

**Integrated Framework Steering Committee
Nineteenth Session**

**REPORT ON THE 19TH SESSION OF THE
INTEGRATED FRAMEWORK STEERING COMMITTEE (IFSC)**

Tuesday, 1 May 2007, WTO, Geneva

Chairperson: Ambassador Mia Horn af Rantzien (Sweden)

A. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

1. The Integrated Framework Steering Committee (IFSC) held its nineteenth session on Tuesday, 1 May 2007. The agenda is reproduced in Annex I.

B. 47TH MEETING OF THE INTEGRATED FRAMEWORK WORKING GROUP: REPORT BY THE CHAIR OF THE IFWG

2. The Chairperson of the IFSC said that the Integrated Framework Working Group (IFWG) had considered two important items, both related to the enhanced IF namely: (i) the recommendations by the Transition Team of an enhanced IF (Transition Team) to operationalize the enhanced IF; and (ii) the transitional arrangements to ensure a smooth transition from the current IF to its enhanced phase. She invited the Chairperson of the IFWG, Mrs. Valentine Rugwabiza, Deputy Director-General, WTO, to provide the IFSC with a report on the outcome of the meeting.

3. The Chairperson of the IFWG said that the IFWG had held its forty-seventh session, its last one, in the WTO in the morning of 1 May 2007. The meeting was attended by all six IF Agencies, the LDCs, represented by Lesotho, Zambia and Rwanda and, the donors, represented by Canada and the European Communities. The main focus of the meeting was the consideration of the recommendations by the Transition Team. She informed the IFSC that members of the IFWG, representing all constituencies of the IF community, had unanimously endorsed the recommendations of the Transition Team and had agreed to transmit them to the IFSC for adoption. The package of the recommendations contained: (i) the compilation of working documents that the Transition Team and its clusters had developed following the adoption of the recommendations of the Task Force for an enhanced IF last summer; (ii) ideas on funding and modalities for the formal launching of the enhanced IF; (iii) outreach activities; and (iv) the roadmap outlining the next steps. She said that, under the next agenda item, a full report would be made by one of the co-chairs of the Transition Team giving the full details of its recommendations. She, therefore, focused on two issues discussed by the IFWG namely: (i) the transitional arrangements; and (ii) usual business of the IFWG. She pointed out that since the enhancement of the IF would entail administratively housing the Executive Secretariat in the WTO, this particular matter would need to be brought to the attention of the General Council which was the highest-level decision-making body of the WTO, including its Secretariat.

4. She continued by saying that some transitional issues still remained to be worked out, such as the details of accountability arrangements of the Trust Fund Manager, monitoring and evaluation systems and funding and replenishment issues relating to the enhanced IF. Pending the first meeting

of the Board under the enhanced IF (IF Board), an interim Board under the enhanced IF (interim Board) would start work to address these issues. She hoped that the implementation phase of the enhanced IF would kick in from the following day. During that implementation phase, and pending the formal launching of the enhanced IF, some transitional arrangements would need to be put in place to ensure a smooth transition from the current IF to the enhanced IF. The IFWG had had a first exchange of views on those arrangements and had agreed to continue to elaborate the details of those arrangements in the interim Board. Those arrangements would also need to address a number of questions, such as: (i) what modalities would need to be devised to accommodate donors that wished to contribute to the enhanced IF, before the new Trust Fund Manager was in place?; (ii) how to treat proposals for new activities presented for funding under the enhanced IF, before the new Trust Fund manager was in place?; (iii) how to ensure continuation of existing activities, which were funded out of the current Trust Fund, and how to treat new requests for funding out of the current Trust Fund?

5. Regarding the first question, the UNDP had offered three options concerning contributions to the IF Trust Fund during the transition phase. Those options would allow flexibility to accommodate donors that would be willing to contribute to the enhanced IF before the new Trust Fund Manager was in place. With regard to the second question, it was suggested that the interim Board would take up the matter. Concerning the third question, it was the understanding of the IFWG that the current IF activities would continue in a "business as usual" manner until such time as the IF Board decides otherwise. With respect to the recruitment process of the Executive Director of the Executive Secretariat, she clarified that the WTO Secretariat needed assurance from the current Trust Fund Manager that sufficient funds were available to cover the costs of recruitment and a two-year contract of the Executive Director.

