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TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
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Expert Meeting on Positive Corporate
Contributions to the Economic and Social
Development of Host Developing Countries
Geneva, 31 October – 2 November 2005

**REPORT OF THE EXPERT MEETING ON POSITIVE CORPORATE
CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF
HOST DEVELOPING COUNTRIES**

Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva
from 31 October to 2 November 2005

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Chapter I

CHAIRPERSON'S SUMMARY

Introduction

1. The discussions of the expert meeting on agenda item 3 were structured according to the following themes:

- Investment in developing countries
- Provision of goods and services
- Employment creation, upgrading the skills of the local workforce, and creation of linkages
- Technology transfer, ethical business behaviour, and minimizing the negative effects of business restructuring
- The role of policy and the way forward

For each theme, the expert discussion focused on stocktaking, rationale, impact and effectiveness, possible improvements, and the role of national (home and host country) and international policy in light of identified best practices.

2. In his opening address, the Officer-in-Charge of UNCTAD's Division on Investment, Technology and Enterprise Development (DITE) said that UNCTAD XI had recognized that "corporate actors have a positive role to play in stimulating the economic development of host countries and in supporting social and environmental development and the competitiveness of local enterprises". The sustainability of business operations increasingly required attention to the long-term outcomes of these operations and to the relationship between the corporation and the communities in which it operated. This was particularly important with regard to the impact of corporations on development through their core business activities – namely, investing capital in productive capacity, producing quality goods and services at affordable prices, creating jobs, generating public revenues and establishing forward and backward linkages in the process, and supporting these linkages through the transfer of technology, ethical business practices and efforts to minimize the negative effects of business restructuring. At the same time, different approaches and interpretations led to a need to develop a common language concerning corporate contributions to development. The meeting would constitute a first step in this direction. He called for a broad-based and wide-ranging participatory dialogue on what the concept could involve, and what win-win arrangements could be created between host countries and firms.

3. In his introduction to agenda item 3, the Chief of the International Arrangements Section of the Policy and Capacity-Building Branch of DITE stressed that the primary contribution of corporations to development was economic in nature and that governments had pursued a number of policies to maximize this contribution and minimize possible negative effects deriving from corporate activities. At the same time, the role and

responsibility of corporations had also been a focus of attention, including in the debate on attaining the Millennium Development Goals. The matter at hand was not limited either to the seven issue areas identified in the secretariat note or to the role of transnational corporations (TNCs); there were other areas that could be considered as constituting positive corporate contributions to the development of host developing countries.

Investment in developing countries

4. The panellist from UNDP stressed the important role of policy dialogue between TNCs and local players in order to better understand the obstacles to foreign investment and to identify markets and opportunities that would satisfy basic needs such as access to water, transportation, waste removal and energy. Pointing to the role of public-private partnerships in this regard, he elaborated on four types of partnerships involving the United Nations, including the Global Compact; the sharing of expertise, material and funding; policy dialogue; and the Global Sustainable Business Initiative. The main questions were how to create a win-win situation for corporations and host countries, and how to ensure that investment capital was channelled to meeting the essential needs of the people.

5. The panellist from the World Business Council for Sustainable Development pointed to the growing reliance on the private sector to satisfy basic needs as an increasingly important trend in developing countries. Stressing that corporations could profitably conduct business with the poor, she gave several examples of private-sector investment in social infrastructure contributing positively to the socio-economic development of host developing countries. She emphasized that TNCs were increasingly looking to developing countries for new markets, supplies and labour, and that governments for their part should work to create a favourable investment climate to attract TNCs.

6. The panellist from McKinsey highlighted the importance of social trends and the long-term influence of social factors on business development. Understanding the specificities of the social and economic conditions of host countries and addressing social and economic concerns was crucial for corporate investment strategies, not only from an ethical perspective but also, and more importantly so, from a long-term business perspective, since the long-term maximization of shareholder value included matters related to corporate economic responsibility. At the same time, corporations did not want to be seen as interfering in the domestic affairs of host countries. The challenge for governments was to take advantage of existing positive corporate contributions. The challenge for companies was to build up management expertise. A roster of best practices could help in this regard.

