



American Model United Nations
ECA

Report to the Economic and Social Council on Aid for Trade: Opportunities and Challenges for Africa

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The first topic discussed by the Economic Commission for Africa was the Aid for Trade Initiative: Challenges and Opportunities that the initiative present to Africa. Aid for Trade (AFT) is an economic initiative focusing on methods to help African Member States develop economic capacity to become competitive on a global scale and build trading capacity from within national borders.

The Commission identified six sub-topics within AFT to identify priorities and new methods to assist AFT. The sub-topics were as follows: A General Framework for AFT Emphasizing Soft and Hard Infrastructure; ‘Easy African Trade’ (EAT) Program for Acceleration and Facilitation of Trade; Aid Volatility and Aid Dependency; African Infrastructure Alliance to Increase Trading Capacity; Microfinance as a Tool for Developing Trading Capacity; and Regional Dimensions to Trade. The six sub-topics became a tool for the Commission to focus on more narrow aspects of an otherwise vast economic initiative. In identifying these topics, the Commission was able to develop solutions and strategies to work towards the broader AFT agenda.

In deliberation of the AFT initiative, the majority of the body was clear about the general direction on the initiative, but the body faced disagreement on how to tackle certain issues. While there was consensus on the general framework, more specific programs – like the EAT Program – faced opposition from several Member States.

By the closure of debate on Topic Agenda One, four resolutions were successfully passed, one by consensus . The only resolutions not to be passed were the ‘Easy African Trade’ (EAT) Program for Acceleration and Facilitation of Trade Resolution and the Regional Dimensions to Trade Resolution. The former was tabled and a two thirds majority to bring it back to the floor was unsuccessful, while the latter never came to a vote due to expiration of the limits on debate.

In general, the body was able to reach several conclusions on strategies for the future of AFT. However, as is the case in discussions of macroeconomic concepts, implementation will require a concerted effort from the global community.

The Economic Commission for Africa strongly encourages the Economic and Social Council to adopt the recommendations outlined in the following report tackling the opportunities and challenges faced by Africa in the AFT initiative and the global trading system in general.

CHAPTER I

Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council and brought to its attention

A. Draft resolutions for adoption by the Economic and Social Council

The Economic Commission for Africa recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following resolutions:

Draft resolution I

General Framework for Aid for Trade Emphasizing Soft and Hard Infrastructure

The Economic and Social Council

Deeply concerned with the current economic situation of many African nations,

Emphasizing the importance of infrastructure, ranging from the basic construction of roads to the education of the people within the nation to increase trade capacity to continue the Aid for Trade Regulations,

Understanding that the creation of this infrastructure also provides work for the people of Africa, which will in turn stimulate the economies of Africa as a whole,

Noting with concern the problems associated with too much oversight over certain aspects of the Aid for Trade program,

Fully believing that only nations that have physical and governmental infrastructure, productive capacity, custom facilitations and technical skills will be fully able to take advantage of the Aid for Trade program,

Understanding the informational infrastructure to mean e-commerce and other technological infrastructure that would be beneficial to trade,

1. *Urges* the creation of basic infrastructure to the lesser developed nations within Africa through the donor countries already involved in Aid for Trade;

2. *Calls upon* the more developed nations within Africa to provide informational infrastructure to the lesser developed nations that are ready for this step, understanding that this also bolsters trade for the more developed countries as well;

3. *Expresses its hope* that there is more liberalization of the economic aid given to lesser developed nations, with some oversight by the World Trade Organization and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA);

4. *Calls upon* Member Nations to further enhance integration between member states and comply with international custom standards to minimize delays between

borders;

5. *Endorses* the greater equalization of trade commerce, and exchange rates;

6. *Encourages* the strengthening of preexisting regional economic partnerships and organizations for the purposes of mainstreaming economic trade between the nations in Africa;

7. *Welcomes* the creation of a committee to focus on public-private partnerships (PPPs) to further develop both inter- and intra-continental trade;

8. *Urges* the international world to revise the trade principles and encourage fair and balanced global economic and trade rules, and favor competitive practices that will allow the African continent to succeed in the global trade market.

