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Objectives

a) The overarching objective of the Technology Bank is to help the LDCs build the Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) capacity that they need to promote the structural transformation of their economies, eradicate poverty and foster sustainable development.

b) The specific objectives as outlined in the Charter of the Technology Bank are:

To strengthen the science, technology and innovation capacity of Least Developed Countries (LDCs), including the capacity to identify, absorb, develop, integrate and scale-up the deployment of technologies and innovations, including indigenous ones, as well as the capacity to address and manage Intellectual Property Rights issues;

To promote the development and implementation of national and regional STI strategies;

To strengthen partnerships among STI-related public entities and with the private sector;

To promote cooperation among all stakeholders involved in STI, including, researchers, research institutions, public entities within and between LDCs, as well as with their counterparts in other countries;

To promote and facilitate the identification, utilization and access of appropriate technologies by LDCs, as well 0 0(w)-2(eETBT3[an iss)Bm TB886(to)-911(the 1 289(L)-3(DCs,)-910(w)-h

entities and in consultation with key stakeholders. For each subject area, the STI/TNA reviews will focus on four broad questions:

1. What is W K H F R X Q W U \ ¶ V F X U U H Q W F D S D F L W \ L Q W H U P V collaboration, technology scouting, IP systems, engineering, technical and vocational skills, etc?
2.

Annex 1 ±Work Programme for the first 3 years

1. STI Policy and Capacity Building

This activity aims at improving STI policy-making and establishing collaborative innovation networks to enable LDC scientists, technologists and relevant public institutions to connect and

4. Information Access to Support Research, Development and Demonstration

Initial activities could include:

a. Help LDC stakeholder identify, access and use free patent information. The latter is a critical source for identifying existing technologies and requires best-in-class search skills be provided to LDCs. This capacity involves both search and, where necessary, translation.
b. Assess the ability of LDC stakeholders to commercialize research and innovation that has market potential and promote cross-fertilization across public and private actors to generate marketable R&D that supports national development priorities.
c. Support a demand-driven approach to innovation and technology transfer. Assist LDC stakeholders in defining specific problems, needs and requirements in core areas of focus as well as with the identification of appropriate technology solutions to address these needs. Assist with access, assessment, translation and implementation.
d. Assist LDCs in technology scouting, identification and review of available technical information, and support in identifying patent owners and companies with commercially available technical solutions.
e. Establish linkages with national, regional and global intellectual property-related organizations to enhance communication and provision of services to LDCs.
f. Serve as a conduit between R&D sources and local entrepreneurs to generate new inventions and new companies. Partners could include accelerators, incubators, science and technology parks, specialized research institutions and other centres of knowledge and excellence, and programmatic interests of major donor foundations.
g. Make use of existing partnering mechanisms, especially online portals that provide access to public private partnership resources.

5. IP Training and Technical Assistance

Provide information and develop and coordinate access to technical and financial cooperation between the LDCs and the providers of IP-related capacity building assistance in order to:

a. Provide training and technical advice on preparing and upgrading existing laws and drafting of new laws, strengthening human and institutional capacities and enhancing implementation.
b. Support modernization of IP administration in terms of digital search, examination, publication, and recording of ownership.
c.

6. Supporting IP Rights Acquisition and Technology Transfer

a. Conduct education and training of government, business, university and other stakeholders on various forms of IP and fundamentals of technology transfer.
b. Conduct training and capacity building to support LDC authors on when and how to file for a patent before publishing their research findings, as well as on technology transfer management.
c. Develop a program for attorneys and other relevant experts to provide pro-bono or reduced-fee support for LDCs for complex contract negotiation in order to obtain patents and negotiate licenses.
d. Provide advice to both technology owner and LDCs to facilitate IPRs acquisition and technology transfer.

Table 1 ±Correspondence of projects to Action Lines

Projects for the first three years	Action Lines		
	Attracting outside technology and facilitating technology transfer	Supporting home-grown innovation and research	Bringing imported and indigenous technologies to market