7. The panellist from Chad stressed the need to learn more about positive contributions by TNCs to the economic and social development of host developing countries, especially in light of the fight against the HIV-AIDS pandemic. She referred to the positive experience, in Chad, of newly established sugar enterprises that had made their medical facilities available not only to their own employees but to the local community. She emphasized the important role of private-public partnerships in addressing some of the issues related to the fight against HIV-AIDS, as well as other fundamental development issues.

8. The panellist from Pakistan gave an overview of his country's investment climate, pointing to sectors in which investment had occurred and those in which more investment was needed. He discussed the contribution of foreign companies to his country's economic and social development. Comparing Pakistan's investment position with those of India and China, he stressed the need to continually analyse and evaluate investment determinants, including in relation to government policy. It was necessary to find an appropriate balance between private- and public-sector responsibilities with regard to development objectives.

9. The panellist from the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions said that the debate should not only focus on the maximization of positive corporate contributions but also take into account how to minimize the negative effects of corporate activity. Pointing to the example of the ILO Tripartite Declaration, he emphasized the need to look also at qualitative aspects of corporate contributions, including matters related to social protection, social dialogue and the business impact on social institutions. The discussion should be broadened to consider how to strengthen government institutions, and how corporations could contribute to reducing informal economic relationships by widening the formal economy.

10. In the ensuing discussion, questions were raised regarding the precise definitions of general terms such as "corporate responsibility", "corporate social responsibility" and "positive corporate contribution", and regarding the notion of a corporate responsibility for development, as well as UNCTAD's mandate in this regard. The continued importance of assessing the impact of foreign direct investment (FDI) was highlighted, as was the need to learn from existing instruments, such as the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Global Compact, and their implementation. Also mentioned was the need to find common language concerning the delineation of the subject matter and the role of UNCTAD. Suggestions included providing a forum for business and governments to develop a common understanding of what the role of business should be, including with regard to establishing the boundaries of the responsibility of companies and governments in a clear and concise manner. UNCTAD should also strive to add the developing-country perspective to a debate driven mostly by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) from the North.

Provision of goods and services

11. The panellist from Merck pointed to the role of corporate contributions in promoting economic development and peace and democracy. Highlighting the role of corporations in the discovery and supply of innovative new medicines as crucial in improving the quality of life, she stressed that enhancing health in developing countries had fundamental political and economic benefits. She explained how her company facilitated access to HIV-AIDS medicines by promoting and participating in public-private partnerships, engaging in capacity building and training programmes and infrastructure investments and, where appropriate, offering discounts on essential medicines.

12. The panellist from Caterpillar pointed to his company's environmentally friendly re-manufacturing techniques as an effective way to reduce waste and maximize efficiency in the interest of developing-country customers. He stressed the importance of free trade and the elimination of existing trade barriers to allow positive corporate contributions to flourish.

13. The panellist from Hewlett Packard (HP) introduced HP's Micro-Enterprise Acceleration Program, which uses open-source Internet-based information and communication technologies to strengthen the skills of micro-business owners in this field, thus contributing to job creation and skills upgrading. The programme also provides equipment to training institutions and helps them add courses in this field to their curricula. It is being implemented in collaboration with national organizations, NGOs and UN agencies.

14. The panellist from Burkina Faso reiterated the need to learn about how the private sector can contribute to development beyond mere investment. He described Burkina Faso's development strategy and recent improvements in the country's legal and economic environment, and he mentioned job creation and infrastructure development (among others) as central strategic objectives of the overall development strategy for which private-sector contributions were sought. To properly address this issue would not only require appropriate measures to promote FDI but also be a question of corporate responsibility.

15. The panellist from Panama said that the definition of corporate social responsibility (CSR) went beyond legal norms related to labour quality, environment and human rights and the implementation of standards (in particular ISO standards). She described her country's experiences with corporate responsibility issues and stressed the need to foster public involvement in initiatives emanating from the private sector through partnership approaches and engagement programmes at the national and regional levels.