Draft resolution II
Aid Volatility and Aid Dependency

The Economic and Social Council

Fully aware that the issue of aid volatility directly undermines the efforts made by African nations to establish long term development plans and initiatives,

Noting with great concern that aid volatility disproportionately affects African countries,

Noting with deep concern the tendency of many donor countries to fall short on their promises of aid and financial support,

Reaffirming that aid is essential for the success of both Aid for Trade initiatives as well as for broader development plans within the continent,

Guided by the commitment made by partner countries at the Doha Follow-Up International Conference on Financing for Development to improve aid predictability by providing recipients with regular, timely, indicative information on planned support in the medium term,

Affirming that the goal of Aid for Trade is to enable African nations to move away from aid dependency and establish sustainable business and economic growth,

Observing the lack of communication and coordination between existing aid organizations and projects,

Recognizing that high levels of debt among African nations continues to be an ongoing source of tension as well as a hindrance to the successful use of aid,

1. *Identifies* a three-pronged approach to fighting issues with aid volatility, including accountability of donor nations, strengthening of local business in recipient nations and strengthening adaptive capacity through employment of regional bodies;

2. *Requests* that donor nations that find themselves in such a position that they are unable to meet their previous aid promises to either:

(a) Inform recipient nations so that long term goals can be adjusted, to reflect the current monetary situation;

(b) Make alternate arrangements with recipient nations;

3. *Further requests* that the oversight of such arrangements between donor and recipient nations be placed under the purview of Regional Economic Communities (RECs) like the South African Development Community (SADC), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS):

(a) With the intent that the RECs will communicate with each other to increase accountability within the RECs as well as to facilitate great development within Africa;

4. *Recommends* that the focus move away from aid dependency towards self sustainable development and growth through:

(a) Development of small businesses that may continue to grow and seek profit without aid;

(b) Increase the volume of micro-loans and micro-grants given to nations, communities and individuals to spur local business;

5. *Supports* the expansion of the purview of the Regional Coordination Mechanism (RCM) to include oversight of all African Aid initiatives and projects, in an attempt to limit aid fragmentation, and more efficiently use the economic resources provided to Africa;

6. *Calls* for Heavily Indebted Poor Countries to reassess the criteria used to determine debt forgiveness, with the intent focused on rewarding economies that demonstrate:

(a) Significant and quantifiable economic growth within measures used to determine economic status, i.e. Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita income, poverty levels, and employment rates;

(b) Extreme financial need to the extent that development plans are hindered by high levels of debt;

(c) Evaluation by a joint oversight committee composed of both the RECs and the World Trade Organization (WTO).

Draft resolution III

African Infrastructure Alliance to Increase Trading Capacity

The Economic and Social Council

Acknowledging the fact that many developing countries are at natural

disadvantages due to the nature of their climates, location and geographical features,

Noting the difficulty of states without access to ports to effectively trade intra- and inter continentally,

Recognizing the need to foster and build relationships to minimize this disadvantage of geographic disparity,

Confident that the sharing of expertise among African Member States will lead to all encompassing benefits for the African continent,

Welcoming the eventual modernization of various aspects of trade and infrastructure for all African Member States,

1. *Encourages* the promotion of the Aid for Trade Program and increased developed nation's participation in it, so as to provide more opportunities for growth and reduction of poverty in lesser developed countries;

2. *Further invites* the formation of an "African Progress" summit among the Economic Commission for Africa's Member States and donor countries of the Aid for Trade framework, that would work with the purpose of exchanging experiences and expertise among donor and recipient members, looking to:

- (a) Enhance effectiveness and efficiency of aid provided;
- (b) Align aid policies with the receiver's capabilities and possibilities to comply;
- (c) Create a framework of a recipient driven agenda;
- (d) Meet every two years with the intention of modifying goals, reevaluating milestones, and monitoring progress within Member States;

3. *Suggests* that in the "African Progress" summit, each Member State, active or passive, has the right to have a delegate representation present to protect their country's interests;

4. *Recommends* the empowerment of Regional Economic Communities (RECs) for the efficient distribution of aid provided to them among their member states as well as the supervision of the programs being executed by the aid provided;

5. *Further recommends* the Aid for Trade framework to analyze if the largest constraints of a country's productive capacity is restricted by the need of soft infrastructure or hard infrastructure, the first being government institutions, economic power, and the transfer of technology from more developed States to the lesser developed States, the later referring roads, factories etc so that aid can be distributed accordingly;

