General Assembly at its 68\textsuperscript{th} session
Second Committee
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Agenda item 17(a) International Trade and Development

\textit{Check against delivery!}

Statement by H.E. Mr. Triyono Wibowo (Indonesia),
President of the Trade and Development Board at its 60th session
UNCTAD
Mr. Chairman,
Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,

1. It is an honour and a privilege for me to address this important Committee, and I would like to begin by extending my sincere congratulations to you, Mr. Chairman, on being elected to chair the Second Committee of the 68th session of the General Assembly. May I also take this opportunity to congratulate the other members of the Bureau on their election. Today, I am here in my capacity as President of the Trade and Development Board to present to you the report of the TDB as contained in document A/68/15 and its parts I to IV, which is before the Committee.

2. The 60th session of the governing body of UNTAD, the Trade and Development Board, took place from 16 to 27 September. The debates of the session provided us with extremely useful insights and pointers on how to further develop the concept of development-centred and inclusive globalization in different policy areas.

3. The **High-level Segment of the TDB** addressed the issue titled "Beyond the curve: UNCTAD and new patterns of growth for trade and development". Panellists and participants explored the notion of new growth patterns and discussed factors that would enable developing economies to achieve sustainable growth. They focused on the failures of past and present development models, as well as
trends in technology and intellectual property rights. It was suggested that UNCTAD should continue its research on a new-global economic development model, while taking into account the framework of globalization and the need to give the countries of the South a greater say.

4. During the deliberations on interdependence, panellists and delegates discussed new patterns in global growth and their implications for development policy, drawing on chapter I of the Trade and Development Report, 2013 that the UNCTAD secretariat presented. Participants noted the extent to which more balance was needed between strategies that focused on global trade and those that emphasized domestic and regional demand, a point discussed broadly.

5. The Board also considered UNCTAD’s contribution to the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries. All speakers and participants echoed the need to gear national policies of LDCs and international support from development partners towards enabling at least half of LDCs to meet the criteria for graduation from LDC status by 2020, in accordance with the Istanbul vision. There was a strong consensus about the importance of productive capacity-building as the only realistic avenue for sustained and inclusive economic growth and poverty reduction in LDCs and ultimately for progress towards graduation from LDC status. The essential role of the private sector was highlighted in enhancing productive capacities in LDCs. While recognizing that the task of measuring and benchmarking productive capacities is complex and difficult due to
the number of areas to be assessed and measured and a paucity of data, welcomes the UNCTAD secretariat's initiative in this field.

6. Concerning economic development in Africa, this year's discussion focused on Intra-African trade: Unlocking private sector dynamism. The Board appreciated the concept of developmental regionalism put forward in the report and proposed that UNCTAD should intensify its trade-related capacity-building programmes to enhance the capacities of both government and the private sector in Africa and support members of the African Group in negotiating economic partnership agreements to reach win-win outcomes. Other recommendations relating to UNCTAD's role in the regional integration agenda in Africa and in trade and development issues in general called for UNCTAD to play a role in the New Asia–Africa Strategic Partnership and continue serving as a bridge for the sharing of experiences and best practices between Asia and Africa. The Organization, in partnership with the International Trade Centre, should analyse ways of utilizing the analysis and recommendations of the report to benefit African exporters and step up its managerial capacity-building activities aimed at African policymakers in LDCs.

7. The Board also considered the evolution of the international trading system and its trends from a development perspective. Participants concurred on the importance of international trade in goods and services as a catalyst for achieving poverty eradication and sustainable development in its economic, social and environmental dimensions. International trade in goods and services should be mainstreamed into the design of the post-2015
agenda as a prominent part of a stand-alone goal or as an enabler of other possible thematic goals. Many participants suggested that quantitative targets on trade might need to be accompanied by qualitative assessments. UNCTAD should continuously monitor the evolving trading system and trade policy to inform member States and help them shape national and international policies.

8. In the area of investment, UNCTAD secretariat presented the key findings and recommendations of the World Investment Report 2013: Global Value Chains – Investment and Trade for Development. Many delegates said that global value chains offered opportunities for developing economies to enter international production networks and to attract investment that could generate development benefits, including jobs, technology and market access. Policies were important to make global value chains work for development.

9. This year's deliberation of UNCTAD's Report on Assistance to the Palestinian people reinforced previous consensus on the importance of UNCTAD’s role in assisting the Palestinian people in the secretariat’s areas of competencies. Almost all delegates expressed appreciation of the report and commended the secretariat’s tangible support to the Palestinian people in building vital Palestinian public and private sector capacities and requested strengthening UNCTAD’s technical cooperation, research, training and advisory services in favour of the Palestinian people in light of the vulnerability and exposure of the Palestrina economy. Despite the sensitive political context of the subject of the report, its message, analysis, diagnosis, and recommendations were endorsed
by almost all delegates who expressed concerns over issues highlighted by the report such as the fiscal crisis, Isolation of the Palestinian economy from international markets, high unemployment and the multiple supply and demand constraints on its growth trajectory. The report also generated considerable media interest owing to its quality, findings, and topicality. As in previous years the Board took note of the report.

10. In its deliberations regarding UNCTAD’s contribution to the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields, many participants observed that the follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits should be fully integrated into the three pillars of work of UNCTAD and given adequate consideration by the Trade and Development Board. It was underscored that one of the most important current multilateral processes was the preparation of the post-2015 development framework. Given its mandate, history and expertise, UNCTAD should make a major contribution to this process, through a critical assessment of experiences from the Millennium Development Goals process and the identification of key indicators to be included in the post-2015 framework. The fiftieth anniversary of UNCTAD presented an opportunity to exchange views in this regard.

11. Concerning the Follow-up to the Joint Inspection Unit report and the agreed conclusions of the twenty-sixth special session of the Trade and Development Board on 6 July 2012, the
secretariat prepared the Progress report on the implementation of
the workplan for enhancing the management and administration of
UNCTAD. The Board requested the secretariat to enhance the
management and administration of UNCTAD through the
implementation of the presented workplan and based on the Trade
and Development Board’s deliberations. It expected at its sixty-
first session a comprehensive progress report on the
implementation, as well as welcomed updates to be given before
the session.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

12. The Trade and Development Board at its sixtieth session decided
to make the celebration of UNCTAD’s fiftieth anniversary a
forward-looking event and noted several upcoming international
processes, such as the review of the Millennium Development
Goals and the articulation of a post-2015 global development
agenda. In this context, I pledged to make it a high priority to work
with the Secretary-General of UNCTAD on ensuring that
UNCTAD made the expected contributions to these processes.

13. These then are the issues I wished to bring to your attention.
UNCTAD’s holistic mandate opens up opportunities for member
States to discuss all aspects of the global development process and
seek ways to deliver on internationally agreed development
promises. UNCTAD struggles to ensure that the global economic
system is based on the mutual respect and responsibility of all
stakeholders as they strive to articulate and deliver on a post-2015
development agenda. That agenda needs to be sustainable and better, and such an approach would require a candid evaluation of what has worked and what has not worked. The fact that UNCTAD XIV to be held in 2016 creates a unique opportunity for member States to participate in the first major global event to implement the new development agenda. In this regard, the Committee has before it Board Decision 517 (S-XXVII) as adopted at the 27th Special Session of the Trade and Development held in March 2013, namely “the Trade and Development Board warmly welcomed the generous offer of Peru to host the fourteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in 2016.” I commend this decision to the Second Committee for its formal endorsement and accept the offer of Peru to host UNCTAD XIV in Peru.

Thank you.