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COMMITTEE FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND
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DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK, 2002-2003
Committee for Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development

Note by the secretariat

This draft programme of work has been submitted for approval. It was prepared by the secretariat and approved by the Bureau for submission to the Committee.

A set of priorities for the Committee's main areas of work is approved every two years. The last set was approved at the Committee's June 2000 session and the proposal for the next two years can be found in the addendum to this document (TRADE/2002/16/Add.1).

This programme of work takes into account the deliberations of the Committee at its fifth session, and the decisions taken by the Commission at its fifty-sixth session in May 2001. The discussion will also take into consideration any relevant recommendations resulting from that Commission session.

In this document, the activities listed "Work Accomplished" took place between May 2001 and May 2002 and the "Activities to be Undertaken" will be either completed or started between June 2002 and June 2003.

The programme of work takes into account the sharing of responsibilities by the Trade Division and the Coordinating Unit for Operational Activities for servicing the work programme

Information on the work under the Committee can be found on its website: <http://www.unece.org/trade>

I. COMMITTEE FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT: ITS FUNCTION AND GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Introduction

1. The 1997 Plan of Action, which implemented the reform of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), transformed the Committee on the Development of Trade into the Committee for Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development. This “new” Committee was given enlarged, as well as new, responsibilities under a single UNECE Sub-Programme designated as: Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development.

2. Following strategic reflections on the lessons of implementing the Committee’s Programme of Work, the following conclusions were reached:

- the existing subprogramme has proved to be too diverse, involving many different networks covering trade, industry and enterprise development;
- furthermore, this variety and range of issues makes difficult the planning of activities in the context of the programme budget, as well as their monitoring and reporting in compliance with requirements from the United Nations Office of Internal Oversight (OIOS);
- within the existing subprogramme, two distinct "nexus of issues" can be identified as follows:
 - (a) those issues related to trade development, including: improving the institutional environment for trade; establishing and harmonizing norms, standards and guidelines related to trade and trade facilitation; and examining the impact of these areas on trade policies at a national, regional and international level within the multilateral trade framework.
 - (b) those issues related to industrial restructuring and enterprise development, including: promoting the development of institutional environment conducive to sustainable industrial activities; good corporate governance; intellectual property and real estate markets; iv) enterprise creation; and capacity-building for e-business.

3. In view of the above, the 2002-2003 programme of work is organized in two parts: a Trade Development component, for which the Trade Division is responsible, and an Industrial Restructuring and Enterprise Development component, for which the Coordinating Unit is responsible.

4. A proposal to formalize this reorganization of work around the two subprogrammes, under the single responsibility of the Committee, has received a positive response from the Committee's Bureau and has been submitted for review to the UNECE Group of Experts for the Programme of Work. This proposal has also been included as part of the UNECE's submission to the Committee for Programme and Coordination in New York for the regular updating of the United Nations' medium term plan for 2002-2005.

5. The Committee is responsible for setting strategic policy and directions and works with a diverse group of subsidiary bodies. It coordinates their work, initiates new activities, and identifies areas of joint interest where synergies may be found through cooperation and the sharing of expertise.

6. The following subsidiary bodies and advisory group report to the Committee:

- United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT)
- Working Party on International Legal and Commercial Practice (WP.5)
- Working Party on Technical Harmonization and Standardization Policies (WP.6)
- Working Party on the Standardization of Perishable Produce and Quality Development (WP.7)
- Working Party on Industry and Enterprise Development (WP.8)
- Arbitration Advisory Group

7. The Committee also ensures that it and its subsidiary bodies support the UNECE objective of "facilitating and strengthening the involvement of all member countries in harmonious economic relations". In particular, this means contributing to the improved integration of all member States into the global and European economies and working to prevent the development of new barriers to trade in the region. Within the United Nations system, and for the areas under its mandate, the Committee is also responsible for ensuring regional input to work on global issues of a cross-sectoral nature, including: gender mainstreaming, sustainable development and the impact and implications of information and communication technologies in the region.

Strategic management of the work programme

8. The Committee is responsible for ensuring that the work of its subsidiary bodies supports UNECE objectives and takes best advantage of the resources available. This implies:

- Ensuring the focus and relevance of the work programme
- Identifying new policy areas where the Committee's subsidiary bodies should undertake supportive work;
- Identifying those areas where joint efforts between subsidiary bodies would create synergies, higher quality and more relevant outputs;

- Ensuring that work is fully coordinated both between subsidiary bodies and with other international organizations;
- Ensuring, where appropriate, the adequate involvement of the private sector and non-governmental organizations.

9. In addition, the Committee must ensure that its work programme adequately covers the four cross-sectoral concerns that the UNECE 1997 reform (endorsed by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations) identified as concerns that should permeate all areas of UNECE work. These being:

- Special concern for the economies in transition
- Mainstreaming of the gender perspective
- Sustainable development
- Involvement of the business community

10. These responsibilities for cross-sectoral issues also require regular reporting on the work done to the UNECE and the United Nations General Assembly.

Regional input to United Nations' global initiatives

11. The UNECE, and therefore the Committee, is also responsible for providing regional input to global United Nations' initiatives such as those on, "Financing for Development", "Information and Communications Technology (ICT) for Development" and "Sustainable Development". In this context, the Committee must provide regional input for those global initiatives that touch upon its programme of work. For example, because of the Committee's work on e-business and e-business standards, the Trade Division is also responsible within the UNECE for the United Nations Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Task Force and related inputs to the 2003 World Summit on the Information Society.

II. TRADE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME COMPONENT

12. The trade development programme component is supported by the Trade Division and may be summarized under three main themes: trade facilitation and electronic business; standards and technical harmonization; and trade promotion and policy. In addition, the Trade Division contributes to the cross-cutting themes, such as gender, sustainable development and ICT for development. How these themes are related to one another, the Committee and its subsidiary bodies is shown in annex I. The Division also contributes to inter-sectoral activities of the UNECE, providing focal points for relations with the European Union (EU), the World Trade Organization (WTO), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Standard Organization (ISO) and the United Nations ICT Task Force/World Summit on the Information Society.

13. UNECE trade development activities add value; first, through the UNECE's long-established role

in producing recommendations, norms and standards for trade on the basis of consensus among experts from both the public and private sectors. Second, by focusing on the perspective of the transition countries and specific measures to support their integration into international trade, in the context of UNECE collaboration with global organizations. Third, by providing a flexible and neutral forum where Governments, the business community and NGOs from throughout the UNECE region can meet to discuss common problems, policy options, and define best practices for the promotion of trade in goods and services.

14. Moreover, the trade development programme component provides a collaborative platform for work with the other regional commissions of the United Nations. For example, all the other regional commissions have participated in planning the International Forum on Trade Facilitation, which will be held in Geneva in 2002; UNECE, ESCWA and ECA have a joint Mediterranean trade facilitation initiative, and ECLAC and UNECE have launched an investigation into the trade and transit problems confronting landlocked countries.

