

Guidelines for the utilization of the funds made available through the Global Trust Fund

The Global Trust Fund is intended to facilitate the realization of a more efficient and effective technical cooperation programme within priorities agreed by the Joint Advisory Group. The Fund has two windows: the first one consists of unearmarked contributions, while the second one is allocated to specific programmes designed to meet pre-stated and time-limited objectives. The Consultative Committee provides advice to the ITC Secretariat on the utilization of the resources of the Global Trust Fund.

Against this background, the following funding scenario and modalities are proposed to the Consultative Committee:

First window

This window will be used primarily to enhance ITC's technical capability for programme delivery in the six core services¹. It will finance the technical expertise and other inputs in the priority areas agreed by JAG, which would not otherwise be available due to the limited resources of the regular budget. It will also provide complementary support to ITC's regular programme of work, e.g. in the following areas:

- The formulation of tailor-made technical cooperation programmes meeting the specific needs of a country or subregion (i.e. in relation to the "needs assessment and programme design" core service), when ITC's contribution cannot be financed from other sources.
- Seed money for activities which are meant to become self-financed in the long run (establishment of a revolving fund).
- Expert meetings to share views with recipients, donors and other partners on ITC's strategy and work programmes in specialized subject areas.
- Evaluation studies at subprogramme level (e.g. ITC's Product and Market Development Subprogramme) and technical meetings to review such evaluations, and post facto monitoring or ex-post evaluations of completed projects (evaluation of special programmes financed from the second window will be built into the respective programme).

The Secretariat proposes to report to the Consultative Committee, twice a year, on the actual use of the funds.

Second window

This window may, in principle, finance any pre-agreed programme that would benefit from multi-donor contributions. It is proposed that priority be given to special and comprehensive programmes of a

¹Core services are: product and market development; development of trade support services; trade information; human resource development; international purchasing and supply management; and needs assessment and programme design.

multi-disciplinary nature building upon ITC's basic work programme, for example when substantial resources are required to address special needs of developing countries, such as those resulting from the Uruguay Round agreements.

The Consultative Committee will advise on the types, themes and general orientation of these special programmes, on the basis of "programme framework" papers submitted by the Secretariat. Ad hoc programme management subcommittees may be constituted to provide guidance on the formulation and follow the progress of the respective programmes.