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Proposed programme budget for 2023

Programme planning

Proposed programme budget for 2023

Part IV

International cooperation for development

Section 13

International Trade Centre

Subprogramme 6 of programme 10

Trade and development

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* [A/77/50](#).

** In keeping with paragraph 11 of resolution [72/266 A](#), the part consisting of the programme plan and programme performance information is submitted through the Committee for Programme and Coordination for the consideration of the General Assembly.

*** In keeping with paragraph 11 of resolution [72/266 A](#), the part consisting of the post and non-post resource requirements is submitted through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for the consideration of the General Assembly.



Foreword

In 2023, the International Trade Centre (ITC) will implement its vision of building inclusive, sustainable and prosperous economies through trade. In the second year of implementation of the ITC strategic plan for the period 2022–2025, the Centre’s strategic vision will be firmly grounded in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and in the Centre’s mandates, re-establishing the promise for a better future and prosperity for all.

ITC will aim to contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals through interventions aimed at women, youth and people in vulnerable situations.

Focusing on prosperity for all, ITC will support micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises in creating and maintaining jobs through entrepreneurship and value chain development.

Activities of ITC for the planet will include identifying and facilitating business opportunities for micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises in the markets for environmental goods and services, and promoting sustainable production, consumption and climate action.

While ITC has a portfolio of projects in over 128 developing countries and countries with economies in transition, its contribution to peace will be visible in the expansion of its work in countries in armed conflict or at risk of lapsing or relapsing into conflict. It will reconfirm its dedication to the least developed countries, sub-Saharan Africa, landlocked developing countries, small and vulnerable economies and small island developing States, which comprise the majority of its country-specific interventions.

Finally, ITC will continue to focus on internal improvements, such as leveraging data for better insights and learning, with the aim of optimizing its impact on the ground. It will remain dedicated to United Nations reforms, implementing joint strategies and action plans and maximizing synergies within the United Nations system.

ITC extends its thanks to the Member States, its partners and beneficiaries, for their continuous confidence and support. It looks forward to continuing its work together towards building inclusive, sustainable and prosperous economies through trade.

(Signed) Pamela **Coke-Hamilton**
Executive Director, International Trade Centre

A. Proposed programme plan for 2023 and programme performance in 2021

Overall orientation

Mandates and background

- 13.1 The International Trade Centre (ITC) is responsible for the business aspects of trade development, as the joint technical cooperation agency of the United Nations and the World Trade Organization (WTO). The mandate derives from the priorities established by the contracting parties to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) on 19 March 1964 and the General Assembly on 12 December 1967 (Assembly resolution [2297 \(XXII\)](#)). Since 1 January 1968, ITC has operated under the joint auspices of GATT/WTO and the United Nations. In its resolution 1819/LV of 9 August 1973, the Economic and Social Council reaffirmed the Centre's mandate as the focal point for technical assistance and cooperation activities for trade promotion within the United Nations system of assistance for developing countries.
- 13.2 In the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Member States explicitly recognized trade as a key engine for sustainable and inclusive economic growth and poverty eradication, specifically through target 8.a of the Sustainable Development Goals, to increase Aid for Trade support, and targets 17.10 and 17.11 of the Goals, for an open, rules-based, transparent and fair trading system and a significant increase in exports from developing countries.
- 13.3 Against the backdrop of trade tensions and the severe negative impact on trade and development caused by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, the General Assembly, in its resolution [76/190](#), reiterated this position for the target beneficiaries of ITC – micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises – which make up 99 per cent of the world's businesses and form the economic backbone of every community.

Programme of work

Subprogramme 6

Operational aspects of trade promotion and export development

Objective

- 13.4 The objective, to which this subprogramme (hereafter ITC) contributes, is to enhance inclusive and sustainable growth and development through trade and international business development for micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises in developing countries, especially the least developed countries, and countries with economies in transition, through increased business capacities of those enterprises to trade and through a conducive business environment and strengthened institutional ecosystems for those enterprises.

Strategy and external factors for 2023

- 13.5 To contribute to the objective, ITC will provide advisory services, training and awareness-building to enterprises, business support institutions and government agencies in areas that are key to the international competitiveness of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises. In particular, the Centre will:
- (a) Improve enterprise-level capacities in the areas of market analysis, value addition, quality improvement, e-commerce, marketing, access to finance and investment, climate resilience and environmental risk mitigation, including on how to sustain the resilience of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises in the post-pandemic period;

- (b) Provide micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises with market knowledge and new market linkage opportunities, including through initiatives such as ecomConnect and #FastTrackTech, which digitally connect enterprises to foreign markets, and the “Alliances for Action” initiative, which matches businesses and develops public-private partnerships in targeted value chains and helps micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises to strengthen existing and open new trade channels;
 - (c) Enable business transactions and investment for micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, with a focus on growing local, regional, South-South and global value chains for women-owned businesses, youth entrepreneurs, refugees, internally displaced persons and artisan and farmer communities, including through the ITC SheTrades, Ye! (young entrepreneurs) and Responsible Sustainable Ethical Trade initiatives;
 - (d) Strengthen the governance, performance, advocacy capacities, quality and scope of services and interconnectedness of national, subnational and regional business support institutions and ecosystems, including trade and investment promotion agencies, chambers of commerce, sector associations, youth and women’s business groups, cooperatives, incubators and technical and vocational training providers, including through tailored advisory services, assessments and workshops;
 - (e) Support policymakers in leading public-private dialogues and consensus-building and decision-making processes that foster the growth and internationalization of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, including through the promotion of the benefits of a universal, rules-based, open, predictable, inclusive, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system under WTO;
 - (f) Maintain, develop and scale up its comprehensive and globally accessible trade intelligence that addresses information gaps, including analytical tools such as the ITC Sustainability Map, which houses information on voluntary sustainability standards and compliance requirements.
- 13.6 Reflecting the importance of continuous improvement and responding to the needs and requests of Member States, the proposed programme plan for 2023 continues to incorporate lessons learned and best practices related to the adjustments to and adaptation of the programme owing to the COVID-19 pandemic. Examples of lessons learned and best practices include the maintenance and consolidation of the hybrid approach to delivery, where field interventions, usually implemented with local partners, are complemented by online advisory or training services. At the same time, it is assumed that those operational conditions have improved and allow for mandate implementation through formerly established approaches. Any modifications to planned deliverables would be in pursuance of the objective, strategy and mandates and would be reported as part of the programme performance information.
- 13.7 The above-mentioned work is expected to result in:
- (a) Increased resilience of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises to external shocks and their enhanced competitiveness, sustainable business practices and integration into regional and international value chains that generate business transactions, sustainable jobs and higher incomes, especially for women, youth and vulnerable groups;
 - (b) Improved usefulness of services provided by business support institutions to micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, including enhanced management and operational functioning of the service providers;
 - (c) Better-informed government decision makers, with options for new or improved inclusive trade-related policies, strategies and regulatory frameworks that contribute to an enabling environment for micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises to participate in international trade;
 - (d) Increased awareness among policymakers, business support organizations and businesses related to the potential trade opportunities and challenges for micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, including those resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, market opportunities and sustainable business practices.