15. Within UNECE, the trade development programme component supports relevant inter-sectoral initiatives, including "Trade, Environment and Timber" and "Cross-border Trade and Transport Facilitation". The Trade Division, in its support for this programme component, is expected to continue to have a wide range of collaborative activities with other UNECE divisions, in particular with the Unit responsible for Industrial Restructuring and Enterprise Development.

16. The methodology for implementing the trade development programme component is common to much of UNECE. The subprogramme's general aim is to contribute to the creation of a clear, predictable and supportive environment for trade throughout the region and to assist the countries with economies in transition to be further integrated into the European and global economy. In line with these directions, the main activities of the subprogramme will be: facilitating the exchange of experience and developing policy guidelines, recommendations and norms in areas such as trade facilitation and electronic business, cross-border trade, transit trade operations, trade financing techniques, agricultural produce, and the implications of globalization and regional trading arrangements for foreign trade. To the extent that resources allow it, capacity-building activities (i.e. seminars, workshops and advisory services) also will be carried out in the above areas.

II.a Trade Facilitation and e-Business

Description:

17. UNECE activities in trade facilitation and e-business are important for further developing trade in all member States, and particularly those with transition economies. Excessive, unharmonized and inadequate trade procedures in many transition economies significantly reduce the ability of companies in those countries to deliver goods in a reliable, cost-effective manner and, therefore, reduce their global

competitiveness and their ability to participate as suppliers in global supply chains. Creating global e-business standards is critical to all member States as the development of regional or national variations of these standards would result in ipso facto technical barriers to trade in the growing area of electronically traded goods and services. Work in this area also helps to maintain current trade levels and costs in the light of the need for increased controls following the events of 11 September 2001. Thus, the Committee's work on trade facilitation and e-business makes a significant contribution to the Millenium declaration's goal of, "an open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading system".

18. Trade facilitation and e-business activities focus on defining simple, transparent and effective procedures and solutions for international trade. The secretariat works with the United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT) and its groups of experts to: analyse and negotiate best practice guidelines for trade and business processes. For example the Centre: undertakes value chain analysis; looks at the role of international supply chains; agrees, maintains and supports UN e-business standards such as UN/EDIFACT (United Nations Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce and Transport); and undertakes a twice-yearly review of the UN/EDIFACT Directories. UN/CEFACT is currently giving highest priority to the development of new international standards for electronic business – known as *ebXML*.

Work accomplished:

19. The following new and revised recommendations were developed:
- Draft recommendation on e-Commerce: Self-Regulatory Instruments (Codes of Conduct)
 - Addendum to Recommendation 1: UN Layout Key for Trade Documents
 - Revised Recommendation 18: Facilitation Measures Related to International Trade Procedures
 - Recommendation 19: Codes for Modes of Transport
 - Revised Recommendation 20: Codes for Units of Measure used in International Trade
 - Revised Recommendation 21: Codes for Passengers, Types of Cargo, Packages and Packaging
 - Revised Recommendation 24: Trade and Transport Status Codes
 - Revised Recommendation 28: Codes for Types of Means of Transport; New and Revised Trade Facilitation Recommendations.
20. The following background publications and documents have been prepared for the International Forum on Trade Facilitation and the 2002 Committee session:
- “Compendium of trade facilitation recommendations”
 - Addressing the opportunities and challenges for trade facilitation in the 21st century,
 - Trade facilitation - an introduction to the basic concepts and benefits
 - Landlocked countries: opportunities, challenges, recommendations
 - The “single window” concept for trade documentation and procedures,
21. Two new editions of the UN/EDIFACT Standard Directories (D 01 A and D 01 B) were prepared.
22. Guidelines for application of the United Nations Layout Key were also published.

23. Two important new projects for providing technical assistance were launched, United Nations electronic Trade Documents (UNeDocs) and a joint project with the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) for promoting trade facilitation in the Mediterranean region.

24. A Memorandum of Understanding outlining cooperation and respective responsibilities in the area of trade facilitation was signed between the UNECE and the World Customs Organization (WCO).

25. Background papers for UN/CEFACT were prepared on “The UN/CEFACT modelling methodology for enabling e-commerce collaboration” and “Trade facilitation in transition economies: current aspects and issues”.

26. Advisory services were provided to the Government of Yugoslavia for the organization of a seminar on trade facilitation in Belgrade, organized by the Chamber of Commerce on Yugoslav FDI Association and supported by the Government (Belgrade 18 and 19 June 2001).

Activities to be undertaken:

27. UN/CEFACT will promote the recommendations emanating from the May 2002 International Trade Facilitation Forum and implement the Forum recommendations, where that is appropriate and falls within its remit.

28. Specific work on recommendations planned for the period prior to the 2003 Committee session are:

- Further development of the Single Window Concept into a Recommendation to Governments
- Revision of Recommendation 8, “Unique Consignment Reference Number” to reflect recent decisions by the World Customs Organization regarding its implementation
- Revision and updating of Recommendation 12 - Measures to Facilitate Maritime Transport Document Procedures
- Revision and updating of Recommendation 11 - Documentary Aspects of the International Transport of Dangerous Goods”
- Development of a Recommendation regarding visa requirements for truck and lorry drivers

29. Three trade facilitation legal recommendations will be developed in the following areas:

- Online Dispute Resolution (ODR)
- Cross-Border Recognition of Signatures
- Certifying Authorities and a Trading Partner Agreements (TPAs).

30. A “Handbook on Trade Facilitation” will be published in cooperation with UNCTAD.
31. Work will begin on a guide to the implementation of trade facilitation tools that includes performance indicators and a joint project will be started with the World Bank on the development and application of Trade Facilitation Benchmarks.
32. In the area of e-business standards activities will include the publication of two UN/EDIFACT Directories. In addition, further specifications for electronic business standards based on Internet World Wide Web technologies (known as ebXML) will be developed.
33. Substantive work will begin, in cooperation with ESCWA and ECA, on a project on Capacity-building in trade facilitation and electronic business in the Mediterranean, that is funded by the United Nations development account. This project will increase the competitiveness of companies in the Mediterranean region by simplifying and harmonizing trade procedures throughout the transaction chain and, in particular, facilitating the participation of SMEs in electronic business. Related to this project, the secretariat will seek to develop e-learning tools for trade facilitation based on UN/CEFACT Recommendation 18. “*Facilitation Measures related to international trade procedures*”
34. Work will continue on the UNeDocs project whose purpose is to promote and provide tools for the implementation of recommendations on the use of electronic trade documents, particularly in transition economies and among small and medium-sized enterprise (SMEs). In particular, a set of 12 international trade document forms in paper and electronic format will be developed. In addition, funds have been solicited for a feasibility study in Yugoslavia for a pilot implementation of UNeDocs in their customs service.

