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Working Party on Industry and Enterprise Development

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**NEW NAME AND TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE TEAM OF SPECIALISTS ON
ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN POVERTY ALLEVIATION**

1. At its second session held on 21-22 March 2001, the Working Party on Industry and Enterprise Development established a new integrated Team of Specialists on Entrepreneurship in Poverty Alleviation (TRADE/WP.8/2001/5)
2. In accordance with the initial mandate, the major goals of the new Team of Specialists were formulated as following:
 - to raise the awareness of the importance of the dimensional approach in enterprise development for poverty alleviation;
 - to review the impact of normative acts, regulation and policies aimed at promoting entrepreneurial activities and to assess their impact on the poor and vulnerable groups;
 - to identify policy instruments, which proved to be effective and efficient in reducing poverty and social inequalities through entrepreneurial activities, and provide policy recommendations;
 - to exchange best practices in eradicating poverty through promotion of entrepreneurial activities and self-employment. Such exchange could cover the following areas: "train the trainers" schemes on business management targeted to selected groups of the poor; search of partnerships and markets for their products and services; creation of technology parks;
 - to exchange experiences and ideas on how to reduce rural poverty through entrepreneurship;

- to identify technologies, organizational forms and support services that could reduce the costs of starting-up and running SMEs created by the poor and vulnerable groups; improve access of family businesses and small- and medium-sized enterprises initiated by other groups of the poor to technology;
- to suggest specific programmes to encourage entrepreneurial activities among specific subgroups of the poor and vulnerable, especially for countries and areas that are at high risk of conflict or affected by economic restructuring;
- to identify possible areas of public-private partnership, which could benefit the poor, in particular, to consider the creation of solidarity funds and other micro-credit schemes among selected groups of the poor with the support of the private and public sector; and
- to assist governments, at their request, in designing income-generating, entrepreneurial, programmes (OPA/AC.20/1).

3. In order to meet the recommendations of the First Regional Forum on Youth: Security, Opportunity and Prosperity, held in August 2002, the third meeting of the Team of Specialists held in February 2003 decided to focus its future work on youth employment.

4. Accordingly the Team of Specialists requests the Working Party to:

- (i) change the name of the Team of Specialists on Entrepreneurship in Poverty Alleviation to the Team of Specialists on Youth Entrepreneurship; and
- (ii) adopt the new Terms of References of the Team of Specialists on Youth Entrepreneurship.

The new objectives of the Team will be to:

- exchange experiences and ideas on reducing youth unemployment through entrepreneurship;
- identify modalities, organizational forms and support services that could assist youth to acquire entrepreneurial skills and become self/employed;
- organize seminars, workshops and forums on youth entrepreneurship, especially in a sub-regional context;
- assist Governments, at their request, in designing entrepreneurial and income-generating programmes;
- assist Governments and local administrations in the development of school businesses;
- collect and disseminate information on government policies fostering youth entrepreneurship;
- collect and disseminate information on best practices in youth entrepreneurship promotion schemes;
- create a portrait gallery of excellent youth entrepreneurs in arts, crafts and activities oriented towards the knowledge-based society; and
- develop projects, including programmes promoting youth entrepreneurial activities, in the UNECE member States that were successful in alleviating youth unemployment and poverty.