- 13.8 With regard to the external factors, the overall plan for 2023 is based on the following planning assumptions:
- (a) Extrabudgetary resources will remain stable and earmarked funds will be available for interventions;
 - (b) Programming countries will maintain political, economic and social conditions that allow for the implementation of development interventions;
 - (c) International trade and investment conditions do not deteriorate significantly compared with 2022.
- 13.9 With regard to cooperation with other entities at the global, regional, national and local levels, ITC will maintain and develop partnerships with the private sector, civil society, academia and trade and development organizations to advance the 2030 Agenda. In view of evaluation findings, ITC will have tailored approaches for the different types of partnerships at the country and corporate levels. ITC will develop partnerships that contribute to the operationalization of the African Continental Free Trade Area, to scalable initiatives, especially for the least developed countries, and to the implementation of WTO ministerial discussions and outcomes, including on e-commerce, investment facilitation, women and trade, and micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises and trade. ITC will continue to work with the private sector to support market access and supplier programmes for micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, especially women-owned enterprises.
- 13.10 With regard to inter-agency coordination and liaison, ITC will continue to coordinate with United Nations agencies, including through membership in the United Nations Sustainable Development Group and United Nations regional and country teams. ITC will collaborate with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and WTO, and with other agencies and initiatives, such as the United Nations Global Compact, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the United Nations Capital Development Fund, the United Nations Development Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, to partner with on interventions related to micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises and trade development.
- 13.11 ITC integrates a gender perspective in its operational activities, deliverables and results, as appropriate. ITC will address specific barriers for women in accessing markets, finance, digital technologies and business development services, and will improve ecosystems for women's entrepreneurship, working with local institutions as "SheTrades hubs". ITC will advance its SheTrades Outlook tool to include an expanded repository of country-specific information on including a gender perspective in trade policies and practices.
- 13.12 With regard to disability inclusion, ITC will be guided by the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy and will address disability inclusion in its operational planning process.

Evaluation activities

- 13.13 The following evaluations completed in 2021 have guided the proposed programme plan for 2023:
- (a) Review by the ITC Independent Evaluation Unit of the strategic plan for the period 2018–2021;
 - (b) Evaluation of the ITC SheTrades initiative;
 - (c) Sustainability reviews for two projects, three to four years after their completion, in collaboration with the Enhanced Integrated Framework.
- 13.14 The results and lessons of the evaluations referenced above have been taken into account for the proposed programme plan for 2023. In its review of the 2018–2021 strategic plan, the Independent Evaluation Unit identified opportunities for further development in the areas of partnerships, needs assessment practices and enhanced internal collaboration.

- 13.15 ITC will incorporate lessons learned in the development of coordinated solutions and blueprints and in dialogue with partners to deliver both custom and standard solutions for specific client groups.
- 13.16 The following evaluations are planned for 2023:
 - (a) 2023 annual evaluation synthesis report (meta-evaluation of the 2022 evaluation findings);
 - (b) One corporate-level evaluation;
 - (c) One evaluation of an ITC thematic area;
 - (d) One large project evaluation.

Programme performance in 2021

Accelerated recovery of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic coffee sector

- 13.17 Coffee is one of the key agricultural crops of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, with a high export value, and its production is projected to reach 1 million tons by 2025. During the COVID-19 pandemic, however, the global coffee sector, which is subject to volatile market prices and uncertainties linked to climate change, technology and changing consumer patterns, experienced decreased demand and supply chain disruptions.
- 13.18 ITC published the fourth edition of *The Coffee Guide*, covering new market dynamics, including the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the global coffee trade. Furthermore, the Centre provided technical assistance to the coffee sector of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, focusing on export market requirements, the improvement of the quality of the coffee and climate change resilience. ITC also performed a rapid COVID-19 business impact assessment, identifying key emerging issues for the country’s coffee sector. The findings informed the development of an export road map for the coffee sector of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, launched by the Government in July 2021 to enhance coffee export capacities, boost the national economy and improve the livelihoods of smallholder farmers in rural communities going forward.
- 13.19 The coffee sector road map recommends strategies to increase the resilience of the coffee sector, including supply chain diversification, access to finance, digitalization and trade intelligence. It sets the way forward for policymakers, institutions, farmers and micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises in the Lao People’s Democratic Republic towards the improved competitiveness of the coffee sector, new international business linkages, sustainable jobs and growth through trade and investment.
- 13.20 Progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see table 13.1).