6. She went on to say that the IFWG had agreed that the competitive selection process of the new Trust Fund Manager be assisted by a technical consultant. It was noted that one donor had offered to make funds available for this consultant. That would ensure that the LDC Unit in the WTO Secretariat, including the Programme Implementation Unit (PIU), would not be requested to take on additional work. With regard to the servicing of the IF governance bodies, the WTO had indicated its willingness to service these meetings until the recruitment of the Executive Director.

7. Finally, she reported briefly on some standing items that had been considered at the IFWG. She said that 44 LDCs were at various stages of the IF process. The IFWG had taken note of the written reports provided by the World Bank and the UNDP on the implementation and progress made in these countries. The IFWG had welcomed the fact that the World Bank and the UNDP had begun the practice of providing information on the implementation of the IF process in the beneficiary countries through joint written reports. The IFWG had taken note of the written report made by the UNDP on the status of the IF Trust Fund as of 31 March 2007. In this regard, the IFWG had also taken note of comments made on the report, in particular on the projected funding requirements. She noted the suggestion made at the IFWG for convening the first meeting of the IF Board within one month of the adoption of the recommendations of the Transition Team.

8. The Chairperson of the IFSC proposed that the IFSC take note of the report made by the Chairperson of the IFWG.

9. It was so agreed.

C. ENHANCEMENT OF THE INTEGRATED FRAMEWORK: REPORT BY THE CHAIR OF THE IF TRANSITION TEAM: ADOPTION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS TRANSMITTED TO IT BY THE IFWG

10. The Chairperson of the IFSC said that the Transition Team and its three clusters had finalized their work to operationalize the enhanced IF. The IFWG had adopted a package of recommendations put forward by the Transition Team. The procedures and terms of reference of the various processes

and bodies constituting the enhanced IF were laid down in a consolidated document, which was available in the meeting room. She pointed out that the consolidated document represented a compilation of working documents and needed to be fine-tuned since the document had been finalized only recently. She apologized that the texts were not available in French and Spanish. The Secretariat, however, had been working hard to produce translations as soon as possible. The items in the compilation included: (i) Modus operandi of Tier 1 of the Trust Fund under the enhanced IF (Tier 1); (ii) Modus operandi of Tier 2 of the Trust Fund under the enhanced IF (Tier 2); (iii) Guidance Note for the National Implementation Arrangements; (iv) Guidance Note for the Donor Facilitator; (v) Terms of Reference for the IF Board; (vi) Terms of Reference for the IFSC; (vii) Terms of Reference for the Executive Secretariat; (viii) Terms of Reference for the Executive Director of the Executive Secretariat; and (ix) Terms of Reference for the Trust Fund Manager. She invited Ambassador Stephenson (Canada), one of the co-chairs of the Transition Team, to introduce the achievements of the Transition Team so that they could be adopted by the IFSC.

11. The Co-chair of the Transition Team, Ambassador Stephenson, recalled that the IFWG and the IFSC had approved the recommendations of the Task Force on an enhanced IF on 23 and 25 June 2007 respectively. The recommendations focused on three specific elements: (i) increased, additional and predictable financial resources; (ii) strengthened in-country capacities to manage and implement the IF; and (iii) stronger IF governance. The implementation of those recommendations had required a transitional phase during which the detailed procedures and policies of the enhanced IF had been elaborated in close consultation with all IF stakeholders. The process was managed by a Transition Team, which coordinated the work of three clusters, respectively, on in-country issues, legal and administrative issues and financial issues. He said that from September 2006 and up to the present, over 60 official meetings had been held by these three clusters and the Transition Team. These meetings had attracted extensive participation from all IF stakeholders that had led to a consensus on a package of recommendations.

12. He said that the in-country cluster had focused on the organization of in-country operations and the strengthening of LDC ownership in the IF process. Issues addressed by this cluster were: (i) the Terms of References (TORs) of the IF Focal Point, National Implementation Unit, National Steering Committee and Donor Facilitator; (ii) the DTIS process and its implementation; (iii) the Modus operandi of Tier 1 and Tier 2; and (iv) monitoring and evaluation of the programme. To ensure that the views of Focal Points and Donor Facilitators were taken into consideration, a workshop on the enhanced IF was organized in Dakar (Senegal) in December 2006, in cooperation with the UNCTAD and the Government of Senegal. A Questionnaire had been addressed to the Focal Points and the Donor Facilitators seeking their views on the strengths and weaknesses of the existing IF. Over 45 responses were received representing a response rate of 80 per cent.