Annex 2. Prioritized projects and activities for the initial 18 months

1. Technology Needs Assessment for Transformative Change

a. Conduct rapid assessments of STI policies (including by partnering with UNCTAD and UNESCO), innovation ecosystem and technology commercialization capacities of LDCs mainly focused on identifying technological needs and gaps and appropriate interventions.
b. Identify the core area of focus for each LDC (such as public health, agriculture, industry, ESTs, sustainable energy, and information and communication technology) and prepare specific initiatives to maximize the impact of technology as an instrument to foster structural transformation, reduce poverty and promote sustainable development.
c. Provide expertise to interface with donors, UN agencies and international organizations to articulate LDC priority needs, prepare proposals, and communicate with providers of IP-related support.
d. Identify opportunities to strengthen R&D infrastructure, providing a platform to coordinate with existing capacity building programmes to improve access of LDCs.
e. Promote collaboration at the regional level as well as among clusters of countries that share common characteristics, challenges and explore synergies and complementarities.
f. Collaborate with relevant UN system entities and other international organizations to identify data gaps, and to foster statistical capacities needed for STI policy-making, taking into consideration the SDGs and IPoA objectives.
g. Scale up STI reviews to cover all LDCs over time (STI review should facilitate the articulation of evidence-based implementation plans).

2. Mapping of activities in support of LDCs in the area of STI

a. Carry out an analysis of existing STI initiatives, mechanisms and programmes specifically targeting LDCs within the UN system, relevant international and regional organizations as well as the private sector. Such activity could be carried out in cooperation with the recently established Technology Facilitation Mechanism (TFM). And other existing knowledge-sharing platforms.

3. IP Training and Technical Assistance

a. Provide training and technical advice on preparing and upgrading existing laws and drafting new laws, strengthening human and institutional capacities and enhancing implementation and enforcement.
b. Support modernization of IP administration in terms of digital search, examination, publication, and recording of ownership.
c. Enhance the institutional infrastructure (involving government, university and industry) to support the role of STI and IP as a tool for economic growth.

4. Digital Research Access and Networking

A. National and Regional Research and Educations Network Facilitation

a. Disseminate information to LDCs on Technology Bank activities and allow onward communication to connected institutions, campuses and scientists.
b. Carry out gap analyses of existing infrastructure of national STI institutions

Annex 3. Operational Principles

The projects and activities of the TB will be governed by the following guiding operational principles.

national development priorities and be consistent with national programming principles. Initiatives undertaken by the Technology Bank in partnerships with relevant UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes should be integrated with the respective United Nations Development Assistant Frameworks in each country, and be developed in consultation with the United Nations Country Team and other relevant stakeholders.

4. All Technology Bank activities and projects will be designed to complement, rather than compete with or duplicate activities and projects already undertaken by other UN agencies or donors. Synergies across existing initiatives and/or joint actions and approaches should be a guiding principle for planning. The Technology Bank should leverage the existing initiatives within the UN system at the regional and national level to implement its programme of work. The Technology Bank should also, in collaboration with UN system entities, LDC governments and their development partners and other relevant stakeholders, learn from successful experiences that can be replicated and/or adapted to a LDC context.

5. Technology Bank projects and activities will be developed over time as the institution gains experience and expertise through an initial set of initiatives. The start-up phase should facilitate the consolidation of the financial base of the Technology Bank and help in building partnerships with stakeholders in LDCs and other developing and developed countries, including from the private sector. The design of projects and activities of the Technology Bank should also incorporate financial sustainability considerations.

6. No activities and projects of the Technology Bank will contain features that can generate barriers or discrimination, including gender-based discrimination. Conversely the Technology Bank should recognize that the absence of any discrimination and gender equality help improve the scientific quality and societal relevance of the produced knowledge, technology and innovation. Technology Bank activities and projects should take into account women as well as

9. In designing all Technology Bank activities and projects, consideration should be given as to

revised Technology Bank strategy, and will consider specific objectives, operational structure and planned activities and projects.

END NOTE

[*] The 2011 Istanbul Programme of Action called for the establishment of a technology bank and a science, technology and innovation supporting mechanism dedicated to least developed countries, a long-standing priority of the LDCs confirmed in the 2015 Addis Ababa Action Agenda and in Sustainable Development Goal 17. Preparatory work towards the Technology Bank culminated with the report of the feasibility study prepared by a High-Level Panel of Experts in 2015 (see at http://unohrlls.org/technologybank/) 7KH 3DQHO¶V UHSRUW highlighted that the Technology Bank, modelled on the United Nations University, has the potential to strengthen national FDSDELOLWLHV DQG SURYLGH H[SHUWLVH WR WKH ZRUOG¶V OHDVW G behind in achieving internationally agreed development goals. The panel underscored that the establishment of the Technology Bank is not only required but also feasible. It recommended that the Technology Bank supports a