Table 13.1
Performance measure

2019 (actual)	2020 (actual)	2021 (actual)
The Lao People’s Democratic Republic identified the gaps in the export performance of the coffee sector and defined market-led strategic orientations	Through a rapid COVID-19 business impact assessment, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic had extensive research available to inform the development of a road map for the coffee sector	The Lao People’s Democratic Republic launched the export road map for the coffee sector

Impact of the pandemic

- 13.21 The continuation of the COVID-19 pandemic into 2021 had an impact on the implementation of mandates, in particular through cancellations of on-site events. In order to support Member States on issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic, within the overall scope of the objective, ITC assisted

Member States through rapid COVID-19 assessments, as specified in the result for 2021 described above, and through the SheTrades country-specific COVID-19 reports that showcased the particular impact of the pandemic on women-owned businesses and how women entrepreneurs have responded to the crisis. The Centre’s trade intelligence on temporary trade measures in response to COVID-19 and on evolving product requirements and procedures about which countries notify WTO in response to the pandemic was offered through its global public goods tools, namely, the Market Access Map and ePing. The flagship report *SME Competitiveness Outlook 2021: Empowering the Green Recovery* examined the lessons that emerged from the pandemic and their application to the climate emergency; it identified that as increased competitiveness made firms more resilient, lessons could be applied to climate resilience strategies, including areas where small firms could achieve the best returns on investment for their sustainable transition.

Planned results for 2023

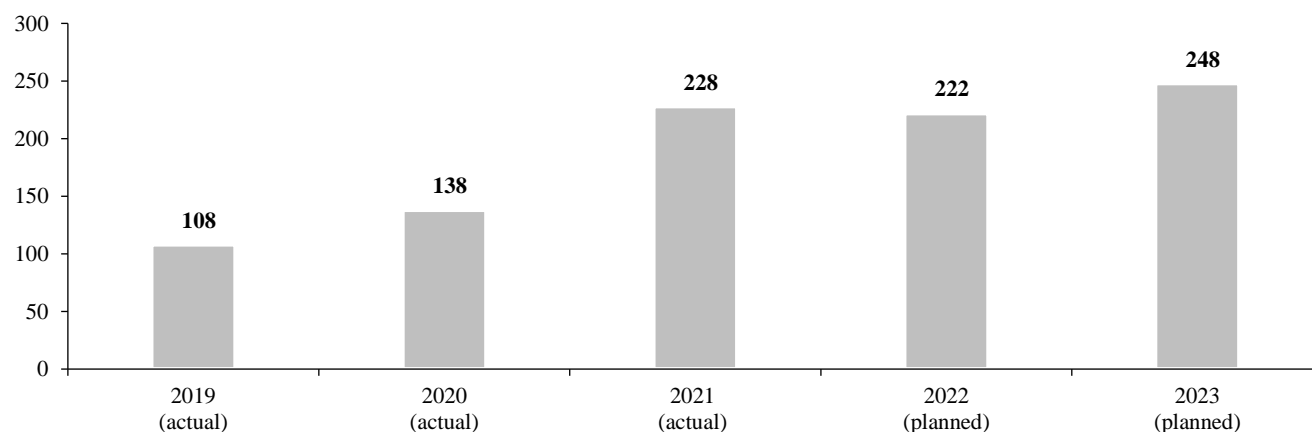
Result 1: South-South trade and investment creates growth opportunity for micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises from East African countries

Programme performance in 2021 and target for 2023

- 13.22 The Centre’s work contributed to extensive support for facts-based decision-making and the facilitation of connections and negotiations with public and private sector actors for client micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, leading to the conclusion of a large-scale investment deal, in addition to multiple new trade deals on a smaller scale, resulting in a cumulative \$228 million in deals in South-South trade and investment, which exceeded the planned target of \$202 million.
- 13.23 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2023 are presented in the performance measure below (see figure 13.I).

Figure 13.I
Performance measure: trade investments facilitated by the International Trade Centre’s South-South trade and investment programme (cumulative)

(Millions of United States dollars)



Result 2: increased demand for trade intelligence as a global public good, enabling decisions for global trade recovery

Programme performance in 2021 and target for 2023

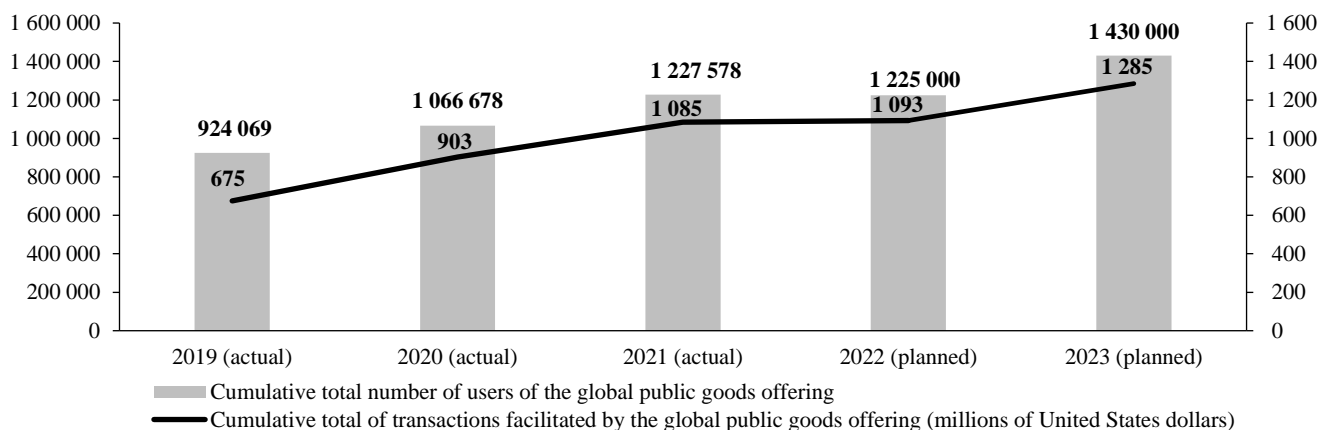
- 13.24 The Centre’s work contributed to increased use of its trade intelligence, including on COVID-19, with timely updates and the addition of new areas, such as the Economic Partnership Agreements, and increased data accessibility, software compatibility for mobile use and decision-making, as evidenced by 1,227,578 users and \$1,085 million of facilitated transactions, which exceeded the

planned target of 1,125,000 users and \$993 million of transactions facilitated by the Centre’s global public goods offering.