16. The panellist from CUTS International illustrated the pros and cons of corporate development contributions in the context of the Bhutan experience and Indian industry's role in that country. He pointed to the need for regulatory action to ensure that corporate contributions benefited the local economy and mentioned the role of competition policy in this regard. Stressing the unevenness in development even within developing countries, he reiterated the need to establish clear boundaries between government and private-sector responsibilities. This would not exclude public-private sector partnerships, which could be essential for addressing some of the most fundamental development issues such as poverty alleviation.

17. In the ensuing discussion, questions were raised about the role of incentives and the need to align positive corporate contributions with national development strategies in the interest of safeguarding the development opportunities of the local economy. Public-private partnerships would need to be formulated and implemented taking into account specific local needs and circumstances, their impact on the policy space of the host country, and the need to coordinate with other ongoing national and international development efforts. To be successful, partnerships and corporations needed to be aware of local conditions and take them into account. Consideration should also be given to underlying market conditions, which were influenced by the availability of appropriate products and services, sufficient infrastructure and government regulatory policy such as competition regulations. In addition, where market mechanisms were insufficient to alleviate poverty, public authorities might need to take a leading role, and in some cases aid programmes would need to be considered. Here, UN programmes such as UNDP could act as catalysts for integrating aid, as a form of seed capital, into the enhancement and facilitation of positive corporate contributions to development.

Employment creation, enhancement of skill levels and creation of linkages

18. The panellist from Unilever said that the synergies that might emerge from linkages between TNCs and local enterprises had great potential to create new employers, which in turn would generate new jobs. This would contribute to the growth of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in particular. However, the latter could only thrive in an enabling environment characterized by economic and political stability, transparency and adequate (physical, institutional and social) infrastructure. Civil society would play a crucial role in deepening our understanding of complex systems underlying prosperity. Elaborating on Unilever practices in India and Indonesia, he pointed to the indirect employment effects of backward (supplier networks) and forward (sales networks) linkages. Citing a recent study by Oxfam and Unilever, he said that for Indonesia this effect would amount to a factor of 100, with 3,000 direct employees in prime driving position in a value chain comprising 300,000 full-time employee equivalents. While this demonstrated the leverage of TNC-generated employment, it could also highlight major vulnerabilities in parts of the value chain that undermined its sustainability.

19. The panellist from BASF described BASF Brazil's 2015 policy, which includes sustainable development as one of its four major goals. This includes a supplier development policy that focuses on meeting the company's quality standards and input expectations through technology transfer, training and continued surveillance mechanisms, including through a public-private partnership that involves ETHOS, the German Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit, UNCTAD and BASF. The company engages in this process so as to ensure effective and uninterrupted supply for the company's local production and thus improve the productive ability of local suppliers.

20. The panellist from Nestlé stressed the multiplier effects of corporate contributions in the economic domain. He also described his company's policies towards backward (supply of raw materials) and forward (sales services) linkages, highlighting the possibilities of relatively low-technology approaches.

21. The panellist from Jamaica emphasized the importance of employment creation by TNCs in the major sectors of the Jamaican economy. In an open-door economy such as that adopted by Jamaica in recent years, the importance of corporate contributions to employment and skills generation could not be underestimated. Giving examples of such corporate policies, she showed that foreign investors in Jamaica displayed a clear social conscience in this regard (especially in financial services, mining and telecommunications). This also extended beyond these areas, as had been demonstrated by Cable & Wireless's efforts to keep Jamaica connected through a major hurricane. Nonetheless, the policy framework needed to facilitate CSR.

22. The panellist from Indonesia commented on the Oxfam/Unilever case study and said that FDI had played a positive role in developing his country's economy, including with regard to resource mobilization, linkages development and employment. He emphasized the need to encourage collaboration between governments and corporations so as to increase the opportunities for governments to avail themselves of the positive contributions that corporations could make.

23. The panellist from FairVentures highlighted an example of a home country measure designed to stimulate and facilitate positive corporate contributions to development (BiD Challenge). This public-private initiative provides an Internet-based facility that connects venture capital with small-scale business opportunities in developing countries through a competitive screening process of business plans submitted by small and micro entrepreneurs in developing countries, the provision of expert advice and coaching (by TNCs) and the provision of finance for the projects that are selected.