6. *Encourages* the creation of a group of developing countries called the African Infrastructure Alliance, to perform as a think-tank, seeking to facilitate the commercialization of products through alternative means of transportation and to promote better trade-transport relations with neighboring countries, based on an

understanding that neighbor relations and transport infrastructure is vital to prosper, therefore the importance of handling this regionally, without excluding multilateral foreign involvement;

7. *Further encourages* the African Infrastructure Alliance to work regionally in the reception of aid from the Aid for Trade framework, so as to specifically direct aid to transportation infrastructure throughout the Member States, while acknowledging and respecting the autonomy of these states within the context of this regional cooperation;

8. *Recommends* the creation of the “African Infrastructure Alliance Summit”, gathering every two years, serving as the means to establish an objective driven agenda for geographically disadvantaged countries, seeking to eradicate duplicative regulations and procedures, share fixed costs of regulatory bodies, reduce trading costs through joint infrastructure and the harmonization of customs codes and procedures;

9. *Encourages* the cooperation between nations in the form of information exchange where nations advise each other specifically based on their respective competitive advantages and fields of expertise.

Draft resolution IV **Microfinance as a Tool for Developing Trade Capacity**

The Economic and Social Council

Emphasizing that relationships of economic interdependence result in cooperation across borders,

Declaring that microfinance is an aid system that allows for the development of self-sustainability,

Recognizing the benefits of the Aid for Trade program in creating infrastructure in under developed countries,

Taking into consideration the need for individual and regional improvement for the success of the Aid for Trade program,

Observing that this development will enable a basis for future international cooperation,

Fully aware that compliance with the Economic Trade for Africa's Aid for Trade policy's are entirely voluntary for each individual state, but encourages nations to uphold prior commitments as long term development goals are difficult to accomplish without stable support,

1. *Recommends* the use of micro loans and micro finances in creating and facilitating trade at the local level through:

- (a) Encouraging entrepreneurship;
- (b) Creating employment;
- (c) Encouraging intrastate commerce;
- (d) Creating an organized financial system in our countries;

2. *Notes* the necessity of modernization and the use of modern technologies in:

- (a) Identifying agricultural needs;
- (b) Enhancing the productive capacities of African States;

3. *Calls upon* the development and implementation of vocational education programs with the assistance of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) for the purposes of:

- (a) Creating human capital through education, recognizing that education can fight poverty;
- (b) Providing an initiative to expand individual knowledge of finance and trade, which will aid in the stimulation of commerce;
- (c) Encouraging individuals towards proper financial practices such as private savings and investment;

4. *Strongly recommends* the formation of a summit, consisting of a Government supported network system with help from private NGO's in terms of advice and consultation;

5. *Supports* the strengthening of existing Regional Economic Committees in Africa for the purposes of:

- (a) Mainstreaming regional trade policies;
- (b) Creating trade partnerships between African States;
- (c) Reducing interstate conflict and enhancing cooperation;

6. *Urges* member states to fulfill existing commitments such as the Paris Declaration to improve and enhance the Aid for Trade Initiative.

CHAPTER II

Consideration of of Aid for Trade: Challenges and Opportunities for Africa

At its meetings from 21 to 23 November 2009, the Commission considered the topic of Aid for Trade and its challenges and opportunities for Africa.

A. Deliberations

The delegation of Mauritania wrote Resolution I/1 in conjunction with Egypt, who provided the framework for the resolution, and Saudi Arabia also added further insight to strengthen the resolution. This resolution was also sponsored by Algeria, Chad, Djibouti, Kenya, Malawi, Mauritania, Mauritius, Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Zimbabwe. The overall purpose of this resolution was to develop a basic framework from which the other resolutions on this topic might use to better develop their proposals. There was some debate on this resolution regarding the expansive nature it contained. Two operative clauses were added for the purpose of strengthening the regional ties between the African nations. Egypt emphasized the need for the transfer of technology for the purpose of developing soft infrastructure after lesser developed Member States have further developed their basic infrastructures. This is a necessary step for African Member States to gain the capacity to enter into competitive global trade, and is easily provided by more developed Member States, like Egypt, without the traditional constraints of modernizing infrastructure. A preambular clause was also added as clarification on the definition of informational infrastructure. The resolution was passed by consensus with Malawi abstaining from consensus.

