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Agenda item 17

Macroeconomic policy questions

Report of the Second Committee*

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Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 15 September 2017, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled:

“Macroeconomic policy questions:

“(a) International trade and development;

“(b) International financial system and development;

“(c) External debt sustainability and development;

“(d) Commodities;

“(e) Financial inclusion for sustainable development;

“(f) Promotion of international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows in order to foster sustainable development”

and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on the item at its 6th and 7th meetings, on 5 October 2017. An account of the Committee’s discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records.¹ Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 2nd to 5th meetings, on 2 and 3 October.² An account of the Committee’s further consideration of the item is provided in the addenda to the present report.

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in seven parts, under the symbols [A/72/418](#), [A/72/418/Add.1](#), [A/72/418/Add.2](#), [A/72/418/Add.3](#), [A/72/418/Add.4](#), [A/72/418/Add.5](#) and [A/72/418/Add.6](#).

¹ [A/C.2/72/SR.6](#) and [A/C.2/72/SR.7](#).

² See [A/C.2/72/SR.2](#), [A/C.2/72/SR.3](#), [A/C.2/72/SR.4](#) and [A/C.2/72/SR.5](#).



3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

Item 17**Macroeconomic policy questions**

Letter dated 27 September 2017 from the Permanent Representative of Ecuador to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Ministerial Declaration adopted at the forty-first annual meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Group of 77, held in New York on 22 September 2017 ([A/72/511](#))

Letter dated 9 October 2017 from the Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Ministerial Declaration adopted at the annual ministerial meeting of the least developed countries, held in New York on 22 September 2017 ([A/72/548](#))

Item 17 (a)**International trade and development**

Report of the Trade and Development Board on its sixty-third session, Geneva, 5–9 December 2016 ([A/72/15 \(Part I\)](#))

Report of the Trade and Development Board on its sixty-fourth executive session, Geneva, 6–8 February 2017 ([A/72/15 \(Part II\)](#))

Report of the Trade and Development Board on its thirty-first special session, Geneva, 5 April 2017 ([A/72/15 \(Part III\)](#))

Report of the Trade and Development Board on its sixty-fifth executive session, Geneva, 17 July 2017 ([A/72/15 \(Part IV\)](#))

Report of the Trade and Development Board on its sixty-sixth regular session, Geneva, 11–22 September 2017 ([A/72/15 \(Part V\)](#))

Report of the Secretary-General on international trade and development ([A/72/274](#))

Report of the Secretary-General on unilateral economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries ([A/72/307](#) and [A/72/307/Add.1](#))

Item 17 (b)**International financial system and development**

Report of the Secretary-General on the international financial system and development ([A/72/306](#))

Item 17 (c)**External debt sustainability and development**

Report of the Secretary-General on external debt sustainability and development ([A/72/253](#))

Item 17 (d)**Commodities**

Report of the Secretary-General on world commodity trends and prospects ([A/72/254](#))

Item 17 (e)
Financial inclusion for sustainable development

No documents were submitted under this sub-item

Item 17 (f)
Promotion of international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows in order to foster sustainable development

No documents were submitted under this sub-item

4. At its 6th meeting, on 5 October, the Committee heard introductory statements by the President of the Trade and Development Board (under item 17 (a)); the Director of the Financing for Development Office of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (under item 17 (b)); the Head of the Debt and Development Finance Branch of the Division on Globalization and Development Strategies of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) (under item 17 (c)); a representative of the Development Policy and Analysis Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (under item 17 (a)); and a representative of UNCTAD (under items 17 (a) and (d)).

5. At the 25th meeting, on 17 November, the representative of the United States of America made a statement with regard to the draft resolutions before the Committee.³

6. At the 26th and 27th meetings, on 28 and 30 November, the Chair drew the attention of the Committee to the informal conference room papers, circulated in English only, containing the final agreed text for insertion where indicated in the relevant draft resolutions before the Committee.⁴

7. At the 27th meeting, on 30 November, the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela made a statement with regard to the draft resolutions adopted by the Committee.⁵

³ See [A/C.2/72/SR.25](#).

⁴ See [A/C.2/72/SR.26](#) and [A/C.2/72/SR.27](#).

⁵ See [A/C.2/72/SR.27](#).