II.b Standards and Technical Harmonization

Description:

35. Support for activities on standards and technical harmonisation is provided by three subsidiary bodies: the Working Party on Technical Harmonization and Standardization Policies (WP.6), the United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT), and the Working Party on Standardization of Perishable Produce and Quality Development (WP.7). The UNECE plays an important role through its subsidiary bodies in reducing the impact of technical barriers to trade and contributes significantly to the international standardization process. In addition, and as in the case of Trade Facilitation and e-business, this work makes a significant contribution to the Millenium declaration’s goal of, “an open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading system”.

36. For transition economies, the lack of harmonization with international standards and the lack of mutual recognition for their product certification sometimes constitutes a significant barrier to trade and, therefore, this is an important issue for them. In this area, the secretariat undertakes wide-ranging analyses on standards and harmonization issues and liaises in these areas with other international standardization organisations, particularly ISO and FAO. In doing so it collaborates closely with the European Union which directly translates a number of UNECE standards and norms into EU directives.

37. Much of the technical harmonization work focuses on reducing technical barriers to trade and integrating the transition economies into international frameworks. For example, WP.6 has recently pioneered an “International Model for Technical Harmonisation” and regularly publishes the UNECE Standardization List with countries’ priorities for international standardization work. The Working Party also develops policy recommendations on standards and regulatory techniques and, in 2001, established a new team on metrology to promote guidelines in measuring methodologies. It collaborates with WP.7 on quality standards for meat, with WP.8 (Industry and Enterprise Development) on best practices for quality assurance; and supports cross-sectoral activities regarding certification and environmental standards under the auspices of the CTIED and the Timber Committee.

38. The work on agricultural quality standards is undertaken by WP.7 through its five “specialized sections”, which group together international experts who define quality standards for (a) fresh fruits and vegetables; (b) dry and dried produce [mainly fruit and nuts]; (c) meat; (d) seed potatoes; and (e) early and ware potatoes. WP.7, with support from the secretariat, prepares and regularly revises the specific standards proposed by the specialized sections and drafts recommendations on commercial quality. It works in partnership with FAO (responsible for phyto-sanitary standards) and with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) on the dissemination and implementation of its standards. UNECE agricultural standards are generally incorporated into EU regulations under the Common Agricultural Policy.

39. The secretariat also works with groups of experts under the United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and e-Business (UN/CEFACT) to agree and maintain a variety of trade facilitation and trade related norms and standards. These include, in particular, United Nations international trade codes, such as UN/LOCODE and codes for units of measure.

Work accomplished:

40. Background papers were presented to WP.6 on: “Conformity assessment: various factors to be taken into account in order to clarify the meaning and economic impact of mutual recognition in regulated and non-regulated sectors”, and “Conformity assessment procedures and trade facilitation: current status and future orientations”.

41. An international model was approved for “technical harmonization based on good regulatory practice for the preparation, adoption and application of technical regulations via the use of international standards.” An updated list of Recommendations on Standardization Policies (ECE/TRADE/17/Rev.4), that includes a copy of the international model, was also published.

42. The following workshops and seminars were held: a Workshop on "Standardization and conformity assessment matters in transition economies" was held (Bratislava, Slovakia on 12 and 13 December 2001); a conference was held on “Sustainable development and certification in the Russian forest industry” (St. Petersburg, Russian Federation on, 5 and 6 March 2001) and, based on the results of this meeting, a publication was developed and published with the same title.

43. A new, updated edition of the ECE standardization list which outlines the priority areas where governments would like to have international standardization work undertaken (ECE/STAND/20/Rev.5) was published.

44. The Working Party on Technical Harmonization and Standardization Policies launched a new expert group on Metrology.

45. New and revised versions of the following agricultural standards were prepared: Beans, Sweet Peppers, Lettuce, Onions, Peas, Avocados, Table Grapes, Walnut Kernels, Early Potatoes, Ware Potatoes, Seed Potatoes.

46. A seminar on issues in food trade (quality, safety and market access) was organized in cooperation with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) in New Delhi (4-5 April 2002).

47. A new edition of the United Nations location code (UN/LOCODE) was prepared.

48. A database release of Codes for Units of Measurement in international Trade (UNECE Recommendation 16) was developed for downloading from the UNECE Web site at: <http://www.unece.org/cefact/download/downloadmain.htm>

49. An electronic version of the United Nations Trade Data Element Directory (ISO 7372) (UNECE Recommendation 1) was developed for downloading from the UNECE Web site at: <http://www.unece.org/cefact/download/downloadmain.htm>

Activities to be undertaken:

50. WP.6, in cooperation with business operators, will explore the possibilities of starting pilot sectoral projects using principles and mechanisms suggested in the "International Model for Technical

Harmonization".

51. As a follow up to requests from countries in transition, a joint WP.6/WP.7 forum on market surveillance in transition economies will be held in October 2002.

52. In trade and trade facilitation standards, activities will include the publication of a new issue of UN/LOCODE and efforts will be made to make this available in a database format on the Internet.

53. In agricultural quality standards, the following publications will be prepared by WP.7: a compendium of all UNECE standards for Dry and Dried Fruit, a compendium of all UNECE standards for Fresh Fruit and Vegetables, a publication identifying National Certification Schemes for Seed Potatoes and a publication on the new UNECE Standard for Bovine Carcasses and Cuts. Further, in order to raise awareness about its work and to assist developing countries and countries in transition in the application of quality standards, WP.7 also plans to hold a series of seminars, including seminars on the application of quality standards in Croatia and Uzbekistan.

II.c Trade Policy and Promotion

Description:

54. Through its trade policy and promotion work, the Committee performs a unique function in linking global and regional processes. Whereas much of UN/CEFACT's activities are targeted to supporting the trade infrastructure for global commerce, the Committee has a clear regional mandate. It plays an important role in promoting an inclusive region-wide response to globalization and supporting the Millennium Declaration goal of making globalization "a positive force for all the world's people". In addition, the Committee contributes to the Millennium Declaration's goals of supporting "the principles of sustainable development" and "the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests" through its work to promote trade in biomass and a better understanding of the use of certification in timber trade. The Committee is also a channel for other United Nations system-wide initiatives, such as sustainable development and trade, and gender mainstreaming.

55. The secretariat supports the Committee sessions and the integration of technical activities carried out under the auspices of the Committee by its subsidiary bodies. The Committee also provides a broader policy dimension within which member States assess the impact of this technical work.

56. In 2001 the Committee decided to implement measures to integrate much more closely the work of UN/CEFACT with the working parties responsible for technical harmonization and agricultural standards. Moreover, it instructed the secretariat to place more stress on policy frameworks to bring together global and regional processes with greater coherence, such as the simplification of cross-border trade procedures, and the promotion of the services sector. The Committee itself has developed its annual

forum as a means of placing priority on these important issues, e.g. the Forum on “Trading into the future: the role of e-services” in 2001, and the International Forum on Trade Facilitation which will take place jointly with the UN/CEFACT in 2002.