The primary purpose for Resolution I/1 was to have a grounded framework from which to base the other resolutions. Mauritania felt that this was an important step in the process in order to be the most effective body possible. The resolution used its broad range of focus to develop several different aspects that the Commission wished to address. In many nations on the African continent, infrastructure has become the primary means of gaining aid, while still moving towards a sustainable future. This resolution provided for both the basic infrastructural needs as well as a transfer of informational infrastructure, specifically technology for the purposes of developing a more sustainable and standardized form of e-commerce. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia felt that the African States should strive to eliminate the supply-side constraints that are preventing the continent from taking advantage of the global trading system. To reduce its anti-competitive practices, the Kingdom called upon the African States to enhance integration across the region, implement measures to reduce the long delays at the borders, and instill regulations that comply with the international custom standards.

The delegation of Chad, along with the delegations of Burkina Faso, Kenya, Libya, Saudi Arabia among others, drafted Resolution I/2 which focused particularly on the facilitation and acceleration of trading procedures among African countries through the Easy African Trade Program (EAT). This program was meant to complement Aid for Trade goals of integrating Africa with the global trading system by creating data compatibility between states, statistical analysis of world wide trade, common trading procedures, and resources

efficiency. Some delegations questioned the Commission's purview to discuss regulations of trade in order to maintain national sovereignty, which led to the adjournment of debate on the matter. There was contentious debate among the delegations regarding whether or not the resolution should be tabled. After a friendly amendment had been added, a motion to reconsider this resolution was brought to the floor and failed by a small margin.

Resolution I/3 was brought to the floor by Ghana on the second day of debate. This resolution focused on methods of combating aid volatility and aid dependency. Ghana used the authorship speech granted to them to outline the three pronged approach outlined in the resolution. Zimbabwe followed this with an explanation on the changing relationship between donor and recipient countries. The resolution was a detailed analysis of the costs of unpredictable aid as well as the impact of aid fragmentation and debt forgiveness. The operative portion of the resolution sought to address these issues without creating new organizations and committees, but rather through the strengthening of and expanding of the purview of existing initiatives and groups. Kenya expressed its concerns about how the changing relationship could adversely affect some economies. After adoption of a friendly amendment that addressed weaknesses in operative clause 2 (specifically subsection b) as well as some grammatical errors, the resolution was adopted with a roll call vote. There were not any votes in negation, but there were some abstentions. Many of these still revolved around the vagueness of section 2b that remained.

Resolution I/4 outlined infrastructural aspects of the Aid for Trade initiative. There was little disagreement among Member States as they all agreed that infrastructure was an important aspect that should be tackled for Africa to be competitive on the global trading system. This resolution was written and brought to the floor by Chad and a coalition of nations concerned with infrastructural challenges. The resolution sought to enhance effectiveness and efficiency of aid provided, and aligns aid policies with the receiver's capabilities and possibilities through the formation of an "African Progress Summit. This Summit would meet once every two years with the intention of modifying goals, reevaluating milestones, and monitor the progress within Member States. A proposal was also made to create the "African Infrastructure Alliance Summit" which would serve as a means to establish an objective driven agenda for geographically disadvantaged countries. In addition, the Alliance Summit would seek to eradicate duplicative regulations and procedures, share fixed costs of regulatory bodies, and reduce trading costs through joint infrastructure and harmonization of customs codes and procedures. Resolution I/4 also encouraged the cooperation between states in the form of information exchange where states would advise other states with regards to their respective competitive advantages and fields of expertise. The resolution was brought to a near immediate vote. Only two Member States, The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, voted against this resolution. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia was supportive of the resolution, but cited the repetitive nature of some of the clauses and overlapping African Infrastructure Progress Summits should be streamlined into one as the primary reason for their no vote. The Kingdom and Burkina Faso were working on making amendments to the draft resolution to allow for the creation of one combined Summit and managed to

gain the support from Chad and Egypt. However, the draft resolution was brought to a vote before it could be amended.

