

UNECE Working Party on Industry and Enterprise Development

Enlarged Bureau Meeting

1 October 2004, Geneva, Switzerland

REPORT

Present: Ms. J. Habuda, Chairman WP.8
Mr. A. Erden, Turkey
Mr. A. Fiddeman, Chair, TOS on Women's Entrepreneurship, United Kingdom
Mr. F. Grishaev, Russian Federation
Ms. J. Ory, France

Secretariat: Mr. G. Kowalski, Director, IREEDD
Ms. V. Cram-Martos, Secretary CTIED
Mr. S. Vilogorac, Chief, IED, IREEDD
Ms. E. Ruminska-Zimny, OES
Mr. I. Adjoubei, IREEDD

Item 1 – Adoption of the provisional agenda

Provisional agenda was adopted.

Item 2 – Status of programme implementation

The Bureau heard the report by the secretariat on the implementation of the WP.8's programme of work during the period succeeding the fifth session of the Working Party (February 2004). It took note of this report. The Bureau advised the Working Party to solicit the extension of mandates of individual Teams of Specialists in the context of the Working Party decisions on the proposed medium-term directions of work.

Item 3 – Topics for substantive discussion at the sixth session of the Working Party

The Enlarged Bureau decided that a Round Table with a tentative title "Current Trends in Entrepreneurship and Enterprise Development in Transition Economies" would be organized during the sixth session. At the same time, it asked the secretariat to organize at that session a

presentation on the environmental aspects of industry and enterprise development introducing the Working Party into the concept of sustainable industrial development and corporate social responsibility.

Item 4 – Organization of the Industry and Enterprise Development Week to be held in conjunction with the ninth session of CTIED in 2005 (23 – 27 May)

1. Dates, programme and organization of the Industry and Enterprise Development Forum

The Enlarged Bureau took note of the decision of the eighth session the CTIED, which had changed the title of the Forum to read: “After Fifteen Years of Market Reforms in Transition Economies: New Challenges and Perspectives for the Industrial Sector”. It asked the secretariat to present the first draft of the Forum’s Programme to the CTIED Bureau meeting to be held on 21 October 2004.

2. Other events during the Week

The Enlarged Bureau asked the secretariat, to the extent possible, to organize the events scheduled under the auspices of WP.8 for the first half of 2005 during the Industry and Enterprise Development Week.

Item 5 – Updated programme of work for 2004-2005

The Enlarged Bureau discussed and adopted the programme of work for 2004-2005 updated by the Secretariat in accordance with the decisions of the fifth session of the WP.8 (UNECE doc. TRADE/WP.8/2004/14. Rev.1).

Item 6 – Future directions of work – medium-term perspective

The Enlarged Bureau discussed and amended the proposals by the secretariat regarding the medium-term programme of work (TRADE/WP.8//2004/17). It agreed that in the medium-term the Working Party should focus its work on conditions and policy instruments enhancing country competitiveness, emerging knowledge-based economy, and the development of entrepreneurship and enterprise. The Enlarged Bureau adopted the proposals by the secretariat with amendments.

With regard to individual programme areas, the Enlarged Bureau recommended to the Working Party:

1. To rename the TOS on Industrial Restructuring to the TOS on Industrial Restructuring and Competitiveness and refocus its mandate accordingly;

2. To transfer the sub-programmes of corporate governance and corporate social responsibility from Industrial Development programme to Enterprise Development programme;
3. To initiate a new sub-programme on Entrepreneurship and Enterprise Development to be implemented directly by the Working Party 8;
4. To deal directly with all horizontal issues, which apply across the sub-programmes;
5. To decide on the status of the TOS on Quality Management Systems subject to the decision of the Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies (WP.6) on taking over this TOS (due in November 2004);
6. To discontinue the mandate of the Team of Specialists on Women's Entrepreneurship and to deal with the Women's Entrepreneurship issues in the framework of the proposed sub-programme on Entrepreneurship and Enterprise Development and the regional advisory services;
7. To discontinue the mandate of the TOS on Youth Entrepreneurship and to offer the opportunity to interested governments to deal with related key issues in the framework of the proposed Entrepreneurship and Enterprise Development sub-programme and the regional advisory services;
8. To recommend to the secretariat to retain the regional advisory services and the respective post of Regional Adviser under the programme on Industry and Enterprise Development.

The Bureau re-emphasized that because of limited secretariat resources only a few activities in each programme should be undertaken at any given time. As activities are completed new ones could be initiated.

The Enlarged Bureau asked the secretariat to revise the note containing draft proposals (TRADE/WP.8//2004/17) and incorporate amendments made at the meeting. The revised version of the note will be circulated to member State delegations for comments. The secretariat should request delegations to return their comments on this document not later than 1 December 2004. Then the revised note will be adopted by the Bureau and distributed to the Working Party 8 as programme proposals by the Bureau.

Item 7 – Other business

The Chair of the Working Party advised the secretariat to make a special effort to encourage the participation of member States in the plenary sessions of WP.8. In particular, this effort should target countries, which have not attended those sessions over the last 2 or 3 years. The Enlarged Bureau agreed with this proposal and asked the secretariat to distribute the invitations to the sixth session of the Working Party not only to delegations but also to the relevant ministries of member States.