57. The Committee’s trade promotion activities contribute to understanding the impact of globalization and the WTO on the region and focus special attention on integrating transition countries into the wider European and global economy, e.g. the Roundtable on Services and the GATS in Transition Economies in 2001.

58. A number of trade policy and promotion activities are oriented specifically toward the support of transition economies and include the:

- Development of a network of “multiplier points” to encourage the implementation of the Committee standards, recommendations and best practices
- Production of a comprehensive guide to current Committee instruments for trade promotion and export development
- Publication of the “Trade and Investment Guide” series
- Organization of regional workshops on trade finance
- Publication and maintenance of a UNECE Trade Directory of national trade and investment related agencies;
- Development of cross-sectoral initiatives regarding trade and environment issues
- Support provided to the Committee’s International Commercial Arbitration Advisory Group and to the arbitration activities of the South-eastern European Cooperative Initiative
- Extrabudgetary project to promote capacity-building for trade in the Russian timber sector that builds cross-sectoral links between the Committee and the Timber Committee.

59. Finally, trade policy and promotion activities support measures to strengthen policy coherence between the Committee and other UNECE bodies and directly contribute to making the policy orientation of UNECE’s work regarding trade more visible throughout the region.

Work accomplished:

60. Background papers were prepared for the 2001 Committee session on: “Important features of the service sector and trade in services in transition economies”, “Financial services in transition economies”, “Transport services in transition economies”, “The economic impact of insurance in central and eastern Europe and the impact of globalization and e-business”.

61. A Forum on “Trading into the Future: E-Services for Trade, Investment and Enterprise” was held in Geneva (11 and 12 June 2001) with close to 500 participants.

62. A trade and investment guide was published on “Services in Transition Economies”.
63. The Multiplier Point Programme of national centres for the promotion of the work undertaken by the Committee was begun and as of 11 February 2002 included 49 volunteer national multiplier point organizations in 19 transition economy countries.
64. The first version of the Trade Promotion Directory was produced.
65. A CD-Rom compiling the principal publications coming out of the Committee’s work was prepared and published as “Best practice for international business from the Committee for Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development.”
66. Substantive support was provided to the Committee’s Arbitration Advisory Group as well as to the Arbitration Expert Group of the Southeast European Cooperative Initiative (SECI)
67. A briefing was held for the Permanent missions to the United Nations Office at Geneva on “The WTO, Doha and Transition Economies”.
68. The following conferences and seminars on sustainable development were organized in the context of extrabudgetary projects: Sustainable Development and Biofuel Use in the Russian Forest Industry, St Petersburg, Russian Federation; Forum on sustainable development of the forest sector in Northwest Russia, Rotterdam, Netherlands; Conference on sustainable development strategies at the regional level, St. Petersburg, Russian Federation; working groups on biomass logistics, Rotterdam, Netherlands; working meetings at timber ports on biomass logistics in Leningrad oblast, Russian Federation; Congress on biomass in Leningrad oblast, St. Petersburg, Russian Federation; working sessions in Arkhangelsk on sustainable development

Activities to be undertaken:

69. A Forum will be organized in support of the 2003 Committee session and background papers will be prepared.
70. The Trade Division will act as UNECE focal point for the United Nations Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) Task Force and related inputs to the 2003 World Summit on the Information Society, including collaboration with the Government of Romania in organizing the UNECE regional preparatory meeting.
71. Regular briefings will be organized for missions and other country representatives on trade policy related issues and supporting documentation prepared.

72. In the area of international commercial arbitration, a plenipotentiary conference will be organized to approve revisions to the 1961 European Convention on International Arbitration. A meeting of the Arbitration Advisory Group will be held to consider the results of two surveys and make recommendations. These two surveys are on practical problems in arbitration and on national practices with regard to the delivery of notice of arbitration. Further support, as required, will be provided to the Arbitration and Mediation Expert Group of the South East European Cooperative Initiative (SECI).

73. The Multiplier Point Programme will be expanded to include more national centres for the promotion of the Committee's work and to include a supporting Internet WWW site.

74. The Trade Promotion Directory will be updated and published on the Division's Internet WWW site.

75. Subject to obtaining at least partial extrabudgetary support, a seminar related to trade in services will be organized.

76. The extrabudgetary projects for the development and promotion of sustainable trade in biomass and for the development of trade capacity in the Russian Timber sector will continue to be further developed and implemented.

77. The website of the Committee (www.unece.org/trade) will be developed to become a more important and easier to use data source for the dissemination of trade-related best practice, recommendations and standards work. The results of the Committee's work, as well as an increasing range of related information, documents and links, will be developed to serve the needs of the member States for up-to-date information.

III. INDUSTRIAL RESTRUCTURING AND ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME COMPONENT

78. As a result of the reorganization of the work programme, the Industrial Restructuring and Enterprise Development programme component is now being serviced by the Coordinating Unit for Operational Activities (CUOA). This programme component is based on the ongoing activities of two intergovernmental bodies, the Working Party on International Commercial and Legal Practice (WP.5) and the Working Party on Industry and Enterprise Development (WP.8), as well as advisory services and other activities implemented so far by the Unit. The strategic directions presented below take into consideration the UNECE's niche and comparative advantage in this area, as well as the methodology and mobilization of resources to implement programme activities.

79. The objective is to assist Governments in transition countries in the areas of investment, industrial restructuring and enterprise development. This programme component aims especially to facilitate industrial restructuring and modernization to ensure the sustainability of industrial development, to alleviate internal constraints to the formation and evolution of private enterprise and entrepreneurial activities, and to further international legal and commercial practices by promoting international norms, standards and legal instruments in order to mitigate external obstacles to the integration of economies in transition into the European and global economy.

80. Under this programme component, activities focus on the main concerns of member countries arising from the transformation of inefficient state economies into modern market structures. The experience of the last 10 years clearly indicates that such a transformation does not emerge automatically from price liberalization and competition and may have undesirable side effects such as unemployment, poverty and marginalization. It requires institution building and an appropriate regulatory environment. Countries have to find best ways to deal with the social costs of phasing out declining sectors, stimulate entrepreneurship and SMEs development, promote the use of information and communication technologies, develop new legal and commercial practices and build partnership between public and private sector.

81. This programme component includes four clusters of activities: (a) industrial restructuring, (b) enterprise development; and (c) legal and commercial practice and (d) the e-economy.

82. Activities planned for 2002-2003 cover the following main areas:

- socioeconomic consequences of industrial restructuring
- development of electronic business and venture capital
- development of SMEs, including for women and youth
- facilitation of the property market development and investment activities,
- corporate management
- the promotion of harmonized quality standards and the development of quality systems, particularly for SMEs.

83. Annex II provides a framework for the above work areas, developed within WP.8 and WP.5. Three main considerations were given to design it: first, ongoing activities need to be integrated into a single, coherent, and synergy-based framework; second, various teams of specialists associated with different components of the programme of work need to be linked to each other and coordinated under the umbrella of the whole subprogramme; third, adjustments to the work programme of existing working parties should not involve additional costs.

