
The text of this draft resolution is distributed for the information of delegations as it may be of interest to them in their preparations for the discussion of the Programme for Expansion of Trade (item 2 on the agenda of the twentieth session).

\(^1\)The sixth paragraph in the Preamble is a translation by the Languages Services of the GATT secretariat.
QUESTION OF HOLDING AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TRADE PROBLEMS

The General Assembly,

Recalling its Resolution 1707 (XVI) on international trade as the primary instrument for economic development,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council Resolution 917 (XXXIV) on the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,

Convinced that economic and social progress throughout the world depends largely on a steady expansion in international trade,

Convinced further that accelerated economic development of the developing countries depends largely on a substantial increase in their share in international trade,

Noting that the terms of trade continue to operate to the disadvantage of the developing countries, thus accentuating their unfavourable balance-of-payments position, and reducing their capacity to import,

Bearing in mind that exports of a relatively limited range of primary commodities constitute a major source of foreign exchange for the developing countries and consequently are basic for their development,

Conscious of the serious problems both of a short-term and a long-term nature which confront the developing countries as a result of fluctuations in the prices of primary commodities,

Mindful of the need to eliminate obstacles, restrictions and discriminatory practices in world trade which adversely affect the necessary expansion and diversification of the exports of the developing countries in primary commodities, semi-manufactures and manufactured goods,

Expressing apprehension that regional economic groupings of industrialized countries will adversely affect the interests of the developing economies if conceived and operated in a restrictive or discriminatory manner,

Convinced that the promotion of higher rates of economic growth throughout the world and the evolution of a new and more appropriate pattern of international trade will require adaptation of the institutional framework for international co-operation in the field of trade,

1. Endorses the decision of the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 917 (XXXIV) to convene a United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

2. Recommends to the Economic and Social Council at its resumed thirty-fourth session:
(a) To convene the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development by June 1963;

(b) to enlarge the proposed Preparatory Committee by twelve members with due regard to equitable geographical distribution and to an adequate representation of developing countries;

(c) to convene the Preparatory Committee by January 1963 so that it will be able to report to the thirty-fifth session of the Economic and Social Council;

3. Requests the Secretary-General:

(a) To appoint a Secretary-General of the Conference;

(b) to assist the Preparatory Committee by preparing the necessary documentation in connexion with the Conference, on the lines indicated by Economic and Social Council resolution 917 (XXXIV) and the discussions at the seventeenth session of the General Assembly;

4. Recommends to the Economic and Social Council and the Preparatory Committee, in preparing the draft agenda of the Conference, referred to in paragraph 2(a) above, to take into consideration the following fundamental points:

(a) The need for increasing trade of developing countries in primary commodities as well as in semi-manufactures and manufactured goods so as to ensure a rapid expansion of their export earnings, and for that purpose, to examine the possibility of taking measures and reformulating principles with a view to:

(i) increasing trade between the developing and developed countries;

(ii) intensifying trade relations among the developing countries;

(iii) diversifying the trade of developing countries;

(iv) utilizing development aid, inter alia, for the promotion of international trade and for its financing;

(b) Measures for ensuring stable prices and rising demand for exports of developing countries, including inter alia:

(i) stabilization of prices of primary commodities at equitable levels;

(ii) increase in consumption of products imported from primary producing countries and of semi-manufactures and manufactures imported from developing countries;

(iii) international commodity agreements;

(iv) international compensatory financing;
(c) measures for the removal of tariff, non-tariff and other trade barriers arising from industrialized countries, whether individually or from economic groupings, which adversely affect the exports of developing countries,

(d) measures to improve the methods and machinery of international economic co-operation in the field of trade, including:

(i) A reappraisal of the effectiveness of the activities of existing international bodies dealing with international trade in meeting trade problems of developing countries including a consideration of difficulties in their trade relations arising from uneven levels of economic development and/or different systems of economic organization and trade;

(ii) the advisability of eliminating overlapping and duplication by co-ordination or consolidation of the activities of such bodies, of creating conditions for expanded membership and of effecting such other organizational improvements and changes as may be needed to expand international trade and to maximize the beneficial results of trade for the promotion of economic development.