13. He went on to say that the legal and administrative cluster had focused on the strengthening of the governance of the programme. Issues addressed by this cluster included: (i) the legal entity of the enhanced IF and its independence; (ii) the TORs of the IF Board, the IFSC, the Executive Secretariat and its Executive Director. The finance cluster had dealt with the financial aspects of the enhanced IF such as the financial transitional arrangements for the enhanced IF, the preparation of a budget, the TORs and selection criteria for the Trust Fund Manager, and the mobilization of financial resources for the enhanced IF through the organization of four donor consultations. These donor consultations were held in Doha (November 2006), Brussels (December 2006), Paris (March 2007) and Geneva (April 2007). These meetings had helped to clarify how the IF could promote donor alignment with LDC development plans and better achieve the aid effectiveness principles of the Paris Declaration.

14. He explained that an intensive period of work had generated the package of recommendations contained in the consolidated document. It contained all policies and procedures of the enhanced IF. The composition of the IF Board and its decision-making procedures had been recently incorporated

into the consolidated document. The IF Board would comprise six IF Agencies and three representatives each from the LDCs and donors. The Chair of the IF Board would be chosen from among the country members of the IF Board. The Executive Director would be an ex officio member of the IF Board without voting rights. The Trust Fund Manager would attend the IF Board meetings as an observer. It was also agreed that the Chair of the IF Board would seek to make all decisions by consensus. However, in the event that a consensus could not be reached, a provision was made for voting by country members of the IF Board and in the event of a tie, the Chair would cast a deciding vote.

15. The Transition Team and its clusters had achieved consensus on a broad array of issues. However, some issues were outstanding, such as the accountability framework of the Trust Fund Manager and the finalization of the monitoring and evaluation system for the enhanced IF. There was a consensus that these issues could be referred to the IF Board for a final decision. He said that the role of the new Trust Fund Manager had been fully defined. The role of the Trust Fund Manager would be limited to fiduciary responsibilities. The Trust Fund Manager would not enter into matters of substance of projects. A competitive and transparent process of the selection of the Trust Fund Manager from a wide universe, including the UN agencies and the private sector, would be launched. The selection of the Trust Fund Manager was expected to be completed by September 2007. The objective of this competitive process of selection was to ensure that the most effective and efficient service provider was identified.

16. He said that the recruitment process for the Executive Director, including the TORs, had been agreed upon by the Transition Team. The first step in this regard would be the establishment of a selection committee, involving the participation of members of the IF Board and the WTO Secretariat. It was expected that the Executive Director would be recruited in Autumn. Once appointed, the Executive Director would participate in the selection process of the other staff of the Executive Secretariat. Progress was also being made on outreach activities, with the objective of assisting LDCs understand the new arrangements governing the enhanced IF as well as establishing their national implementation arrangements. These outreach activities would include, tentatively, some advisory missions to the LDCs, two regional workshops with in-country stakeholders during the Summer of 2007, and a meeting of all the IF Focal Points with the participation of the Executive Secretariat and the IF Board before the end of 2007 which might include some emerging donors as well.

17. He pointed out that the funding target for the operation of the enhanced IF for a five-year period had not been met. A high-level donors' meeting had been planned for the purpose of receiving formal funding commitments. So far, only one donor - the United Kingdom - was in a position to make a public statement of its intention to provide funding for the enhanced IF. He expressed appreciation to the Government of the United Kingdom for its commitment to the enhanced IF. Nevertheless, the funding situation of the enhanced IF was encouraging. Donors had indicated their intention to provide substantial new funding for the enhanced IF. On the basis of these informal statements, the resources would be sufficient to meet the budget of the enhanced IF for at least its first two years. He recalled the target of US\$50 million per year as the benchmark for launching the programme. He was satisfied that at least that amount of money was available from the donors for each of the first two years. In this regard, he noted that some of the funds had already been contributed to the Trust Fund in anticipation of new programmes under the enhanced IF. He noted that some of the donors had found it convenient to make their contributions before the formal launching of the enhanced IF. He also noted from his discussions with the donors that there might be a situation where the Trust Fund would enjoy a surplus of funds. In this regard, he noted that some donors had difficulty contributing to the Trust Fund until there was a cash requirement in a programme. He, however, had pointed out to donors that it would cause difficulty in respect of the funding of the enhanced IF since it was to deliver on increased, additional and predictable financial resources. That objective would be achieved if the donors could contribute to the Trust Fund in advance of actual cash requirements. He noted that the work was not finished with respect to funding

issues. He would continue to seek firm public commitments of funding for the enhanced IF. He informed the IFSC that a number of developing countries had signalled their interest in providing support for the enhanced IF.