84. This framework brings flexibility and a higher degree of coordination among activities. For instance, the phasing-out of a sectoral focus on steel and chemical related activities could be accompanied by the development of cross-sectoral approaches related to the socioeconomic consequences of restructuring, digital aspects of industrial change and enterprise financing. A project on the socio-economic consequences of restructuring in the steel sector, would use, for example, the existing sectoral expertise within WP.8 to assist member countries in solving current problems. At the same time the work of the Advisory Group on Real Estate (WP.5) could contribute to the work of the Team of Specialists on Industrial Restructuring (WP.8) through the elaboration of procedures for the evaluation of land and real estate property.

85. This framework also offers the possibility to better reflect the recommendations made by the General Assembly, such as the Millennium Declaration and the General Assembly resolution on ICT development for transition economies, which brought issues of gender, youth and poverty into the area of enterprise development in transition economies.

86. The programme component for Industrial Restructuring and Enterprise Development does not compete with programmes of other United Nations organizations, which run global activities focused on developing countries (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), International Labour Organization (ILO)), have a strong technical and sectoral profile (UNIDO) or focus on specific groups of beneficiaries (UNICEF-children; UNIFEM-women). Activities of other international organizations, such as the EU and OECD remain focused on its members or, as for the EU, on the first-wave accession countries and/or have more limited priorities, such as the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD). Sub-regional groups, such as the Central European Initiative (CEI), the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) and the Special Programme for Economies of Central Asia (SPECA), have a political character and do not develop their own programmes in substantive areas.

87. The complementarity of UNECE activities in the area of Industrial Restructuring and Enterprise Development opens the ground for cooperation with international organizations and other partners. Such cooperation, is already under way. Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) have been signed with UNIDO and UNIFEM. During the last few years joint workshops on entrepreneurship have been organized in cooperation with OECD, CEI, and BSCE. During 2002-2003 joint projects are envisaged, among others, with ESCWA and the UNECE Energy Division (renewable energy), the World Bank and UNCTAD (micro-credit); BSEC (industrial restructuring and entrepreneurship), ILO/UNDP/UNIFEM (women's entrepreneurship and mainstreaming into economy) and ILO/UNICEF/UNIDO/UNAIDS and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) (youth entrepreneurship). There are also projects to be developed with the EU, such as in the gender impact of EU enlargement on accession and non-accession countries.

88. The Industrial Restructuring and Enterprise Development Programme Component will be implemented through the exchange of experiences gained by developed market economies and economies in transition and the work of thematic and result-oriented expert groups, which will develop policy recommendations, norms, standards and legal instruments, business industrial models and implementation tool kits aimed to facilitate industrial restructuring and modernization, e-commerce, enhancement of competitiveness of local producers and the promotion of entrepreneurship.

89. A Forum for a regional dialogue related to investment, industrial restructuring and enterprise development will be provided to member States, business associations and other representatives of the private sector and academic community.

90. Capacity-building activities tailored to the needs of governmental structures in charge of industrial business regulations and local producers will be also carried out (seminars, workshops, training the trainers, study tours and advisory services)

III.a Industrial Restructuring and Sustainable Industrial Development

Description:

91. The activities related to industrial restructuring are undertaken by both the Working Party on Industry and Enterprise Development (WP.8), and the Working Party on International Legal and Commercial Practice (WP.5), with WP.8 taking the leading role. This area covers the facilitation of industrial restructuring and modernization, taking into account the socio-economic impact of industrial restructuring. It includes industrial restructuring, digital restructuring, the e-regulatory framework, vocational training, the implementation of quality management systems, competitiveness, turnaround management systems, and financing.

92. Industrial restructuring is a key element of economic reforms in both market and transition economies. Through this mechanism, enterprises and national economies integrate into the regional and world markets. It is important that representatives of Governments and other stakeholders in the UNECE Member countries share their views on and discuss lessons drawn from their experience of industrial restructuring. The discussion of its modalities and social implications might assist countries in developing joint approaches and raising efficiency of restructuring in the context of transition. Issues such as regulatory framework, industry-specific aspects of industrial restructuring, the role of new enterprises in alleviating the burden of restructuring, and industrial and territorial clustering are expected to be covered under this work area.

93. To support this part of the work programme, WP.8 has established a Team of Specialists on Chemiseed, and has submitted to the Committee, for approval, the establishment of a Team of Specialists on Industrial Restructuring and a joint (with WP.6) Team of Specialists on Quality Management Systems

94. Product quality is an important aspect of competitiveness and, therefore, is also critical to industrial restructuring. The joint WP.8/WP.6 Team of Specialists on Quality Management Systems will assist Governments and enterprises, in particular SMEs, in the implementation of quality management systems in order to increase the competitiveness of enterprises in transition economies. To this end, the Team of Specialists will: examine best practices of national policies for promoting quality assurance systems; organise the exchange of information and experiences between governments and other stakeholders; collect and analyse information on the use of national quality award schemes and excellence quality models; develop and promote benchmarking to measure competitiveness of enterprises; raise quality awareness and promote the creation of quality development centres.

95. In the area of sustainable development, the Team of Specialists on Chemiseed covers all aspects of security, safety and sustainable development in the chemical sector, including the problems of polluted sites and their cleanup.

Work accomplished:

96. A Round Table on Industrial Restructuring was organized on 12 and 13 February 2002 focusing on the issues related to transition economies. A report on the results of the Round Table with its recommendations will be presented to the Committee.

97. The first meeting of the Team of Specialists on Chemiseed took place in October 2001. It examined the activities of the Task Force on the Pilot Project demonstrating the environmental cleanup of selected sites polluted by chemicals. The progress of this project is handicapped by the lack of financing and the Team of Specialists examined the possibilities of cooperation with ICS-UNIDO (The International Centre for Science and High Technology of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization).

98. A background paper was prepared for the "Third seminar on soil decontamination" and a seminar on Analysis, Methodology of Treatment and Remediation of Contaminated Soils and Groundwater was organized in Paris and attracted 600 participants.

99. In cooperation with Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) and the Konrad Adenauer Foundation, on 29 - 30 March 2001 UNECE organized a workshop on "Standardization, Quality Control and Quality Assurance Systems for SMEs" in Istanbul, Turkey.

100. An expert meeting on Best Practice in the Creation of Quality Assurance Systems for Enhancing Competitiveness of SMEs was organized on 25-26 October 2001 in Geneva, within the framework of the Commission's Regional Advisory Services Programme and in cooperation with WP.6 and WP.8.

101. On 13 February 2002, a joint WP.8 and WP.6 Expert Meeting on Quality Management Systems was held to determine the scope and the terms of reference for the joint Team of Specialists on Quality Management Systems that will report to both working parties.