- 13.25 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2023 are presented in the performance measure below (see figure 13.II).

Figure 13.II

Performance measure: number of users of and total volume of transactions facilitated by the International Trade Centre’s global public goods offering (cumulative)



Result 3: partnerships for enhanced trade and more resilient micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises in countries in conflict and post-conflict situations

Proposed programme plan for 2023

- 13.26 Countries in conflict and post-conflict situations face multiple challenges, with micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises being particularly affected through negative effects on their production and sales, followed by loss of jobs, as evidenced in a study on the impact of COVID-19 in Iraq conducted by ITC, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Organization for Migration. ITC has increasingly engaged in such countries, including Iraq, Afghanistan and South Sudan, to assist recovery through the rebuilding of trade. As an example, the Strengthening the Agriculture and Agrifood Value Chain and Improving Trade Policy in Iraq (SAAVI) project has worked on building entrepreneurship and business management skills, the provision of trade intelligence and the expansion of trade opportunities to improve sector competitiveness and support trade development. To maximize synergies and complement other rebuilding and humanitarian efforts, ITC engaged early with the Resident Coordinator Office and the United Nations country team, policymakers, micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises and other partners. Furthermore, ITC and the Norwegian Refugee Council have partnered to deliver market-led solutions to such enterprises in hard-to-reach areas in Iraq, including in Basrah, Ninawa and Dhi Qar Governorates, leveraging the wide network and experience of the Norwegian Refugee Council.

Lessons learned and planned change

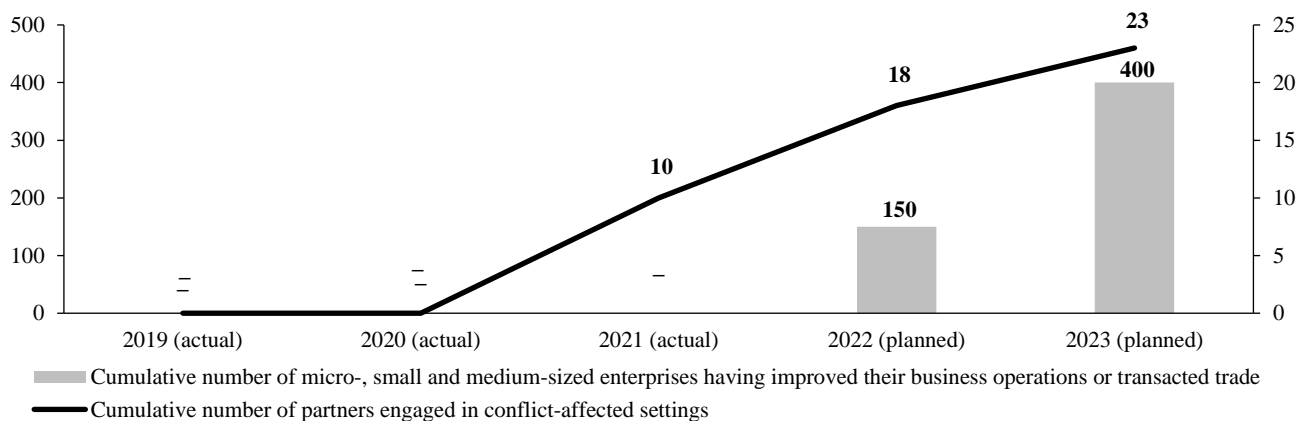
- 13.27 The lesson for ITC was that early consultations and partnerships were essential to ensure the long-term and meaningful engagement of all relevant partners. The support from the Resident Coordinator Office and the United Nations country team was particularly valuable for enabling efficient operational structures in countries in situations of conflict and in post-conflict countries by virtue of their established relations with the Government, insights on the policy and institutional framework and security support, among other things. In applying the lesson, ITC will forge partnerships to scale up support to micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises and contribute to institutional strengthening and policy dialogue, contributing to recovery, stability and resilience against future shocks. Partners as multipliers will enable the provision of assistance to hundreds of such enterprises

to improve their business operations or achieve trade, complementing policy-level changes, such as the accession of Iraq to WTO. The inclusive approach to partnerships for development and trade will be extended to other countries at risk of lapsing or relapsing into conflict.

13.28 Expected progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 13.III).

Figure 13.III

Performance measure: number of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises that improved business or transacted trade, and partnerships for trade in conflict and post-conflict situations (cumulative)



Legislative mandates

13.29 The list below provides all mandates entrusted to ITC.

General Assembly resolutions

2297 (XXII)	International Trade Centre	70/1	Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
64/220; 66/218; 74/238; 76/220	Operational activities for development of the United Nations system	71/243; 75/233	Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
65/280	Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020	71/279	Micro-, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises Day
66/288	The future we want	72/279	Repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
67/213	Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twelfth special session and the implementation of section IV.C, entitled “Environmental pillar in the context of sustainable development”, of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development	73/195	Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration
69/15	SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway	73/291	Buenos Aires outcome document of the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation
69/137	Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024	74/228	Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence
69/283	Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030	74/231	Development cooperation with middle-income countries
69/313	Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa Action Agenda)	74/235	Women in development
		75/202	Information and communications technologies for sustainable development

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75/203; 76/190	International trade and development	76/204	Disaster risk reduction
75/211	Entrepreneurship for sustainable development	76/205	Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind
75/225	Towards a New International Economic Order	76/207	Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its contribution to sustainable development
75/229	Promotion of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, for poverty eradication and environment protection	76/213	Science, technology and innovation for sustainable development
75/231	Industrial development cooperation	76/216	Follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries
76/198	Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development	76/217	Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries
76/202	Promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, building on Agenda 21	76/218	Implementation of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027)
76/203	Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States	76/221	South-South cooperation
		76/224	Towards global partnerships: a principle-based approach to enhanced cooperation between the United Nations and all relevant partners

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1819 (LV)	United Nations export promotion programmes	2021/7	Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system
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World Trade Organization ministerial declarations and decisions

