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Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

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**ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION
(UNIDO) RELATED TO THE WORK OF THE WTO TBT COMMITTEE**

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY UNIDO

This document contains information provided by UNIDO at the TBT Committee meeting of 14-15 June 2017 under Agenda Item 5 (Updating by Observers)

1. UNIDO wishes to update the TBT Committee of the following developments that have taken place since the last meeting, held in March 2017:

2. UNIDO – with the support of Government of Finland, technical partners of the DCMAS Network (the BIPM, OIML, ISO, IEC, IAF, ILAC, ITC and UNECE network on Metrology, Accreditation and Standardization for developing countries), as well as the World Bank - has continued with the process of developing an agreed and coherent set of Guiding Principles that will assist countries in addressing policy and technical issues, including those pertinent to sustainably accessing the Multilateral Trading System, including the WTO's Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), Sanitary and Phytosanitary measures (SPS) and the Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA). A Working Group Meeting is scheduled to take place in the latter half of June 2017, with a view to consolidate the Guiding Principles. Particular concern is that in formulating National Quality Policies dedicated attention has to be given to the separation of voluntary from mandatory functions, avoidance of conflict of interest as well as seeking efficiency and sustainability in the operations of Quality Infrastructure Institutions.

3. UNIDO's vision to address today's economic, social and environmental challenges is enshrined in the Lima Declaration, adopted by UNIDO Member States in December 2013. On this basis, UNIDO pursues "Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development" to harness industry's full potential to contribute to lasting prosperity for all. In the Context of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with Goal Number 9 – "To build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation" at the centre stage from UNIDO's perspective, UNIDO has released brochures in several languages maintaining strategic partnerships with BIPM and OIML on the role of metrology, with IAF and IEC on the role of accreditation and with ISO, IEC and ITU on the role of standards. In addition, UNIDO has recently released the publication titled: "Establishing accreditation in developing economies – A guide to opening the door for global trade", in close collaboration with IAF and ILAC.

4. Furthermore, in terms of Technical Assistance activities UNIDO continues to support countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia and Africa in particular focusing on strengthening selected calibration and testing facilities through procurement of equipment, attachments and training of personnel, as well as expanding scopes of their services to become accredited.