Activities to be undertaken:

102. Proceedings from the February 2002 Round Table on Industrial Restructuring will be published.

103. A Seminar on, "Best Practices in Industrial Restructuring in the ECE Region" will be organized in October 2003

104. A workshop on an issue related to industrial restructuring will be organized

105. The Team of Specialists on Chemiseed will contribute to the organization of a fourth seminar on Analysis, Methodology of Treatment and Remediation of Contaminated Soils and Groundwater to be held in 2003, similar to the one held in March 2001. This seminar will take place in France, at the invitation of the Government.

106. The Team of Specialists on Quality Management Systems will organize an Expert Meeting on How to Become a Supplier of Large National and Transnational Corporations on 24 - 25 October 2002 in Geneva.

107. An interactive CDROM for the ecological assessment of enterprises in accordance with the ISO 14,000 standard requirement will be adapted for use by transition economies (second quarter 2002 – mid. 2003)

108. A comparative analysis of excellent quality models and practices for SMEs will be made taking into account the European Excellent Quality Model by EFQM (second quarter 2002 – end 2003);

109. A Russian Total Quality Management Centre will be created under the auspices of UNECE and UNEP (2002 – 2003);

110. A Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) Quality Centre will be established under the auspices of UNECE (2002 – 2003);

111. A Support Centre for the Public Movement for Quality in the Ukraine will be created (2002 – 2003);

112. Quality Management Systems will be created, in accordance with the ISO 9000 series of standards, for the Russian Light Industry based on Group Training and Implementation methodology (2002 – 2003);

113. A study tour will be held on the learning experiences of winners and finalists of the European Quality Award competition for implementing quality management systems (second – third quarter of 2002 – 2003).

III.b Enterprise Development

Description:

114. Enterprise development work is primarily managed by the Working Party on Industry and Enterprise Development (WP.8) and includes activities to support the promotion of entrepreneurial activities, including entrepreneurship for women and youth; virtual SME development, Cyber marketplaces, Advisory Councils on the Digital Economy, e-business centres, ICT virtual training for women, youth entrepreneurship, youth info net, youth E-training centres, micro-credit, industry specific incubation, the development of outsourcing, technology parks, new job creation and the implementation of quality assurance systems by enterprises.

115. Through these activities, the UNECE will facilitate, with a particular focus on countries with economies in transition, the development of an institutional environment conducive to sustainable industrial and entrepreneurial activities, and promote sound and socially responsible corporate management, technological innovation, efficient allocation and effective utilization of resources, and, hence, enhanced competitiveness of national producers.

116. To support this part of the work programme, the Working Party has established a Team of Specialists on Entrepreneurship in Poverty Alleviation and a Team of Specialists on Women and Entrepreneurship.

117. The Team of Specialists on Entrepreneurship in Poverty Alleviation will focus on youth entrepreneurship as a way to offset the adverse impact of economic/industrial decline on vulnerable groups in economies in transition. Youth, which refers to people aged 15 to 25, has been particularly affected by structural reforms in transition economies. In many countries in the region, there is little or no institutional framework designed to address problems of youth and its integration into a market economy. In its resolution 54/82 B of 6 December 1999, the General Assembly recalled its resolution 53/202 of 17 December 1998 concerning the Millennium Assembly and Millennium Summit of the United Nations. It also requested United Nations bodies to formulate and implement an effective public strategy so as to ensure that the youth dimension would be taken into account in the deliberations of the work related to the entrepreneurship development for poverty alleviation.

118. The Team of Specialists on Women and Entrepreneurship will assist member States in promoting women's entrepreneurship through (a) assessing the situation of women-entrepreneurs in individual countries (b) discussing national policies and identifying best practices, and (c) establishing guidelines and policy recommendations. The work of the Team of Specialists contributes to strengthening the ongoing UNECE activities in the area of women's entrepreneurship. Currently, the activities supporting women's entrepreneurship have been initiated and carried out by the Coordinating Unit for Operational Activities, especially the Regional Adviser on SMEs and Entrepreneurship and the Regional Adviser on Gender and

Economy.

Work accomplished:

119. The first meeting of National Coordinators on Youth Entrepreneurship was held on 11 February 2002. It discussed and developed recommendations for future work related to the current situation of youth in the region, constraints and barriers to labour market entry, and instruments to create a youth-enabling labour market, and to build up capabilities and capacities that will ensure the integration of youth adults in the mainstream economic activities.

120. Creation of the Portrait Gallery of Excellent Women Entrepreneurs on the UNECE website.

121. The First UNECE Forum of Women Entrepreneurs on 22 October 2001 in Geneva and sub-regional workshops were held on the same topic in Sibenik (June 2001), Moscow (June 2001) and Trieste, Italy (November 2001). Detailed description of the work accomplished is presented in the document TRADE/WP.8/2002/6.

122. The first meeting of the Team of Specialists on Women and Entrepreneurship was held on 12 and 15 February 2002, the Team of Specialists discussed its programme of work in the framework of the follow-up activities to the First UNECE Forum of Women-Entrepreneurs. At this meeting background paper was presented on: "The way ahead: proposals for promotion of women entrepreneurship in countries in transition".

123. A brochure was published in cooperation with the Central European Initiative (CEI) to support the Fourth CEI Summit and Economic Forum.

124. The following publications were developed and published:

- "Best practice in business advisory counselling and information services"
- "Best practice in business incubation (2nd edition)"
- "INVESTIGUIDE" (a listing of potential projects for foreign direct investment in central and eastern Europe in cooperation with the Central European Initiative).

125. The following seminars and workshops were organized:

- Forum on Best Practice in Development of Entrepreneurship and SMEs in Countries in Transition: The Polish Experience, October 2001
- Forum on Best Practice in Development of Entrepreneurship and SMEs in Countries in Transition: The Belarusian Experience, October 2001
- Meeting of Experts on Quality Assurance Systems for Improving the Competitiveness of SMEs, October 2001
- The first UNECE Forum of Women-Entrepreneurs, October 2001

- Sub-regional workshops on Womens Entrepreneurship in Šibenik, Croatia (June 2001), Moscow (June 2001) and Trieste, Italy (November 2001).

Activities to be undertaken:

126. The secretariat will draw on the recommendations of the February 2002 meeting of National Coordinators on Youth Entrepreneurship to explore ways and means to redress the current imbalances generated over the last decade of economic transition. First, national practices of youth mainstreaming will be examined together with the effective government policies. Second, private and public sector partnership on youth integration into the labour market will be assessed. Third, the utilization of ICT for youth mainstreaming will be considered as one of the instruments.

127. The secretariat will explore the viability of establishing a Youth Millennium Fund in compliance with the Millennium Assembly and Millennium Summit of the United Nations and the United Nations Guidelines on public-private partnerships.

128. The following activities and outputs related to women's entrepreneurship are planned for 2002-2003:

- The Second Forum of Women-Entrepreneurs (Geneva, October 2002)
- A Round Table on Women and ICT (CEI Summit, Macedonia, November 2002),
- The publication of materials from the First UNECE Forum of Women-Entrepreneurs and
- Establishment of a network of women's business associations on the UNECE website.

