



United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

Distr.: General
12 September 2022

Original: English

Trade and Development Board
Trade and Development Commission
Thirteenth session
Geneva, 21–25 November 2022
Item 2 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Provisional agenda and annotations

I. Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Reports of expert meetings:
 - (a) Multi-year Expert Meeting on Commodities and Development;
 - (b) Multi-year Expert Meeting on Trade, Services and Development;
 - (c) Multi-year Expert Meeting on Enhancing the Enabling Economic Environment at All Levels in Support of Inclusive and Sustainable Development, and the Promotion of Economic Integration and Cooperation;
 - (d) Multi-year Expert Meeting on Transport, Trade Logistics and Trade Facilitation.
4. Report of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy.
5. Report of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer Protection Law and Policy.
6. The role of trade in a development-led global energy transition.
7. The geography of trade and supply chain reconfiguration: Implications for trade, global value chains and maritime transport.
8. Progress report on promoting and strengthening synergies among the three pillars.
9. Other business.
10. Adoption of the report of the Commission to the Trade and Development Board.



II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

1. The thirteenth session of the Trade and Development Commission will be held from 21 to 25 November 2022. The role of the commissions, as subsidiary bodies of the Trade and Development Board and as defined in paragraph 121 of the Bridgetown Covenant (TD/541/Add.2), is to consider the reports of expert meetings and the synergies between the three pillars and the work of the subprogrammes of UNCTAD, as well as to conduct policy dialogue on one or two selected issues.

2. The topics of the substantive agenda items are the role of trade in a development-led global energy transition, and the geography of trade and supply chain reconfiguration – implications for trade, global value chains and maritime transport. In addition, the Commission will review and adopt the reports of expert meetings. Furthermore, the Commission will examine relevant activities implemented by the secretariat that have promoted and strengthened synergies among the three pillars.

Item 1 Election of officers

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

4. Accordingly, following the cycle of rotation, the Bureau for the thirteenth session of the Commission will be as follows: a Chair from list A (Africa), a Rapporteur from list B, three Vice-Chairs from lists A and C combined, one Vice-Chair from list B and one Vice-Chair from list D.

Item 2 Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

5. The provisional agenda for the thirteenth session of the Trade and Development Commission was approved by the Trade and Development Board at its sixty-ninth session. A programme of work will be circulated prior to the meeting.

Documentation

TD/B/C.I/52 Provisional agenda and annotations

Item 3 Reports of expert meetings

(a) Multi-year Expert Meeting on Commodities and Development

6. Under the agenda item, the Commission will review and discuss the outcomes of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Commodities and Development on its thirteenth session.

Documentation

TD/B/C.I/MEM.2/55 Report of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Commodities and Development on its thirteenth session

(b) Multi-year Expert Meeting on Trade, Services and Development

7. Under the agenda item, the Commission will review and discuss the outcomes of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Trade, Services and Development on its ninth session.

Documentation

TD/B/C.I/MEM.4/27 Report of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Trade, Services and Development on its ninth session

(c) Multi-year Expert Meeting on Enhancing the Enabling Economic Environment at All Levels in Support of Inclusive and Sustainable Development, and the Promotion of Economic Integration and Cooperation

8. Under the agenda item, the Commission will review and discuss the outcomes of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Enhancing the Enabling Economic Environment at All Levels in Support of Inclusive and Sustainable Development, and the Promotion of Economic Integration and Cooperation on its fifth session.

Documentation

TD/B/C.I/MEM.8/15 Report of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Enhancing the Enabling Economic Environment at All Levels in Support of Inclusive and Sustainable Development, and the Promotion of Economic Integration and Cooperation on its fifth session

(d) Multi-year Expert Meeting on Transport, Trade Logistics and Trade Facilitation

9. Under the agenda item, the Commission will review and discuss the outcomes of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Transport, Trade Logistics and Trade Facilitation on its ninth session.

Documentation

TD/B/C.I/MEM.7/27 Report of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Transport, Trade Logistics and Trade Facilitation on its ninth session

Item 4**Report of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy**

10. Under the agenda item, the Trade and Development Commission will review and discuss the outcomes of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy on its twentieth session.

Documentation

TD/B/C.I/CLP/66 Report of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy on its twentieth session

Item 5

Report of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer Protection Law and Policy

11. Under the agenda item, the Trade and Development Commission will review and discuss the outcomes of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer Protection Law and Policy on its sixth session.

Documentation

TD/B/C.I/CPLP/32 Report of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on
Consumer Protection Law and Policy on its sixth session

Item 6

The role of trade in a development-led global energy transition

12. Under the agenda item, the Trade and Development Commission will discuss the main requirements and features of a global energy transition, and the ways in which developing countries can shape the transition so that it maximizes their development gains.

Documentation

TD/B/C.I/53 The role of trade in a development-led global energy
transition

Item 7

The geography of trade and supply chain reconfiguration: Implications for trade, global value chains and maritime transport

13. Under the agenda item, the Trade and Development Commission will discuss the impacts of the ongoing maritime logistics crisis on the geography of trade.

14. The geography of international trade has fundamentally changed over the last decades, reflecting wide-ranging factors. It has also been impacted by improvements in transport services, notably maritime shipping, which moves about 80 per cent of global trade volume. The volume of seaborne trade per person has doubled during the last five decades, and UNCTAD data on port throughput shows how developing countries have increased and shifted their participation during this period. Looking at logistics services, we observe that expenditures on inventory holding costs have gone down over the decades, while payments for transport services have increased, in line with more Just-in-Time deliveries and improved logistics and trade facilitation services.

15. These trends, however, may be changing, and businesses and policymakers need to reconsider some basic assumptions about ever-improving trade logistics services. The Commission will discuss if and how the ongoing supply chain crisis – including high freight rates, congestion and disruptions in shipping services – may impact the future of the geography of trade, maritime transport and supply chains.

Documentation

TD/B/C.I/54 The geography of trade and supply chain reconfiguration:
Implications for trade, global value chains and maritime
transport

Item 8**Progress report on promoting and strengthening synergies among the three pillars**

16. Under the agenda item, the secretariat will report on progress made in promoting and strengthening synergies among the three pillars of work of UNCTAD in the areas covered by the Trade and Development Commission.

Item 9**Other business****Item 10****Adoption of the report of the Commission to the Trade and Development Board**

17. The report of the thirteenth session of the Trade and Development Commission will be submitted to the Trade and Development Board.
