labour Organization  
International Telecommunication Union  
United Nations Industrial Development Organization  
World Bank  
World Intellectual Property Organization  
World Trade Organization

6. The following non-governmental organizations were represented at the session:

*General category*

Consumer Unity and Trust Society International  
Global Traders Conference  
Ingénieurs du Monde  
International Actuarial Association  
International Trade Union Confederation  
Organisation Camerounaise de Promotion de la Coopération Économique  
Internationale  
Village Suisse ONG

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