WT/MIN (01)/DEC/1	Doha Ministerial Declaration	WT/MIN (13)/DEC	Bali Ministerial Declaration
WT/MIN (05)/DEC	Doha Work Programme: Ministerial Declaration	WT/MIN (15)/DEC	Nairobi Ministerial Declaration
WT/MIN (11)/W/2	Elements for political guidance	WT/MIN (17)/DEC	Joint Declaration on Trade and Women's Economic Empowerment

Deliverables

13.30 Table 13.2 lists all deliverables of ITC.

Table 13.2
Deliverables for the period 2021–2023, by category and subcategory

<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2021 planned</i>	<i>2021 actual</i>	<i>2022 planned</i>	<i>2023 planned</i>
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	4	4	4	4
1. Reports to the Joint Advisory Group on the International Trade Centre and the Consultative Committee of the ITC trust fund	3	3	3	3
2. Annual report on the activities of ITC to the Joint Advisory Group on the International Trade Centre and the Consultative Committee of the ITC trust fund	1	1	1	1
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	7	8	8	8
Meetings of:				
3. The Joint Advisory Group on the International Trade Centre and formal meetings of the Consultative Committee of the ITC trust fund	4	4	4	4

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Category and subcategory	2021 planned	2021 actual	2022 planned	2023 planned
4. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions	1	1	1	1
5. The Fifth Committee	1	1	1	1
6. The Committee for Programme and Coordination	1	1	1	1
7. The WTO Committee on Budget, Finance and Administration	–	1	1	1
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	130	140	130	135
8. On trade-related technical assistance	130	140	130	135
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	3 000	5 164	3 500	5 000
9. Training events on trade intelligence, policy and strategy	600	765	700	1 200
10. Training events on business support institutions and ecosystems	300	654	350	800
11. Training events on value chains and sustainability	2 100	3 745	2 450	3 000
Technical materials (number of materials)	30	31	30	30
12. <i>SME Competitiveness Outlook</i> flagship report	1	1	1	1
13. Books on trade-related subjects	4	4	4	4
14. Papers on trade-related subjects, such as inclusive and sustainable trade, trade and market intelligence, competitiveness of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises and competitiveness of women-owned micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises	25	26	25	25

C. Substantive deliverables

Consultation, advice and advocacy: advice to policymakers, trade support institutions and enterprises to address the international competitiveness challenges for micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, to facilitate public-private dialogue on improvements to the business environment and to ensure that trade supports inclusive and sustainable development; advisory services to disadvantaged groups among micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, such as women and youth-owned enterprises, on improving their productive capacity and market access; advisory and advocacy services for policymakers and business support institutions on how to consider the needs of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises and disadvantaged groups in their service offer; and advocacy that allows for the systematic inclusion of such enterprises and disadvantaged groups in policy and strategy processes.

Databases and substantive digital materials: databases and other online tools to make global trade more transparent and facilitate market access and business and policy decisions. Databases cover trade flows, tariffs and non-tariff measures, export potential, procurement opportunities, rules of origin, private standards and knowledge on sustainable trade and youth and women entrepreneurship. They include the SheTrades database for over 20,000 active women entrepreneurs, “SheTrades Outlook”, the ITC “SME trade academy”, the Ye! community and platform (with 20,000 young entrepreneurs) and the suite of trade intelligence tools (Market Access Map, Trade Map, Standards Map, Investment Map, Global Trade Helpdesk, Export Potential Map, Procurement Map, Trade Strategy Map, Sustainability Map and ePing).

D. Communication deliverables

Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: special events, including the World Export Development Forum, SheTrades Global, the Trade for Sustainable Development Forum, the world trade promotion organizations network conference and awards; the *International Trade Forum* magazine; Micro-, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises Day; newsletters on trade-related subjects for over 16,000 recipients; and information materials and outreach, including on export strategy, trade support networks and capacities, entrepreneurship, skills and export development opportunities, world trade trends, the multilateral trading system, regional integration, technical regulations and standards for export, and trade and the Sustainable Development Goals.

Digital platforms and multimedia content: ITC website and social media accounts, engaging sustainable micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, women entrepreneurs and youth.

Library services: on-demand services for ITC clients related to trade information.

B. Proposed post and non-post resource requirements for 2023

Overview

13.31 The proposed regular budget resources for 2023 are reflected in table 13.3.

Table 13.3

Overall: evolution of financial resources by object of expenditure

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Object of expenditure	2021 expenditure ^a	2022 appropriation	Changes				2023 estimate (before recosting)	
			Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total Percentage		
Grants and contributions ^b	20 100.2	20 174.9	–	–	–	–	–	20 174.9
Total	20 100.2	20 174.9	–	–	–	–	–	20 174.9

^a At the time of reporting, the expenditures presented in this table and subsequent tables are not final and may be subject to adjustments that could result in minor differences between the information contained in the present report and the financial statements to be published by 31 March 2022.

^b Represents the United Nations share of the ITC full regular budget disbursed as a grant.

13.32 The General Assembly, in section I of its resolution [59/276](#), endorsed revised administrative arrangements for ITC as set out in the report of the Secretary-General ([A/59/405](#)). In conformity with those administrative arrangements, the regular budget of ITC is denominated in Swiss francs and is funded equally by the United Nations and WTO. The United Nations share of the ITC full regular budget is disbursed as a grant.

13.33 The grant proposed for 2023 amounts to \$20,174,900, before recosting, reflecting no change in the resource level compared with the appropriation for 2022. The full regular budget requirements of ITC amount to SwF 37,263,000 (before recosting), net of projected miscellaneous income of SwF 200,000. The United Nations grant remains at 50 per cent of the ITC full regular budget, or SwF 18,631,500. After applying an exchange rate of SwF 0.9235 to \$1.00, the United States dollar equivalent is \$20,174,900. The proposed level of resources provides for the full, efficient and effective implementation of mandates.

