

Committee for Development Policy
14th plenary session, New York, 12 to 16 March 2012

The following issues will be addressed by the CDP plenary:

1. Promoting productive capacity and employment in a socially responsible environment (CDP contribution to the 2012 Annual Ministerial Review of the ECOSOC): The policy approaches of the recent years generated an incomplete view of macroeconomic policies which stressed nominal balances and paid limited attention to output and employment and to the real economy. In the CDP view, nominal macroeconomics must be replaced by macroeconomics for development. Sectoral policies are also necessary for effective job creation, the promotion of a dynamic structural transformation of the economy and for sustaining growth. Additionally, public employment programmes can play an important role in complementing these policies and in providing a productive safety net for the working poor.

2. Triennial review of the list of least developed countries (LDCs): on the basis of the existing criteria for designating countries as LDCs and other established approaches, the Committee will examine which low-income countries are eligible to join and which LDCs may be qualified to graduate from the LDC category. The Committee will also monitor the development progress of both graduated and graduating countries.

3. The United Nations development agenda beyond 2015: The current set of MDG targets will expire in 2015. Although progress has been made, many targets will not be met, while the MDGs do not incorporate some important objectives. A pertinent question then is to establish the most effective way to take the MDG agenda forward after 2015. The CDP will map out the current debate on the implications of the MDGs for the UN development agenda. It will also consider the fundamental principles and critical elements which need to be taken into account by the future international development framework.

4. Strengthening smooth transition provisions: As a follow-up to the Fourth UN Conference on LDCs, the Committee for Development Policy (CDP) will review the existing smooth transition mechanisms as specified in General Assembly resolution 59/209 to identify how they can be further strengthened and better monitored. The main findings of work of the Committee in this area will be presented and discussed at the second substantive meeting of the open ended ad hoc working group of the General Assembly on smooth transition on 16 March 2012.

On the basis of its discussion, the CDP will forward its analysis and recommendations in its annual report to the Economic and Social Council. The report is anticipated to be released in late May 2012.

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