

International Conference on
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Plenary Session I

**UNCTAD’s Technical Assistance and
Capacity-Building Programmes for
Developing Countries**

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UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

UNCTAD's Basic Mandate on Competition

The UN Set of Principles and Rules on Competition, calls for:

- All countries to adopt and implement competition law;
- UNCTAD Model Law and Handbook of Competition Laws;
- UNCTAD Technical Assistance and Advisory Services.

UNCTAD's governing bodies:

- IGE on Competition Law and Policy (annual) (latest held on 2-4 July 2003)
- UN Conferences to Review the Set (every 5 years) (Fourth Review Conference: September 2000)
- UNCTAD Conferences (every 4 years) (UNCTAD X in Bangkok, May 2003)

Other:

- Doha Declaration calls on UNCTAD in para.

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Two main lines of action:

A) Long-term, UNCTAD X and 4th Review Conference Mandates:

- to contribute to a more efficient, but also a more equitable world economy through a competition-rules based globalization process at national, regional and multilateral levels;
- to boost competitiveness, and hence accelerate the development of developing countries, in particular LDCs, and economies in transition by promoting a competition culture;
- to defend consumer interests by ensuring that applying competition rules results in better quality and choice, and lower prices of goods and services.



B) WTO-related activity aimed at assisting countries “so that they may better evaluate the implications of closer multilateral cooperation in the field of competition for their development”.



Main types of Technical Assistance:

- Introductory Seminars
- Economic Mapping and Needs Assessment
- Assistance in drafting Competition Bill
- Advisory Services for setting-up Competition Authority and training of officials
- Seminars and Workshops for Exchange of Expertise among countries in the implementation phase
- Assistance to developing and least-developed countries and economies in transition related to the Doha Declaration (Pre-and Post-Cancun)

PROGRESS IN ASIA

National Competition Law

Phase I	Phase II	Phase III	Phase IV
Introduction Seminar	Draft bill	Law Adopted Capacity- Building	Exchange of Experience
Laos Cambodia	Vietnam	Mauritius	Indonesia
Bangladesh	China	India	Sri Lanka
Iran Lebanon (planned) Philippines	Nepal	Jordan	

Regional Activities

- ASEAN
- APEC
- JAICA Coop.
- Seoul Forum 2002 (KFTC/OECD/UNCTAD)
- Two Regional Post-Doha Seminars
 - Hong Kong (March 2002)
 - Kuala Lumpur (February 2003)

Interregional Activities

- Meeting for Regional Groupings
Las Palmas, 11-13 November 2003