13.34 The General Assembly has approved, on a trial basis, a change from a biennial to an annual budget period for the United Nations, while WTO maintains its biennial budget period; this has implications for the administrative arrangements relating to the ITC budget. The administrative arrangements will be suitably updated should the annual budget cycle be confirmed by the General Assembly. Similar to the 2020, 2021 and 2022 annual budgets, the present proposal for 2023 is put forward under an interim arrangement agreed with the WTO secretariat.¹

13.35 The total resource requirements for 2023 for ITC, comprising its full regular budget in Swiss francs and projected extrabudgetary resources in Swiss francs, are reflected in tables 13.4 and 13.5 and figure 13.IV. In the interest of clarity and transparency, details of post resources, which would be provided for by the proposed grants from the United Nations and WTO, are presented in tables 13.6 and 13.7 and annex I, despite not being part of the approved or proposed staffing table of the United Nations regular budget.

Note: The following abbreviations are used in tables and figures: ASG, Assistant Secretary-General; GS (OL), General Service (Other level).

¹ The WTO General Council approved the budget of ITC for the biennium 2022–2023 in the WTO format in December 2021.

Part IV International cooperation for development

Table 13.4 Evolution of financial resources by source of funding: ITC full regular budget and extrabudgetary resources

(Thousands of Swiss francs)

(1) *Regular budget*

Component/subprogramme	2021 expenditure ^a	2022 appropriation	Changes					2023 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Programme of work								
6. Operational aspects of trade promotion and export development	36 722.3	37 263.0	–	–	–	–	–	37 263.0
Subtotal, 1	36 722.3	37 263.0	–	–	–	–	–	37 263.0

(2) *Extrabudgetary*

Component/subprogramme	2021 expenditure	2022 estimate	Change	Percentage	2023 estimate
Programme of work					
6. Operational aspects of trade promotion and export development	97 965.5	96 967.5	–	–	96 967.5
Subtotal, 2	97 965.5	96 967.5	–	–	96 967.5
Total	134 687.8	134 230.5	–	–	134 230.5

^a Overall level of 2021 expenditure (net of miscellaneous income) incurred in Swiss francs, of which the United Nations share amounts to SwF 18,361,200, equivalent to \$20,100,200.

Table 13.5 Evolution of financial and post resources: ITC full regular budget

(Thousands of Swiss francs/number of posts)

Component/subprogramme	2021 expenditure	2022 appropriation	Changes					2023 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Post	28 905.3	29 079.3	–	–	27.2	27.2	0.1	29 106.5
Non-post	7 817.0	8 183.7	–	–	(27.2)	(27.2)	(0.3)	8 156.5
Total	36 722.3	37 263.0	–	–	–	–	–	37 263.0
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		91	–	–	–	–	–	91
General Service and related		69	–	–	–	–	–	69
Total		160	–	–	–	–	–	160

Table 13.6
Proposed posts and post changes for 2023: ITC full regular budget

	<i>Number</i>	<i>Details</i>
Approved for 2022	160	1 ASG, 1 D-2, 5 D-1, 20 P-5, 30 P-4, 20 P-3, 14 P-2/1, 69 GS (OL)
Reclassification	–	1 Information Systems Officer (P-4), head of Information Technology Section, to Chief of Section, Information Systems (P-5) in Division of Programme Support
Proposed for 2023	160	1 ASG, 1 D-2, 5 D-1, 21 P-5, 29 P-4, 20 P-3, 14 P-2/1, 69 GS (OL)

Table 13.7
Proposed posts for 2023 by source of funding: ITC full regular budget and extrabudgetary resources

(Number of posts)

(1) *Regular budget*

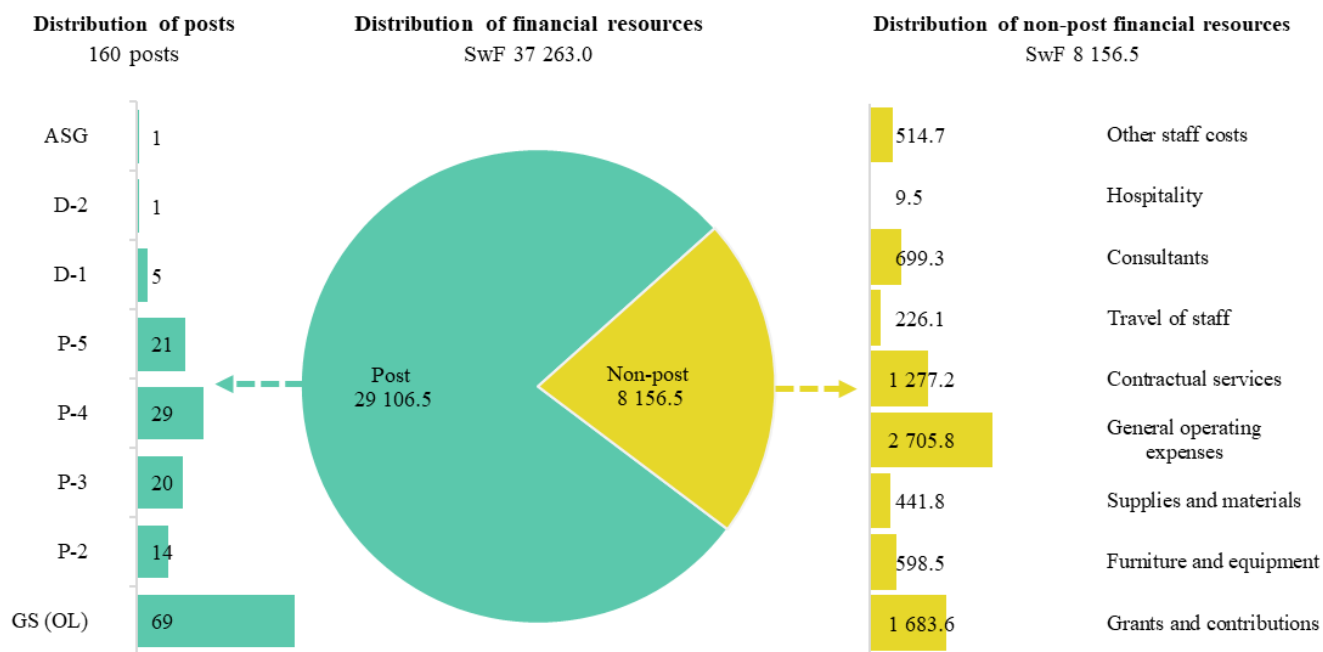
<i>Component/subprogramme</i>	<i>2022 approved</i>	<i>Changes</i>				<i>Total</i>	<i>2023 proposed</i>
		<i>Technical adjustments</i>	<i>New/expanded mandates</i>	<i>Other</i>			
Programme of work							
6. Operational aspects of trade promotion and export development	160	–	–	–	–	160	
Subtotal, 1	160	–	–	–	–	160	