24. The panellist from Procter & Gamble stressed the importance of aligning the business case for entering a developing country with its development needs. If there were no business case for entry, any involvement would be limited and ultimately unsustainable. It was important to find new business models that incorporated the issue of development-oriented innovation in terms of both products and distribution. He gave a number of examples of how his company addressed these issues. He also explained the value of civil society partners with an understanding of local distribution channels in developing countries as an aid to the dissemination of development-enhancing products that might otherwise not have reached the consumers who could benefit most from their use.

25. In the ensuing discussion, questions were raised regarding environmental sustainability, the role of women as distributors and consumers of affordable goods and services, and the need to define affordability in light of specific country circumstances. Another issue that was raised concerned the effects of TNC operations on the local market structure and the need to safeguard against the crowding out of local companies, products and customs. In this context, the role of competition policy was stressed. Reference was also made to scalability, sustainability and replication of best practices and the need for increased understanding of how such questions should be approached. UNCTAD could look at economic development as part of CSR. This could include examining how to help countries address issues related to the balancing of corporate contributions and development needs so as to ensure that the positive contributions of TNC presence were maximized.

Transfer of technology to host countries, ethical business behaviour and minimizing the negative effects of business restructuring

26. The panellist from Rio Tinto emphasized that there was no dichotomy between socio-economic responsibility and building shareholder value. For example, access to land (an essential factor of production in his company's business) was no longer possible without observance of ethical considerations, such as the rights of indigenous peoples. Equally important were matters related to the development of a strong and uniform ethics policy that was applicable throughout the entire network of the enterprise, without any exceptions. Although almost 90 per cent of his firm's operations were now concentrated in developed countries (Australia and the United States), similar ethical issues (e.g. indigenous people's rights) could arise regardless of the host country's level of development. Working in partnership with civil society, government and international organizations was a major aspect of his firm's CSR policy. Such partnering would allow firms to extend their approaches to responsibility to all partners in the development process. The Southern Madagascar regional development plan and the company's leveraging of international and national organizations'

provision of funds, expertise and material were examples of such beneficial multi-party cooperation. He gave further examples of his company's commitment to CSR.

27. The panellist from the Syngenta Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture said that agricultural smallholders were in fact private-sector actors, not aid recipients. In order to ensure the sustainability of their activities, they needed help, in particular where value chains were affected by market failures concerning access to markets, technology, finance, and information technology. All these functions were private sector driven. Accordingly, his foundation advocated an economic-actor-based approach for rural micro enterprise. He stressed the importance of microfinance and social capital formulation, which could alleviate risks to smallholders exposed to crop failure, business failure and land degradation.

28. The panellist from the Geneva Social Observatory stressed the need for coherence and coordination in pursuing multiple public-private partnerships and the need for stimulating dialogue in a multi-stakeholder setting that ought to include TNCs, SMEs, the informal sector, civil society and international agencies. Pointing to experiences with the implementation and expiration of the Multifiber Agreement, she stressed the need to combine corporate, governmental and intergovernmental approaches to adequately address the disruptions caused by the transformation of the global economy.

29. The ensuing discussion focused on the need to scale up and replicate best practices in development contributions and the role of policy in this context. The latter needed to take into account the fact that corporate development contributions were driven by issues related to reputation (as a defensive notion), opportunity (reflecting the dynamic development nature of developing-country markets) and internal aspirations of the workforce (as opposite to outside pressure from governments and/or civil society). Ethical business considerations needed to include restraint in the expectation of using and benefiting from government incentives and the use of restrictive business practices. Related issues could also be addressed through appropriate training of developing-country officials charged with negotiating in multilateral forums dealing with these issues and with TNCs in investment agreement negotiations. UNCTAD should play a role in this regard. Regarding technology transfer, it was stressed that joint ventures were a prime vehicle for ensuring dissemination and intake. Equally important were training and the development of national capacity to absorb technology. This would require adequately addressing uptake problems with foreign technologies and ensuring that any technology market failures could be mitigated through appropriate regulatory responses and voluntary corporate initiatives.

