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COMMITTEE FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND
ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

Working Party on Industry and Enterprise Development

Sixth session, 10 and 11 February 2005
Sub-item 4.1.1 of the provisional agenda

TEAM OF SPECIALISTS ON INDUSTRIAL RESTRUCTURING

Progress Report

1. During the period under review, as stipulated by its programme of work, the Team of Specialists on Industrial Restructuring (TOSIR) contributed to the organization of the Regional Forum on “Social Aspects and Financing of Industrial Restructuring”, which was held in Moscow on 26-27 November 2003 upon invitation from the Government of the Russian Federation. This event was organized under the joint auspices of UNECE and the International Labour Organization. It brought together 139 representatives of governments, private companies, labour unions and academia from 15 UNECE member countries, as well as representatives of the International Labour Organization and the European Commission.
2. The secretariat prepared for publication the Summary Proceedings of the above-mentioned Regional Forum, and by the time of the sixth session of the Working Party this report will have been out of print. It also placed the note for discussion, texts of presentations and the report on the Regional Forum on the WWW site of WP.8 at <http://www.unece.org/ie/wp8/documents/novsem.htm>.
3. During the same reporting period, at the invitation of the Government of Kazakhstan TOSIR contributed to the organization of a Forum on “Public-Private Cooperation in Industrial Restructuring” (2-3 November 2004, Almaty, Kazakhstan). It was organized under the joint auspices of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and UNECE and with support from the Russian-based “PACC Consulting I Audit” and Kazakh-based “Tenir Project”.

The Forum, attended by 104 participants from 14 UNECE member States, adopted recommendations to the central, regional and municipal authorities of transition economies. The notes for discussion, texts of presentations, report on the Forum as well as its recommendations can be found at <http://www.unece.org/ie/wp8/documents/almaty.htm>.

4. In February and November 2004, TOSIR held respectively its fourth and fifth sessions. At its fifth session, the Team noted that its work programme, which had been adopted by its first meeting in May 2002 and endorsed by the WP.8, was accomplished. It supported the recommendation by the Enlarged Bureau of the Working Party to rename the TOS as Team of Specialists on Industrial Restructuring and Competitiveness, and refocus its mandate accordingly. It asked the secretariat to update the mandate of the TOS and present it to the sixth session of the WP.8.

5. The Working Party may wish to take the following decisions:

- (i) to request the Committee for Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development to rename the Team of Specialists on Industrial Restructuring as the Team of Specialists on Industrial Restructuring and Competitiveness, and to approve its refocused mandate;
- (ii) to request the Committee to extend the mandate of the Team of Specialists on Industrial Restructuring and Competitiveness for one more year.