(2) *Extrabudgetary*

<i>Component/subprogramme</i>	<i>2022 estimate</i>	<i>Change</i>	<i>2023 estimate</i>
Programme of work			
6. Operational aspects of trade promotion and export development	20	–	20
Subtotal, 2	20	–	20
Total	180	–	180

Figure 13.IV
Distribution of proposed resources for 2023 (before recosting): ITC full regular budget

(Number of posts/thousands of Swiss francs)



Explanation of variances by factor: International Trade Centre full regular budget

Overall resource changes

Other changes

- 13.36 As reflected in table 13.5, resource changes under the ITC full regular budget reflect the planned reclassification of the head of the Information Technology Section from Information Systems Officer (P-4) to Chief of Section, Information Systems (P-5) in the Division of Programme Support (see annex III). The resulting increase of SwF 27,200 in post resources would be provided for within the proposed grants from the United Nations and WTO. The decrease of SwF 27,200 in non-post resources mainly reflects reduced requirements under consultants owing to the expected decrease in demand for consultants in the areas of information and communications technology systems analysis and workflow automations.

Extrabudgetary resources

- 13.37 As reflected in table 13.4, ITC expects to continue to receive both cash and in-kind contributions, which would complement regular budget resources. In 2023, extrabudgetary resources are estimated at SwF 96,967,500, equivalent to \$105,000,000 at an exchange rate of SwF 0.9235 to \$1.00, and would provide for 20 posts (1 P-5, 3 P-4, 4 P-3, 1 P-2/1 and 11 General Service (Other level)), as presented in table 13.7, and non-post resources, including project personnel.
- 13.38 The extrabudgetary resources would be used mainly to implement technical cooperation projects, complementing and leveraging the core expertise and global offering of ITC provided through regular budget resources, at the request of Member States. Examples of such projects include technical cooperation and assistance provided to micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises in

developing countries, especially least developed countries, and countries with economies in transition related to the promotion of trade and international business development, including through initiatives such as SheTrades, Alliances for Action and One Trade Africa. ITC continues to negotiate with donors for the funding of large-scale integrated programmes. Estimated extrabudgetary resources represent 72.2 per cent of the total resources for this subprogramme.

- 13.39 The authority to oversee the use of extrabudgetary resources rests with ITC, as per the delegation of authority by the Secretary-General.

Other information

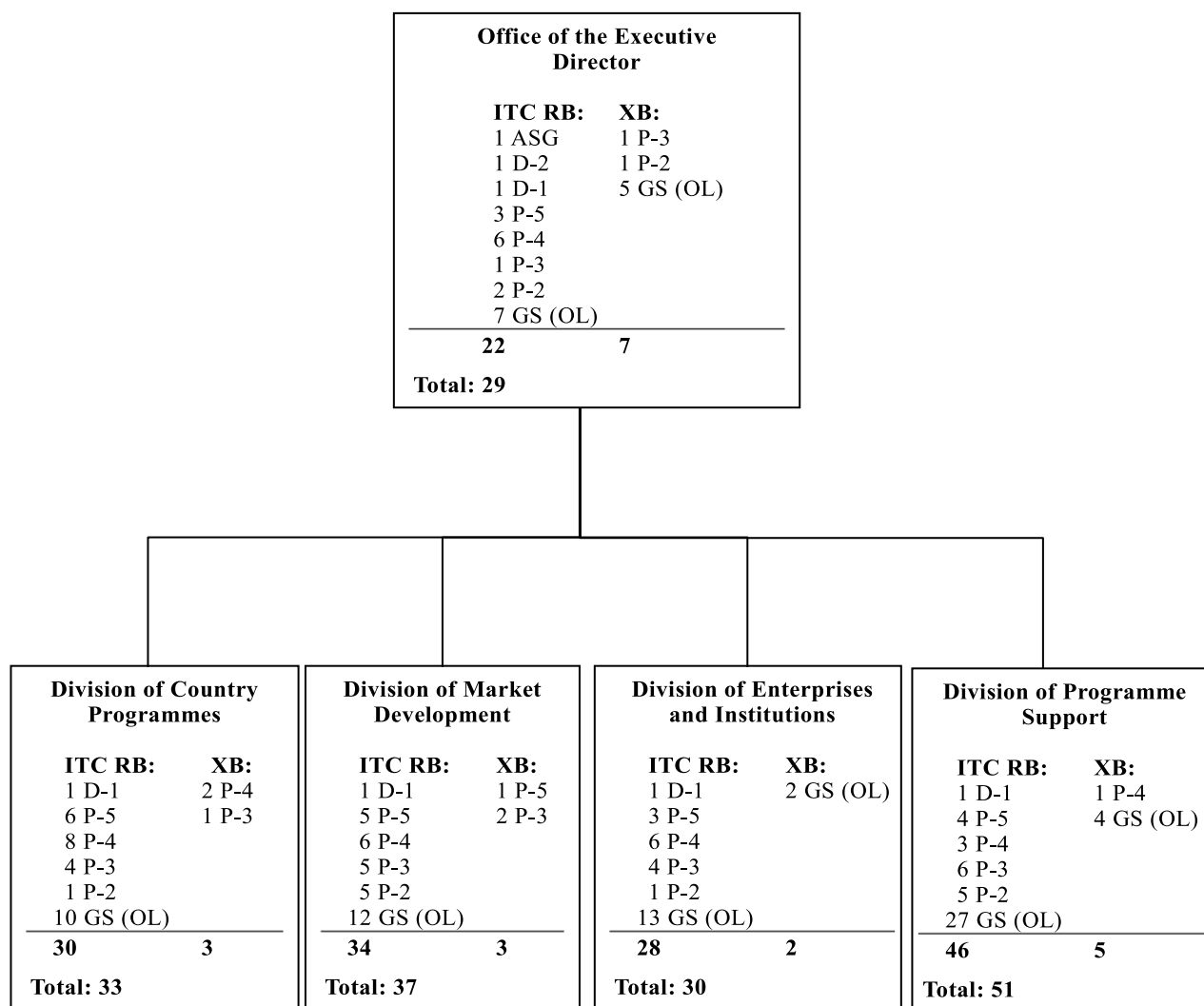
- 13.40 In accordance with the 2030 Agenda, in particular target 12.6 of the Sustainable Development Goals, in which organizations are encouraged to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycles, and in compliance with the cross-cutting mandate set out in paragraph 19 of General Assembly resolution 72/219, the Centre is integrating environmental management practices into its operations. ITC became greenhouse gas neutral in 2018 and is continuously exploring new ways to further reduce its greenhouse gas emissions. For example, following the negotiations initiated by ITC, the owner of the ITC headquarters building in Geneva has agreed to renovate the building in line with the latest Swiss environmental standards.
- 13.41 Information on compliance with regard to the timely submission of documentation and advance booking for air travel is reflected in table 13.8. Efforts undertaken by ITC to further enhance the rate of travel compliance include the quarterly dissemination of a newsletter addressed to all ITC personnel that provides the actual compliance rates and the category of non-compliance justifications broken down by division. Training at ITC also highlights the policy so that any ITC staff raising travel requests are fully aware of the advance booking policy. Since 2020, divisional directors have been provided with details of individual staff compliance rates twice a year, with a ranking from the least to the most compliant. Additionally, measures have been put in place to document more clearly, in the enterprise resource planning system or otherwise, when non-compliance is due to factors beyond the control of ITC. Efforts have been made to receive confirmations and collect the required details for travel earlier, and ITC will continue to undertake all of these efforts, as they have shown steady and progressive results.