The role of policy and the way forward

30. The panellist from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) stressed the need to view corporate responsibility initiatives in their specific market contexts. The examples of corporate activities presented during the meeting showed this to be the case by the very fact of their diversity as regarded products, services and countries involved. Any emerging research agenda in this field would need to address this diversity. Focusing on the legal dimension of corporate responsibilities in the field of economic development, he said that trends in investment arbitration case law suggested that certain corporate conduct

obligations were inherent in the protective principles found in international investment agreements. He emphasized the general principle prohibiting unconscionable corporate behaviour and two economic responsibilities: (a) to assess the risk of an investment properly and with due diligence, and (b) to conduct the investment with reasonable care in accordance with sound business principles. Finally, he stressed that corporations' duty to obey the law in this field was not merely a duty of form but a duty of substance.

31. The panellist from the World Economic Forum (WEF) stressed that achieving the Millennium Development Goals was far from ensured and mentioned the important role of the private sector in this regard, in particular insofar as public-private partnerships were concerned. However, as recent research by the WEF had shown, a number of obstacles impeded the scaling up of such partnerships. Additional facilitation, brokering and negotiating support was needed to help bridge the cultural differences and other barriers that such partnerships encountered. Here international organizations, including UNCTAD, could play an important role, including by providing facilitation and guidance, disseminating best practices and providing capacity-building help for the private- and public-sector elements involved.

32. The panellist from the UN Global Compact introduced the Global Compact and the way it approached the issue of CSR. He stressed the importance of local networks for the development of constructive dialogue concerning the nature, contents and impact of the Global Compact. He cited two unique features of UNCTAD's role: its extensive network of government contacts, particularly in emerging markets and developing countries, and its well-recognized reputation for research on foreign investment and trade issues. UNCTAD was particularly well positioned to discuss the proper role of international investment and trade agreements in the development dimension of CSR and the link between responsible business and CSR.

33. The panellist from the UN Research Institute for Social Development reflected on the institutional and policy dimensions of corporate responsibility. There were limits to what could be learned about this issue by focusing narrowly on positive contributions and best practices. It was necessary to assess how the positive was doing in relation to the negative. Citing a number of recent studies on the role of foreign investment in the development process, he noted the development of new approaches to this matter which focused on the actual effects of TNCs' presence on the local economy. In addition, it was necessary to focus on the role of institutional and political economy factors – "the drivers" – that determined whether CSR was effective and which could explain how such initiatives could be scaled up, ratcheted up and replicated in different industries and countries. In relation to political economy issues, he identified two key questions: (a) how to increase the bargaining power of disadvantaged stakeholders in the value chain, and (b) whether TNCs were working with, or at least not resisting, activist and advocacy groups. In relation to national and international policy issues, he stressed the need to apply a developmental policy network, rather than merely concentrating on economic stabilization and liberalization. Furthermore, it was important to consider the framework of corporate accountability and to examine the relationship between voluntary and regulatory approaches so as to ascertain the complementarities between them.

34. The ensuing discussion focused on the limitation of the corporate responsibility concept and the legitimate role of government in providing essential goods and services, especially in relation to public-private partnerships in developing countries. Should corporations accept what might be regarded as governmental functions, this could entail responsibilities in public law under certain national legal systems. To avoid such problems, care should be taken to delimit accurately the respective functions of the private and public partners with a view towards dividing the commercial and governmental responsibilities between them. The ILO Tripartite Declaration of Principles Concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy was mentioned as a reference point for the debate. The important role of other international organizations such as the World Bank and the World Food Programme was also mentioned, as was the experience with the OECD National Contact Points. In addition, the gender dimension of CSR was highlighted as an area that deserved attention in the light of the potential for discrimination in the workplace and the impact of international investment and trade policies on women. Certain discussants repeated their concern about an excessive focus on positive corporate contributions and stressed the need for balanced approaches based on the primacy of development concerns and not merely the concerns of economic growth as such. A further concern related to the question of the social responsibility of firms and how this could be operationalized through appropriate management systems. One discussant said that the essence of CSR was the promotion of human decency in business. A further set of issues related to the impact of CSR practices on FDI and trade, and on national policy responses, including the "CSR-friendliness" of a business location. In this context, the issue of CSR as a protectionist advice to hinder free trade was also aired.