18. He was of the view that the arrangement that had been agreed would allow the IF to realize its objective to assist poverty reduction in the LDCs. In designing the enhanced IF, particular attention had been paid to issues such as the LDC ownership in the IF process, coordination within the government and with donors, mainstreaming of trade into development plans, and providing a quick response to priority trade development needs of the LDCs. He hoped that the enhanced IF would be a more efficient and effective programme than the original IF as it would provide LDCs with: (i) important financial resources to strengthen their ownership and capacity to manage, implement and monitor the IF and trade-related technical assistance in general; (ii) predictable and significant financial resources to address priority needs identified in the Diagnostic Trade Integration Studies (DTISs); and (iii) an Executive Secretariat which would provide clear information on the IF and support the participation of LDCs in the IF process. National implementing entities would receive adequate support from the enhanced IF. This enhanced ownership and demand-driven orientation of the enhanced IF was the guarantee that the trade development priorities of LDCs would be met.

19. He said that the roadmap of how the enhanced IF would work had been put in place. In his capacity as one of the Co-chairs of the Transition Team, he recommended that the IFSC adopt the package of recommendations contained in the consolidated document made available at the meeting room as the basis for the implementation of the enhanced IF. He further recommended that: (i) the implementation phase of the enhanced IF be launched; (ii) an initial meeting of the IF Board be scheduled before the end of May 2007; (iii) an interim Board, supported by the current IF Secretariat, meet within the next two weeks to prepare the first meeting of the IF Board; (iv) a high level meeting of the IFSC be convened in July 2007 to review the final decisions on the matters referred to the IF Board; (v) the WTO initiate the actions that would be required to administratively support the Executive Secretariat. He suggested that the donors and the LDCs decide quickly on their representations on the IF Board so that it could meet in a month's time. In conclusion, he thanked all IF stakeholders involved in the work of the Transition Team and its clusters. He believed that a result had been achieved which had laid the groundwork for the successful launch of the enhanced IF. He stressed that continued efforts from all IF stakeholders with strong partnership at national and global level would determine the success of the enhanced IF. He underlined the need for the Executive Director to be selected as soon as possible. He said that the package of recommendations before the IFSC represented an extraordinary amount of work and of commitment from all IF stakeholders. In conclusion, he expressed thanks to the Chairs of the three clusters, the Programme Manager and the representatives from LDCs and donors for their contribution to the enhanced IF process.

20. The representative of Lesotho, on behalf of the LDCs, thanked the Chairperson of the IFSC for convening the meeting for the commencement of the validation of the enhanced IF, and looked forward to its official launch as soon as possible. He expressed special appreciation to the Chairperson of the IFWG for her comprehensive report. The IFWG had reached consensus on all key issues pertaining to the enhanced IF on 1 May 2007. In this regard, he expressed thanks to all stakeholders for their constructive engagement. He commended, in particular, Ambassador Stephenson for his commitment and dedication in providing guidance for the work in the various clusters. He also expressed his gratitude to the Chairs of the three clusters namely: the in-country, legal and administrative, and finance cluster for their contribution to the enhanced IF process. He put on record the appreciation of the LDCs for the Programme Manager, for his hard work and sincere efforts in the work relating to the enhanced IF.

21. He was gratified to witness the validation of the enhanced IF, which was envisaged to go far beyond the existing IF in terms of delivery. He also welcomed the proposed roadmap in order to ensure a smooth transition from the current IF to its enhanced phase. The enhanced IF was aimed at

correcting the shortcomings of the existing IF and at providing more impetus to the IF by: (a) enhancing the in-country capacity building; (ii) raising the level of financial assistance both through multilateral and bilateral funding; and by (iii) establishing an IF Executive Secretariat in order to improve the IF coordination. The LDC Group recognized that the enhanced IF would be a comparatively better instrument which would effectively assist LDCs in mainstreaming trade into poverty-reduction strategy. The implementation phase of the enhanced IF would be crucial, and would require complete commitment and full involvement of the capital-based LDC officials. He took note of the outreach activities planned for the enhanced IF. In this regard, he underlined the importance of reaching out to all LDCs so that every beneficiary country could put in place in time the national implementation arrangements in order to fully benefit from the enhanced IF as soon as the implementation phase was launched. He recognized the efforts of the WTO Secretariat, in particular its PIU, in undertaking similar outreach activities to some IF beneficiary countries.