Table 13.8
Compliance rate
 (Percentage)

	<i>Actual 2019</i>	<i>Actual 2020</i>	<i>Actual 2021</i>	<i>Planned 2022</i>	<i>Planned 2023</i>
Timely submission of documentation	100	100	100	100	100
Air tickets purchased at least 2 weeks before the commencement of travel	39	39	69	100	100

Annex I

Organizational structure and post distribution for 2023



Note: ITC RB posts refer to ITC full regular budget posts, which are not part of the proposed United Nations regular budget staffing table. XB posts are funded through the special account for programme support costs.

Abbreviations: ASG, Assistant Secretary-General; GS (OL), General Service (Other level); ITC RB, International Trade Centre full regular budget; XB, extrabudgetary.

Annex II

Summary of follow-up action taken to implement relevant recommendations of advisory and oversight bodies

Brief description of the recommendation

Action taken to implement the recommendation

Board of Auditors

A/76/5 (Vol. III), chap. II

The Board recommends that ITC specify the programme support cost rate and the appendix D rate separately in donor agreements (para. 29).

The International Trade Centre (ITC) separated the programme support cost rate and the appendix D rate in new donor agreements. The recommendation is implemented and will be proposed for closure to the Board of Auditors during the 2022 audit.

The Board reiterates the recommendation that ITC adopt corrective measures to improve compliance with the advance ticket purchase policy (para. 60).

The Senior Management Committee has implemented tight control measures. ITC has put in place clear accountability mechanisms at all levels, as articulated in paragraph 13.41 of the present report, to ensure improved compliance with the advance ticket purchase policy.

Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

A/76/7 and A/76/7/Corr.1

Noting that the post of Director (D-1) of the Addis Ababa office of ITC has been vacant for an extended period of time since 1 January 2016, the Advisory Committee trusts that recruitment for the post will be completed as soon as possible and that updated information will be provided to the General Assembly at the time of its consideration of the present report and in the context of the proposed programme budget for 2023 (para. IV.86).

Recruitment is under way and updated information will be provided to the General Assembly at the time of its consideration of the present report.

The Advisory Committee recommends that the General Assembly request the International Trade Centre to implement the recommendations of the Board of Auditors fully and expeditiously and to provide an update in the proposed programme budget for 2023, including information on the provision of guidelines on the selection of consultants and individual contractors in order for its managers to enhance accountability and transparency (para. IV.95).

The Board of Auditors, in its report for the year ended 31 December 2020, confirmed that ITC had a total of 12 outstanding recommendations from prior periods (A/76/5 (Vol. III), chap. II, para. 6) and made 9 new recommendations to ITC.

ITC is working towards implementing all recommendations, and an update on their status will be provided in the report of the Board of Auditors for the year ended 31 December 2021, which would be provided to the General Assembly during its consideration of the proposed programme budget for 2023.

ITC completed the necessary actions related to 10 recommendations and will propose them for closure to the Board of Auditors during the 2022 audit, which will commence in April 2022.

Annex III

Summary of planned post changes

<i>Component/subprogramme</i>	<i>Posts</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Reason for change</i>
Subprogramme 6 Operational aspects of trade promotion and export development	(1) 1	(P-4) P-5	Reclassification of 1 Information Systems Officer (P-4), head of the Information Technology Section, to Chief of Section, Information Systems (P-5) in Division of Programme Support	The planned upward reclassification of this post reflects the increased complexity of the job function as a result of growing focus on and demand for data analytics and management, digital transformation and innovation. The reclassification will strengthen the capacity of the International Trade Centre in the area of information and communications technology (ICT) and support the implementation of the Centre's digital transformation agenda. In addition, the reclassification will place the Centre on a par with other similar-sized United Nations entities in terms of leadership posts with functions relating to ICT.