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TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Twelfth executive session
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Item 4 (d) of the provisional agenda

DESIGNATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL
ORGANIZATIONS FOR THE PURPOSES OF RULE 77 OF THE
RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE BOARD

Application by the International Institute for Sustainable Development

Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

1. The UNCTAD secretariat has received an application from the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD), requesting the inclusion of that organization by the Trade and Development Board in the list provided for in rule 77 of the Board's rules of procedure.
2. Having reviewed the information provided, the secretariat is of the opinion that, subject to the concurrence of the Bureau of the Trade and Development Board, IISD may be classified in the general category under the provision of paragraph 12 (a) of Board decision 43 (VII).
3. The Board may wish to take action on the above-mentioned application at its current session in the light of the recommendation of the Bureau.
4. Some information regarding IISD is annexed.

This document is at this stage intended for the information of States members of UNCTAD and its distribution is, therefore, restricted for their exclusive use. It is proposed to de-restrict the document in due course.

Annex

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

History

1. The Canadian International Institute for Sustainable Development was established in March 1990 as part of Canada's response to the work and findings of the World Commission on Environment and Development, also referred to as the "Brundtland Commission", which ceased its activities on 31 December 1987. The name of the organization was changed to International Institute for Sustainable Development in September 1990.

Aims and objectives

2. According to article III of its document of incorporation, the mandate of IISD is to promote the concept of environmentally sustainable economic development and the integration of the principles and practices of sustainable development within and between the public, private and voluntary sectors on a national and international basis through (a) identifying, supporting, promoting and conducting research in the field of sustainable development; (b) initiating and supporting education and information programmes that increase the understanding and knowledge of the principles and benefits of sustainable development; (c) providing information and promoting exchange of information, knowledge, skills and technology for sustainable development in Canada and other countries; and (d) assisting communities, regions and countries in assessing their need for relevant economic and environmental data, skills, technologies, infrastructure and funding and assisting them in helping them find resources to meet those needs.

Membership

3. IISD is composed of 13 members from the following countries: Algeria, Canada, Ghana, Indonesia, Jamaica, Netherlands, Pakistan, and Sweden.

Structure

4. The principal governing body of IISD is the Board of Directors, comprising up to 25 and not less than five directors. The Board meets at least twice a year and establishes an Executive Committee which comprises the Chairperson and President and at least three other directors elected by the Board. The Board may appoint committees and panels of experts. The officers of the institute are the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.

Financial resources

5. The resources of IISD are derived from donations from governments, international organizations and foundations and the sale of products and services. The annual budget is in excess of Can \$ 5 million.

Relations with other international organizations

6. IISD maintains working relations with the United Nations Development Programme and has been accredited to the Commission for Sustainable Development.

Publications

7. A catalogue lists IISD publications which range from short reports to books. The "Earth Negotiation Bulletin" provides coverage of major environment and development negotiations at the United Nations. Among its periodic publications are the monthly IISD Update, a bi-monthly publication entitled "Developing Ideas" and a quarterly newsletter.

Liaison

8. Liaison with UNCTAD will be maintained by the President, Mr. Arthur J. Hanson.

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10. The working language of the Institute is English.