22. He expressed his appreciation to donors for their financial commitments to the IF. He urged other donors to contribute generously in order to make a real difference in LDCs through the IF process. He welcomed the pledges made so far, and hoped that fund disbursement would be timely and smooth. He underlined the need for predictable and regular replenishment of funds in the IF process. He also emphasized the importance of smooth and accommodating transition from the existing IF to the enhanced IF in a manner that would avoid any disruption of accessing funds for the core IF activities in the LDCs in the interim period. He stressed that the modus operandi in the transitional phase should enable LDCs that were not able to use all their fund allocations under the current IF to continue to access those funds. In conclusion, he hoped that the positive attitude and commitment expressed by all stakeholders during the work in the Transition Team and its clusters would be strengthened when the implementation phase of the enhanced IF would commence. He urged the IFSC to adopt the recommendations tabled by the Chairman of the Transition Team.

23. The representative of Benin thanked the Chairperson of the IFSC for her leadership in the IF process. He thanked the Chairperson of the IFWG for her comprehensive report. He associated himself with the statement made by Lesotho, on behalf of the LDCs. He expressed his appreciation to Ambassador Stephenson for his sincere work and dedication for the cause of IF. He also thanked the Chairs of the three clusters for their hard work. All IF stakeholders had taken part in an intensive process of work over a period of 18 months. That had highlighted the commitments of each and every one of the IF community for the cause of the LDCs. He hoped that the enhanced IF would improve the participation of LDCs in international trade. The document that was going to be adopted at the meeting would be an important element for the implementation of the activities within the framework of the enhanced IF. He invited the IF stakeholders to continue to show the same spirit of commitment shown during the last 18 months so that the implementation of the recommendations for an enhanced IF could be done in a befitting manner. In conclusion, he thanked the interpreters for their service in the past 18 months. Their service had helped advance the work relating to the enhanced IF.

24. The representative of Mali congratulated the Chairperson of the IFWG for her comprehensive report. He welcomed the report made by Ambassador Stephenson on the work of the Transition Team. He noted that it had been a lengthy process to reach the current stage of work relating to the enhanced IF. He hoped that the team that had assisted the Transition Team would continue working till the end of 2007 to complete the work relating to the enhanced IF. He expressed thanks to the Chairs of the three clusters as well as the Programme Manager for their sincere work. He also thanked the Secretariat, including interpreters, which had given full support in meetings of the Transition Team and its clusters. His Government had always shown keen interest in the IF. It had organized a roundtable involving donors in 2006, and had reported on that event to a previous meeting of the IFSC. It had also sent several teams to Geneva to be better acquainted with the IF process. He informed the IFSC that Mali's national Director for Trade and Competition as well as Head of Management Unit were present at the meeting. In conclusion, he associated himself with the

statement made by Lesotho, on behalf of the LDCs. He urged the donors to make available the necessary resources as soon as possible for the implementation of the enhanced IF.

25. The representative of Rwanda noted that the process to start the implementation phase of the enhanced IF had been long. He, however, expressed his appreciation for the constructive engagement shown by all stakeholders including donors, beneficiaries and the IF Agencies. He associated himself with the statement made by Lesotho, on behalf of the LDCs. He thanked the Chairperson of the IFWG for her comprehensive report as well as for her commitment in the enhanced IF process. The enhanced IF was built on three pillars namely: (i) the in-country capacity building for national ownership; (ii) the increased financial resources under Tier 1 and Tier 2 of the new IF Trust Fund; and (iii) the establishment of an Executive Secretariat aiming at improving IF governance and better coordination. He hoped that the enhanced IF would be an instrument that would contribute in promoting trade and reducing poverty in the LDCs. He expressed his gratitude to Ambassador Stephenson for the manner in which he had supervised the work of the Transition Team and its three clusters. He also expressed his appreciation to the Programme Manager whose contribution had been valuable in reaching the current state of work. He highlighted the importance of the enhanced IF which would enhance national ownership of the overall trade development agenda in the beneficiary countries. It would assist LDCs to mainstream trade into poverty reduction strategies. He looked forward to the official launching of the enhanced IF as soon as possible. He called upon the IF stakeholders to keep the current level of momentum and engagement during the implementation phase of the enhanced IF. His delegation would remain committed to the process ahead relating to the implementation of the enhanced IF.