129. Organization of a regional Congress of Women's Credit Unions and a Round Table on e-commerce will be explored.

130. Two Forums will be organized on Best Practice in Development of Entrepreneurship and SMEs in Countries in Transition.

131. An Expert Meeting on "How to become a supplier of large enterprises and transnational corporations" will be organized in October 2002.

132. A Forum on "Best practice in the development of entrepreneurship and SMEs: The Croatian and Slovenian Experiences" will also be organized in October 2002.

133. In August 2002, the First Regional Forum on Youth: Security, Opportunity and Prosperity will be organized in cooperation with ILO, UNICEF, UNAIDS and DESA and as part of this forum the UNECE will conduct an expert meeting on Youth Entrepreneurship. A Second Regional Forum of Women Entrepreneurs will be held in October 2002.

III.c Legal and Commercial Practice (Public-Private Partnerships)

134. The Working Party on International Legal and Commercial Practice is responsible for the following operational programmes; each of which is supported by an Advisory Group that reports to the Working Party:

- Promotion of public-private partnerships for infrastructure development : the Build -Operate - Transfer (BOT) Group
- The Protection and Implementation of Intellectual Property Rights for Investment Group – Intellectual Property Group (IP Group)
- Improvement of real property rights and real estate markets for financing development - Real Estate Advisory Group (REAG)

135. The advisory groups, consisting of experts from both the public and private sectors, use their networks to provide practical support for transition economies; and are funded from extra-budgetary, in-kind and financial contributions. They cooperate closely with relevant regional and international bodies. Other bodies within the UNECE have sought to follow this model of cooperation. The Working Party has thus prepared “Guidelines on Partnerships with the Business Community”.

136. In response to the tragic events of 11 September 2001, the Working Party has been encouraged by its sub-groups and public private partnerships to develop practical programmes for conflict prevention. The Working Party contributed to the International colloquium on the “Economic Aspects of Conflict Prevention “ organized by UNECE and OSCE with the cooperation of experts from NATO. The International Colloquium recommended, among other things, that WP.5 and the OSCE work together to develop a programme of PPPs for conflict prevention targeting those regions that are prone to conflict. The recommendations from that meeting were discussed at the fiftieth session of the Working Party, the latter has proposed the creation of an expert group on examining the ways of increasing the contributions of the business community to conflict prevention

- (i) *Promotion of public-private partnerships for infrastructure development: UNECE Build -Operate -Transfer, (BOT) Group*

137. Private-public partnerships (PPPs) for infrastructure development are becoming commonplace but their adaptation by government departments in transition economies is difficult. After the finalization of its Guidelines, the UNECE BOT Group has agreed to assist Governments in identifying appropriate projects that can serve as models and in building their capacity to develop, manage and implement PPPs. The Group has thus invited Governments to submit pilot, priority projects that might be done as a public private partnership; and has helped to create a PPP Alliance - a pan European network of national PPP units to exchange experiences and best practices. The Group also is promoting a programme on regulatory

improvements, capacity building and project development for the Stability Pact for south east Europe under the auspices of the (OECD/United Kingdom Government) Investment Compact.

Work accomplished:

- Finalization of the BOT Group Guidelines for “Best Practices for Public -Private Partnerships”
- Special session, in cooperation with the Stability Pact and the Government of Romania, on PPPs for south east Europe, held at the Regional Conference of the Stability Pact, Bucharest, 18-20 October 2001
- Forum on the Implementation of Public Private Partnerships, Geneva, 11 March 2002
- First Annual meeting of the PPP alliance on the theme: “How to establish dynamic and successful Public -Private Partnership Units?” 12 March 2002
- Publication on UNECE PPP website of potential PPP projects

(ii) *Advisory Group on the Protection and Implementation of Intellectual Property Rights for Investment (IP Group)*

147. The Intellectual Property (IP) Group has a dual mandate: to improve the existing regimes for intellectual property rights; and to make intellectual property rights more accessible to domestic enterprises and entrepreneurs. The Group does this through well prepared consultative meetings, training of enforcement officials; and the training of SMEs on the procedures and practices required to make their intellectual property valuable. Recently, it has begun helping to train enterprises on methodologies for valuing their IP assets. The Group has a number of subgroups including one on education and training and sustainable enforcement. Cooperation in the programme takes place with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the World Trade Organization (WTO), the European Union (EU) and the International Chamber of Commerce as well as with the World Customs Organization. The Group has a programme manager.

Work accomplished:

- Consultative meeting with ROSPATENT in Moscow (23-24 April 2001)
- Consultative meeting in Ukraine (23-24 October 2001).
- Finalization of detailed reports on the consultative visits to Latvia, Lithuania and the Russian Federation
- A regional seminar for participants from Bulgaria, Hungary and Romania from Judiciary and Enforcement Agencies (Sofia, 3-5 April, 2001)
- Substantive contribution to the organization of the EPO/WCO/UNECE training Seminar for the Customs and Police officers on IPR enforcement (Tallinn, 8-10 October 2001).

- Training seminars for prosecutors, tax police and customs (26-27 February 2002)
- Training seminar for judges (28 February 2002) were held in Vilnius.

Activities to be undertaken:

A consultative visit by the Group to Poland will be conducted on 9-10 April 2002.

Reports of the consultative visits to Ukraine and Poland will be finalised and issued.

Preparations for consultative visits by the Group to Kyrgyzstan and Yugoslavia in the second half of 2002 and first half of 2003.

A Workshop on the role of IPRs in business development in Poland will be held in Warsaw on 12 April 2002;

Two seminars on IPR enforcement and valuation will be held in the Russian Federation.

(iii) *Improvement of real property rights and real estate markets for financing development:
Real Estate Advisory Group (REAG)*

148. Economic success has been impaired in some transition economies by the ‘uncertainty ‘ of institutions. Property rights, for example, are often not respected or enforced: and as a result land and other assets cannot be used as collateral for loans. Because of the uncertainty of institutions and property rights many economic agents choose to undertake their economic activities outside the formal economy, thereby depriving the economy of taxation revenues from property and limiting the development of normal banking institutions. The objective of the Real Estate Advisory Group (REAG) is to make property rights work for the economy. One of the ways is to highlight the need to formalise the economy and strengthening the capacity of institutions to use legal rights and interests in real property as financing tools. Many of the groups outside the formal economy are low-income groups and REAG has targeted them so as to alleviate poverty. Critical objectives are: Enforceable mortgage regimes; improving mortgage capacity financing and the elaboration of valuation standards in cooperation with RICS, TEGOVA and other international chartered surveyor organisations. The group benefits from both financial and in-kind support from the private sector, including Tecnoborsa, an Italian not for profit organisation. The latter has agreed to support the REAG Land for Development programme.