35. In relation to public-private partnerships, it was pointed out that many of the early expectations and hopes for such devices had been unrealistic and that it was now possible to see not only opportunities but also limitations and to address how to overcome the latter. Regarding the Global Compact, concerns were expressed that it could evolve into a binding instrument, contrary to the intentions of its founders. In response, a number of discussants pointed out that the only sanction available under the Global Compact was to withdraw membership from any corporate participant that failed to comply, within two years, with the reporting obligations under the Compact. One participant noted that when a company signed up to the Global Compact and publicly asserted its commitment to the Global Compact's standards, this could amount to a binding representation to this effect. That could have actual legal consequences under various national laws. Moreover, an acceptance was emerging, particularly among civil society groups that had hitherto called for a binding instrument, that voluntary approaches to CSR played an important role as part of a multi-pronged approach to achieving this goal. Finally, the discussion turned to some of the legal consequences of firms' participation in CSR initiatives.

36. In his closing remarks, the Officer-in-Charge of DITE summarized experts' views on UNCTAD's work programme in this area. UNCTAD's work on corporate contributions was embedded in the secretariat's overall work programme on helping developing countries to attract and benefit from FDI and minimize the negative effects of TNC operations. It thus complemented and reinforced activities such as the Investment Policy Reviews, the *World Investment Report*, the work programme on international investment agreements, the

enterprise development and business linkages programmes, and UNCTAD's work in relation to competition policy and the implementation of the UN Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices. All these elements of work combined provided a balanced and holistic approach to investment and development, including on the issue of corporate contributions to development.

37. The experts' discussion had suggested four broad areas for UNCTAD's work on corporate contributions:

- To provide a forum for constructive dialogue between governments, business and other development stakeholders to develop a common understanding of the role of business in development and to establish a common vision on how such a role could be enhanced through partnership among all development stakeholders within the framework of the São Paulo mandate.
- To take stock of best practices and assess the effectiveness and impact of existing practices in corporate contributions to development, so as to facilitate the exchange of experiences and the dissemination of best corporate practices. This should also include addressing questions related to the scalability, sustainability and replication of best practices, including how to link aid and FDI with corporate development contributions, and how best to develop corporate management systems so that these elements could be incorporated into business decision making at all corporate levels (and especially at the level of foreign affiliates in host developing countries). Furthermore, this aspect should address issues related to the role of national (host and home country) and international policies to enhance and facilitate corporate contributions to development.
- To help countries address issues related to the link between corporate contributions and development needs so as to ensure that the positive contributions of TNCs' presence were maximized, and to raise awareness in developing countries concerning corporate contributions to development and provide training and capacity building for developing-country officials and investment promotion agencies in setting up and implementing policy measures to encourage and facilitate corporate development contributions.
- To complement UNCTAD's work on corporate governance in the context of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting.

Chapter II

ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

Convening of the Expert Meeting

38. The Expert Meeting on Positive Corporate Contributions to the Economic and Social Development of Host Developing Countries was held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, from 31 October to 2 November 2005.

Election of officers (agenda item 1)

39. At its opening meeting, the Expert Meeting elected the following officers to serve on its bureau:

Chairperson: H. E. Mr. W. C. Strømme (Norway)
Vice-Chairperson-cum-Rapporteur: Mr. A. Aljowaily (Egypt)

Adoption of the agenda (agenda item 2)

40. At the same meeting, the Expert Meeting adopted the provisional agenda circulated in document TD/B/COM.2/EM.17/1. The agenda for the meeting was thus as follows:

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Positive corporate contributions to the economic and social development of host developing countries
4. Adoption of the report of the meeting

Documentation

41. For its consideration of the substantive agenda item, the Expert Meeting had before it a note by the UNCTAD secretariat titled “Positive Corporate Contributions to the Economic and Social Development of Host Developing Countries” (TD/B/COM.2/EM.17/2).

Adoption of the report of the meeting (agenda item 4)

42. At its closing meeting, the Expert Meeting authorized the Rapporteur to prepare the final report of the meeting under the authority of the Chairperson.