26. The representative of Cambodia associated himself with the statement made by Lesotho, on behalf of the LDCs. He thanked the Chairperson of the IFWG for her report. He expressed appreciation for the report made by Ambassador Stephenson on the work of the Transition Team. He expressed gratitude to all stakeholders involved in the process, in particular the Chairs of the three clusters, agencies and donors. He believed that the enhanced IF was an important instrument to address the supply-side constraints faced by the LDCs. The framework for an enhanced IF had been put in place. He hoped that adequate and secure funds would soon be made available so as to put the framework of the enhanced IF into operation and to implement the projects under the enhanced IF. He emphasized the importance of enhanced resources, cooperation from donors and IF Agencies and the ownership from the governments of LDCs to ensure success of the enhanced IF.

27. The representative of the European Communities expressed appreciation to all IF stakeholders for their commitment for the enhanced IF. Although it had taken a bit longer than expected, the current state of play in implementing the recommendations for an enhanced IF was a tribute to the active engagement from all IF stakeholders. He, in particular, appreciated the skilful leadership of Ambassador Stephenson in the IF process. He also expressed gratitude to the Programme Manager, the Chairs of the clusters and the members of different constituencies who had dedicated a lot of time to move the work forward. He acknowledged the sustained engagement of the LDCs in the work of the Transition Team and its clusters. Despite being small in size, the delegations of the LDCs had been present in number and provided valuable input throughout that process. That was an important element for ensuring success in the enhanced IF. He underlined the importance of achieving results on the ground. He stressed that the activities in Geneva should focus on the real world of trade, economic development and poverty reduction in the LDCs. He took note of the unfinished business in the work relating to enhanced IF from the report of the Chairperson of the IFWG as well as from the report of Ambassador Stephenson. His delegation would remain committed to progress the work relating to enhanced IF, including in the implementation phase of the enhanced IF.

28. The Chairperson of the IFSC proposed that the IFSC take note of the report by Ambassador Stephenson and adopt the recommendations made.

29. It was so decided.

30. The Chairperson of the IFSC said that a milestone had been achieved in the history of the IF. The enhanced IF had become a reality. The next meeting of the IFSC would be under the framework of the enhanced IF. The implementation phase of the enhanced IF would be launched with immediate effect. She expressed her appreciation to Ambassador Stephenson for his dedication in the IF process. She also thanked all other IF stakeholders for their sincere efforts in moving forward the work relating to the enhanced IF.

D. TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS TO ENSURE A SMOOTH TRANSITION FROM THE CURRENT IF TO ITS ENHANCED PHASE: ADOPTION OF THE PROPOSED ARRANGEMENTS AS TRANSMITTED TO IT BY THE IFWG

31. The Chairperson of the IFSC noted that the IFWG had had a first exchange of views on transitional arrangements, in particular related to the question of modalities to be put in place to accommodate donors willing to contribute to the enhanced IF during the transition phase, and modalities to address requests for funding during the transition phase for activities presented by the beneficiaries under the current or the enhanced IF. She said that the IFWG had adopted a process to finalize some outstanding issues and elaborate the transitional arrangements in an interim Board. That interim Board would ensure the work pending the first meeting of the IF Board. She proposed that the IFSC take note of this statement.

32. It was so agreed.

E. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

33. The Chairperson of the IFSC proposed that the date of the first meeting of the IFSC under the enhanced IF be kept open. The WTO Secretariat would be ready to service the first meeting of the IFSC under the enhanced IF, if so requested.

34. In the absence of any other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Annex I

**NINETEENTH SESSION OF THE INTEGRATED FRAMEWORK
STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE CURRENT IF**

Tuesday, 1 May 2007 at 3 p.m.

Centre William Rappard

1. The Integrated Framework Steering Committee will hold its Nineteenth Session on Tuesday, 1 May 2007 starting at 3 p.m. in the WTO building. This might be the last session of the IFSC under the current IF. The items on the agenda are related to the enhanced IF and the transitional arrangements. The meeting has been scheduled on 1 May in the afternoon to accommodate certain delegations who will need to attend a meeting in Benin on 3 and 4 May.
 2. The items proposed for the agenda are:
 - (a) Adoption of the agenda.
 - (b) 47th meeting of the Integrated Framework Working Group: report by the Chair of the IFWG.
 - (c) Enhancement of the Integrated Framework. Report by the Chair of the IF Transition Team: adoption of the recommendations transmitted to it by the IFWG.
 - (d) Transitional arrangements to ensure a smooth transition from the current IF to its enhanced phase: adoption of the proposed arrangements as transmitted to it by the IFWG.
 - (e) Any other business.
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