Work accomplished:

- Organization of a seminar at the MIPIM Property Conference on “Property and Conflict: the role of the Business Community”, Cannes, France, March 2001
- A consultative visit by the Group to Romania on Social housing and mortgage banking
- Declaration of the “Land for Development Programme”; REAG Meeting, Geneva, September 13, 2001 including a key note lecture by the world famous Peruvian Economist Hernanado de Soto at the event
- Organisation of two seminars on social housing and developing viable real estate markets at the annual CEI economic summit in Trieste, Italy, November 2001.

Activities to be undertaken:

Land for Development Summit, Rome, Italy September 2002, in cooperation with Tecnoborsa,

(iv) Follow-up to the Villars International Symposium”(UNECE OSCE, NATO) on “Economic aspects to conflict prevention

Activities to be undertaken:

149. An international conference (venue to be decided) on the role of public private partnerships in conflict prevention.

150. Publication of the proceedings of the symposium held at Villars, Switzerland

151. A second “Villars” meeting to be held at the OSCE in Vienna.

III.d The e-Economy

Description:

152. Work on the e-economy is led by the Team of Specialists on Internet Enterprise Development under the Working Party on Industry and Enterprise Development (WP.8). It examines issues and makes recommendations in the areas of: e-business development and management; e-government; e-commerce; e-payment; e-work (telework); e-procurement and e-learning.

153. The Team of Specialists adopts the principles of the Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/62 of 25 July 1997 on science on technology for development, in which the Council recognizes the enormous social and economic potential of information and communication technologies. It also adopts the recommendations of the United Nations Task Force on ICT, which gives the highest priority to the employment of ICT for enterprise and entrepreneurship development in transition economies. Through the UNECE e-Transition Programme, The Team Specialists assists the member States with economies in transition in using these technologies, in facilitating their accession into the European Union, and their integration into the emerging knowledge-based global economy.

Work accomplished:

154. During the year 2001 – 2002, the following were organized:
- UNECE Team of Specialists on Internet Enterprise Development, second session, March 2001
 - Launch of the UNECE Survey on E-payment Systems in Transition Economies, May 2001
 - UNECE Conference on Digital Economy Development in South East Europe, Romania, October 2001
 - UNECE Workshop on E-Government in Transition Economies, Hungary, November 2001
 - UNECE Team of Specialists on Internet Enterprise Development, third session, November 2001
 - UNECE Seminar on E-Work Development in transition economies, Poland, January 2002
 - UNECE Team of Specialists on Internet Enterprise Development, 4th session, February 2002
 - UNECE Workshop on E-Regulatory Framework Development, Geneva, February 2002

Activities to be undertaken:

155. The Internet Enterprise Development Team will cooperate with the UN/ICT Task Force Focal Point in the Trade Division in organizing the regional preparatory meeting in Romania for the UN World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS). It is expected that a network of advisory councils on e-strategy development across the region will be developed as a vehicle for support to the WSIS. Based on the mandate of the Team, publications will be developed on relevant topics and practical and policy oriented guidelines will be developed as inputs to the regional preparatory meeting, together with Internet economy country reports which will discuss the complex e-policy issues, industry and market structure, and regulatory regimes that are relevant to the digital economy development.

156. The following work will be undertaken:

Conferences

- UNECE Forum on Online Dispute Resolution: State of the Art and Main Issues, 6-7 June 2002 (jointly with the legal working group of UN/CEFACT)
- UNECE Forum on e-Transition which will discuss major achievements and new challenges for the knowledge economy development in the region, June 2003

Projects

- UNECE/ EU Project on E-Work Development in Central and Eastern Europe, 2002-2003 (e-Work development aims at promoting new methods of work through ICT tools such as telework and mobile work)
- In order to assess the potential for digital economy development in transition economies, the Team will prepare Internet Economy country reports. This series will start with the case of Poland for September 2002 and will continue, country by country, resources permitting

Publications

- Proceedings of the June 2002 UNECE Forum on Online Dispute Resolution: State of the Art and Main Issues will be published
- A report on e-Payment Systems development in transition economies will be prepared in cooperation with the German Institute of ITAS (2003)

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Annex I
Trade Development Programme Component

Subsidiary bodies	Work areas			Cross-sectoral issues			Principal partners
	Trade facilitation and e-business	Standards and Technical Harmonization	Trade Policy and Promotion	Gender issues	Sustainable Development	ICT for development	
	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	
Committee for Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development (CTIED)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inter-governmental policy discussions - Policy recommendations - Promotion and dissemination - Implementation and capacity building 			Mainstreaming of cross-sectoral issues into the Committee's programme of work			DESA UNCTAD WTO Regional Commissions
UN Centre for Trade Facilitation and e-Business (UN/CEFACT)	Recommendations, best practice and standards development		Facilitation recommendations and tools		UNeDocs project Trade Facilitation in the Mediterranean project	Support to the UN's ICT for Development initiative and World Summit on the Information Society	UNCTAD ITC WTO ITU WCO IEC
Working Party on Technical Harmonization and Standardization Policies (WP.6)	Improve the harmonized implementation of standards and related trade regulations	Harmonize standards, technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures	Related policy recommendations		Environmental Standards and Conformity Assessment		WTO ISO IEC CEN CENELEC
Working Party on Agricultural Standards (WP.7)	Improve the harmonized implementation of agricultural standards and recommendations	Commercial standards and recommendations		Promote the use of quality standards by women in Agro-business		Work to support electronic data interchange of agricultural trade standards information	FAO OECD

Annex II

**INDUSTRIAL RESTRUCTURING AND ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAMME COMPONENT**

Conceptual Framework	<i>SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.</i>			
	<i>A. Structural Reform</i>	<i>B. Entrepreneurship</i>	<i>C. Knowledge Economy</i>	<i>D. Cooperation with Private Sector</i>
Cluster of Work Programme	Industrial Restructuring ↓	Enterprise Development ↓	e-Economy ↓	Legal & Commercial Practice ↓
WP.8 Teams of Specialists	Core Work Programme			
Internet Enterprise Development	Digital Restructuring E-Government E-Regulatory Framework	E-infrastructure Virtual SME development Cyber market Places Advisory Council on Digital Economy	E-government E-business management E-commerce E-payment E-work (telework) E-learning	
Quality Management Systems	Total Quality Management and Quality Management Systems			
Women's Entrepreneurship		Women's Entrepreneurship Networks Women ICT Virtual Training E-Business Centres	E-commerce development	
Entrepreneurship in Poverty Alleviation	Vocational training	Youth Entrepreneurship Training Centre Youth Info Net Youth E-training Centre (virtual) Micro-crediting	E-commerce development	
Industrial Restructuring	Competitiveness Turn Around Management Systems Industry Restructuring Financing	Industry-specific incubation Outsourcing/contracting out Technology - parks New Job Creation	E-commerce development E-business management E-procurement	Property market development
WP.5 Teams of Specialists				Evaluation of land, and other assets
Real Estate Advisory Group (REAG)				
Intellectual Property Group (IPR)				IP evaluation and enforcement
Build Operate Transfer (BOT)				Public Private Partnership- PPP Alliance

Source: Secretariats of UNECE WP.5 and WP.8