Annex

ATTENDANCE *

1. Experts from the following States members of UNCTAD attended the meeting:

Algeria	Jordan
Angola	Norway
China	Oman
Cuba	Philippines
Egypt	Poland
Finland	Republic of Korea
France	Sweden
Germany	Switzerland
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Thailand
Italy	United States of America

2. The following intergovernmental organization was represented at the meeting:
African Union

3. The following United Nations organization was represented at the meeting:
United Nations Institute for Research and Disarmament

4. The following specialized agencies and related organizations were represented at the meeting:
International Labour Organization
United Nations Industrial Development Organization

5. The following observer organization attended the meeting:
Intergovernmental Organisation for International Carriage by Rail

* For the list of participants, see TD/B/COM.2/EM.17/INF.1.

6. The following panellists attended the meeting:

Investment in developing countries

Mr. Christophe Nuttall, Director, Centre for Innovative Partnerships, UNDP, Geneva

Ms. Jacqueline Cote, Senior Advisor, Advocacy and Partnerships, World Business Council for Sustainable Development

Mr. Daniel Litvin, Consultant, McKinsey and Company

Ms. Odjimbeye Soukate Ngarmbatina, Minister, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Chad

Mr. Muhammad Akram Khan, Director, Board of Investment, Pakistan

Mr. Dwight Justice, Multinational Enterprises Department, International Confederation of Free Trade Unions

Provision of goods and services

Ms. Susan Crowley, Senior Director, International Organizations Relations, Merck

Mr. Thomas Sobocinski, Intellectual Capital Department, EAME Marketing, Caterpillar

Mr. Didier Philippe, Director, CSR and Micro Enterprise Acceleration Program, Europe, Middle East and Africa, Hewlett-Packard

Mr. Lancina Ki, Managing Director, Private Sector Promotion, Burkina Faso

Ms. Lourdes M. Perez, National Directorate of Services for External Trade, Panama

Mr. Nitya Nanda, Policy Analyst, CUTS International, India

Employment creation, enhancement of skill levels and creation of linkages

Mr. Andre van Heemstra, Personnel Director, Unilever

Mr. Vitor Seravalli, Director, Diretoria Industrial e Vernizes, BASF SA, Brazil

Mr. Juan Carluccio, Economist, Economic and International Relations Unit, Nestlé

Mrs. Marlene A. N. Parker, Senior Director for Research and Financial Services, The Private Sector Organization, Jamaica

Mr. John A. van Duursen, Founder, Fair Ventures, Amsterdam, Netherlands

Technology transfer, ethical business behaviour and minimizing the negative effects of business restructuring

Mr. Peter R. White, Associate Director for Corporate Sustainable Development, Procter & Gamble

Mr. John Hall, Manager, Corporate Relations, External Affairs, Rio Tinto, London, United Kingdom

Dr. Nikolaus Schultze, Head of Strategy, Syngenta Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture

Mr. Darmawan Djajusman, Director of Investment Deregulation, Investment Coordinating Board, Indonesia

Ms. Katherine Hagan, Director, Geneva Social Observatory

The role of policy and the way forward

Mr. Peter Muchlinski, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London

Ms. Lisa Dreier, Associate Director, Policy and Governance, World Economic Forum

Mr. Jonas Moberg, Senior Advisor, United Nations Global Compact

Mr. Peter Utting, Deputy Director, United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

7. The following special invitees attended the meeting:

Mr. Osvaldo Agatiello, Consultant, Geneva, Switzerland

Dr. Jem Bendell, Director, Lifeworth, London, United Kingdom

Ms. Francesca Boldrini, Director, Global Health Initiative, World Economic Forum, Cologny, Switzerland

Mr. Bernardo Calzadilla-Sarmiento, Director, ISO Development and Training Programme, International Organization for Standardization, Geneva, Switzerland

Ms. Annie Dufey, International Institute for Environment and Development, London, United Kingdom

Ms. Valérie Engammare, Regional Manager, South East Asia, Swiss Organization for Facilitating Investment, Berne, Switzerland

Ms. Meg Jones, Consultant, Evian Group, Lausanne, Switzerland

Mr. Roch Schenk, Intern, Evian Group, Lausanne, Switzerland

Ms. Valerie Weinzierl, Senior Project Manager, Global Institute for Partnership and Governance, World Economic Forum, Cologny, Switzerland