Resolution I/5 was brought to the floor by Malawi and Senegal. The writing of this resolution was aided by Namibia and Mozambique. This resolution dealt with microfinance initiatives. When addressing specifically the topic of micro financing, the Economic Commission of Africa took into the consideration the following to address the issues at the grassroots level of development:

- Under the summit.- in cooperation with the individual state government and NGO support. Freedom of the states to choose to comply or deny the support or suggestion of the NGO's in order to maintain the states sovereignty was addressed.
- Microloans that set a system for microfinances in individual states based on the model of the Grameen bank in Bangladesh. Small amounts of capital would be given to the individual thereby creating entrepreneurship and intrastate commerce to strengthen the states finance and also creating employment. The microloans would be based on the repayment of the loan.
- The appropriation of further aid would be based on the contribution of these loans in coherence of the Gross Domestic Product of the individual state. Based on the needs of the states. Perform a financial statement would be designed. The state would be held responsible for the repayment of the loans.
- Following the microloan system the economy would focus its funds on a concrete and soft infrastructure. Awareness would be created within the states through education. The educated youth would be aware of their rights. This would avoid concerns lack of representation of the people in the financial system of the country. Promoting the expansion/creation of educational systems would allow for international interaction.
- Interstate trade creates dependency within each of the nations. There would rarely be a conflict between the nations due to the interdependence developed by trade among them.

In addition to the previous concerns of Rwanda, Nigeria, and Zimbabwe, the explanation of micro-loans were more clearly defined in the preambular clauses of Draft Resolution I/5.

Regarding Zimbabwe's concern of the States role in providing education to its people, ECA/I/5 stated that the education is not mandatory and is limited to formal institutions of education.

Kenya stated a great concern for the spread of technology and the incapability of many African countries to support such development. At this time, changes were also made to ECA/I/5. This change in the resolution lead to an emphasis on the identification of the agricultural needs of the African states as well as the focus on enhancing the productive

capacities of the states.

The states of Mauritania, Guinea-Bissau, and Mozambique agreed and allowed for further elaboration and importance on the previous ideas for ECA/I/5. They felt great concern and precedence to the issues addressed in ECA/I/5 and aided in the creation of the clause. They (with special recognition to the efforts of Guinea-Bissau) also allowed for the collaboration of the resolution and the already established Paris Declaration. This allowed for a much greater understanding of the improvements on the Aid for Trade Initiative stated within Resolution I/5 by creating a reference to the existing commitments of the Paris Declaration, which states the member states' commitment to monitor, evaluate, and implement mutual accountability in strengthening Least Developed Countries' national development strategies.

The resolution found great support from the Commission with the exception of Tunisia, who voted no in passing the resolution, and Ethiopia, who abstained from the vote. Ethiopia had concerns about where the funding for the micro loans would come from. Their questions were not sufficiently addressed, therefore they abstained. Tunisia rejected the Resolution I/5 because it did not believe this resolution appropriately addressed the Aid for Trade initiative that was being discussed at the conference. The idea of microfinance, if appropriately pursued, may ensure poverty relief for a certain proportion of the population. However, this does not address the issue of improving global trade relations of African nations and the export deficit that the continent of Africa is experiencing. Tunisia did not believe small scaled entrepreneurs were capable of contesting with state-of-the-art, mass production facilities across the globe, particularly with regards to agriculture. Instead, Tunisia was in favor of large scaled industrialization in Africa that would allow for risk reduction and better management of aid.

Resolution I/6 focused on regional dimensions of trade initiatives and trade within the Southern hemisphere. Zimbabwe worked with Rwanda, Djibouti, and Ghana to develop a broad resolution directed towards encouraging the development of markets within RECs. The delegations were deeply concerned about the issue of regional cooperation and trade facilitation. Given the poor level of intra-Africa trade, Zimbabwe believed that if Africa is to achieve long term economic growth, it will need to develop local industries and facilitate the establishment of markets both within and among Regional Economic Communities (RECs). During the debate, there were two main points of contention concerning operative clause 1, subsection b, which suggested a duty and quota-free region among African States. There was a widespread disagreement to what extent this operative clause should be enforced and the cost-benefit ratio of the implementation of this clause. In addition, there was also a controversy about operative clause 5 which dealt with the issue of international companies exploiting African States. The debate centered on whether or not the ECA had the power to enforce punishments onto private companies that violated international laws and standards. After considering the points brought up to the floor, a friendly amendment was being drafted to clarify the points. However, the amendment was not able to be approved by the Rapporteur as a motion to extend the limit on debate on topic area one was unsuccessful.

The content of resolutions I/2 and I/6 is provided in Chapter III by the request of the sponsors of these resolutions. The sponsors would encourage the Economic and Social Council to take all deliberations and resolutions (whether passed or not) into account during their debates on these issues.

