



Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries

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Council

Third session

Gebze, Turkey, 16 January 2020

Report of the Council of the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries on the work of its third session

1. The third session of the Council of the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries was held on 16 January 2020 at the Council's headquarters in Gebze, Turkey. The list of participants is contained in annex I and the agenda in annex II.
2. The former Chair of the Council opened the session by welcoming the reappointed Council members, as well as the newly appointed members and observers, who will serve on the Council until 31 December 2022.
3. The Council re-elected the Chair and Vice-Chairs of the Council for the new term. The Chair expressed thanks to the Council members for their confidence.

I. Decisions

4. The Council adopted the following documents and decision:
 - (a) Agenda (TBLDC/2020/1; see also annex II), with an additional item, on the performance management review, proposed by the Chair;
 - (b) Report to the General Assembly on the work of the Technology Bank in 2019 (TBLDC/2020/2);
 - (c) Budget and programme of work of the Technology Bank for 2020 (TBLDC/2020/3);
 - (d) Decision 2020/1 (see annex III);
 - (e) Report on the third session (TBLDC/2020/4).
5. The Council requested the Managing Director to submit to the Secretary-General, for transmission to the General Assembly for its information, the report on the work of the Technology Bank in 2019.



II. Discussion

6. The Chair introduced the provisional agenda, which was adopted, with the inclusion, proposed by the Chair, of an additional item, on the performance management review.

7. The Chair invited the Managing Director to introduce matters arising from the second session of the Council. The Managing Director referred to decision 2019/1, which was adopted by the Council at its second session, advising that the Technology Bank had not implemented the decision and that it remained valid for the programme of work and budget for 2020.

8. The Chair referred to rule 27 of the rules of procedure on the recording of decisions and discussions and requested the secretariat to prepare a detailed summary of the Council sessions as an informal document reserved for use by Council members.

9. The Managing Director provided an overview of the report to the General Assembly on the work of the Technology Bank in 2019, highlighting the major activities and achievements, including the work on technology needs assessments and digital access to research. Council members acknowledged the work of the Bank in 2019 and encouraged it to ensure that it engaged with all relevant stakeholders at the national level. The Council requested that paragraph 14 of the report be amended to accurately reflect the work by the Bank on partnerships. It also requested the Bank to prepare country profiles for the least developed countries to indicate activities, outcomes and partnerships in order to better structure the work programme. The Chair welcomed the proposal by the Managing Director to prepare quarterly progress reports for the Council on the activities of the Bank.

10. The Council recalled General Assembly resolution [71/251](#), in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to prepare a report, within existing resources, to inform it about the results achieved by the Technology Bank after the first three years of operation and decided to review, as appropriate, the arrangements required for the effective functioning of the Bank on that basis. The Managing Director presented the budget and programme of work for 2020, highlighting the financial contributions received and the new activities planned. The Government of Turkey had pledged an additional \$1.1 million and the International Development Research Centre of Canada had pledged \$100,000. The Managing Director also presented the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions. The Council considered the programme of work and budget for 2020 and the recommendations made by the Advisory Committee in its report.

11. The Chair commended the Technology Bank on the clear articulation of the activities and proposed, as an additional activity for the programme of work for 2020, the mapping of existing initiatives supporting the least developed countries that matched the Bank's mandate and objectives. The Council raised concerns about the ambitious nature of the programme of work for 2020 in the context of the available financial and human resources. It proposed merging the programme on enhancing innovation capacity in the least developed countries with the programme on enhancing science, technology and innovation capacity in such countries. The Council noted the Bank's contribution to the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

12. In accordance with rule 14 of the rules of procedure, the Council established a six-member committee on resource mobilization, comprising the following members: Reem Mohammed al-Mansoori, Aggrey Ambali, Zakri Abdul Hamid, Mohamed

Hassan, Sonia Bashir Kabir (Chair), Stefano Manservisi and a representative of the United Nations Development Programme. The terms of reference would be prepared by the Technology Bank.

13. The Chair invited the rapporteur to introduce the draft report on the session, which was approved unanimously by the Council.

Annex I

List of participants

1. The following members of the Council attended the session:
Aggrey John Douglas Ambali
Sonia Bashir Kabir
Bitrina Daniel Diyamett
Xiaolan Fu
Zakri Abdul Hamid
Mohamed H. A. Hassan
Stefano Manservisi
Alfred Watkins
Fekitamoeloa Katoa 'Utoikamanu
2. The following participated in the session as observers:
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
United Nations Development Programme
Qatar
3. The Managing Director of the Technology Bank, Joshua Setipa, attended ex officio.

Annex II

Agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Matters arising from the second session of the Council.
3. Discussion and adoption of the report to the General Assembly on the work of the Technology Bank in 2019.
4. Discussion and adoption of the budget estimates and programme of work for 2020.
5. Update on resource mobilization opportunities and outreach activities.
6. Performance management review.
7. Adoption of the report of the session.
8. Closure of the session.

Annex III

Decision 2020/1

In connection with the annual performance review of the Managing Director of the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries, the Council recalls that the Managing Director is appointed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in consultation with the Council, and decides that the representative of the Secretary-General shall conduct the annual performance review of the Managing Director in consultation with the Council members.