CHAPTER III

Resolutions and decisions considered by the Commission at its 2009 session

ECA/I/2

The Economic Commission for Africa

Deeply regretting that many developing countries lack the knowledge and/or technology to integrate their trading systems and information with the international community,

Recognizing that African Nations have different degrees of technological capability and expertise,

Recalling that one of the main obstacles the international community faces on regards to free trade and optimization of negotiations is an unobserved and unregulated international assistance process that in many cases generates unclear and ambiguous terms,

Fully aware of the necessity to facilitate and liberalize trade,

Recognizing the contribution, financial and strategically, that developed nations have provided and currently provide for world trade,

1. *Recommends* the implementation of an “Easy African Trade” (EAT) program, a unified information system covering all customs related processes, seeking to eradicate duplicative regulations and procedures, share fixed costs of regulatory bodies, reduce trading costs through joint infrastructure and the harmonization of customs codes and procedures, simplifying trading procedures within each country;

2. *Recommends* the EAT program to the Trade, Finance and Economic Development Division of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), which will complement Aid for Trade goals of integrating Africa with the global trading system;

3. *Encourages* all ECA member states to consider as a goal the modernization of their customs regulations and trade facilitation processes and train custom officials to improve its efficiency without undermining State's sovereignty;

4. *Resolves* that the unification of customs be through the “Easy African Trade Program” (EAT) for trading procedures which will produce benefits such as: data compatibility between nations, common trading procedures, and resources efficiency among others;

5. *Further resolves* that the establishment of the Easy African Trade Program must take into account the universally accepted foundations and sources of international law such as:

- (a) Jurisprudence;
- (b) Doctrine;
- (c) Conventions;
- (d) Tradition;

6. *Suggests* the implementation of formal programs that utilize workforces of technologically advanced nations to provide support to other nations in:

- (a) Training the workforces of technologically developing nations;
- (b) Developing infrastructure towards the successful implementation of the EAT program.

ECA/I/6

The Economic Commission for Africa

Reaffirming the comments expressed in ‘Trading Out of Poverty: How Aid for Trade Can Help’, from the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development Journal for Development, which recognize relatively high barriers for trade between developing countries,

Recognizing that in today's world there is a large divide between the developed and non developed world, and a disproportionate number of the non developed countries exist in the southern hemisphere,

Suggesting that further liberalization of trade between developing regions, or ‘South-South Trade,’ can also contribute substantially to meeting development objectives,

Recognizing the importance of strengthening regional dimensions to trade initiatives and addressing economic challenges among developing countries,

Emphasizing that African nations suffer not only from a lack of intra-African trade but also from the redirection of the majority of African exports to European and American nations as well as emerging Asian markets,

Further recognizing that African nations currently suffer from harsh inter-country trade regulations, which negatively affect African trade,

Observing that the development of intra-African trade can provide powerful incentives to tackle long-standing barriers to trade within the African continent, which include geographic, political, and ethnic disputes,

Noting that increased regional cooperation and trade would be the first step in strengthening and expanding trade within the entire continent,

Observing the benefits of regional trade communities such as the Economic

Community Of West African States (ECOWAS) and South African Development Community (SADC),

1. *Encourages* increased macroeconomic convergence among African nations – particularly Less Developed Countries (LDCs) - in order to increase ‘South-South’ trading channels and increase the volume of trade among African nations:

(a) Requests that local governments have more control over the sale and transportation of their own goods, in an order to promote greater regional coordination;

2. *Encourages* the use of foreign aid and foreign direct investments to the lowering of barriers to trade between African states;

3. *Suggests* that the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) encourage further development of Preferential Trade Agreements (PTAs) to be approved by the World Trade Organization (WTO) to help protect African markets in the global economy;

4. *Recommends* that African nations seek trade relationships with other developing nations in Latin America and Asia to supplement some European trade relations and strengthen trading capacity in the southern hemisphere;

5. *Urges* Member States of the United Nations to hold international companies and organizations within host countries accountable for their actions on their soil in order to avoid exploitation of African markets otherwise facing sanctions decided upon by the host country:

(a) These punishments may include fines or laws created by the host country or the country in which the crime occurred.

CHAPTER IV

Adoption of the report of the Commission

At its meeting on 23 November 2009, the draft report of the Commission was made available for consideration. The Commission considered the report, and with no amendments, adopted the report by consensus.