

1st minute = 100 syllables

The **United Nations Conference on Trade and Development** was established in 1964

as a permanent intergovernmental body. **UNCTAD** is the principal organ

of the United Nations General Assembly dealing with trade, investment and development

opportunities of developing countries and assists them in their efforts to integrate into

2nd minute = 115 minutes

world economy on an equitable basis. Currently 191 nations are Member

States of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. You will find the headquarters of this

very important international organization in Geneva in **Switzerland**. The organization has

a staff comprising 400 people and disposes of an annual budget of 69 million US dollars.

3rd minute = 130 syllables

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the **World Trade Organization** have set up an agency for

technical co-operation. This agency is called **International Trade Center**. The International Trade Center

supports the economies of developing countries and **transition countries**. They shall be enabled to realize their full

potential for developing exports and improving import operations. The technical **cooperation projects** of the

4th minute = 145 syllables

International Trade Center are carried out in all developing countries. These projects are undertaken at the request of the

governments of the countries concerned, and they are **administered** from the headquarters of the International Trade Center in Geneva.

In addition to specific technical co-operation projects, the ITC **provides** services from its

headquarters in Geneva that are **available** to developing countries in transition. The International Trade Center's technical co-operation work is **coordinated**

5th minute = 160 syllables

with a number of other organs outside the United Nations' system. The International Trade Center maintains **a close liaison** with the United

Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the World Trade Organization for specific technical cooperation activities. The

center's budget is funded by the United Nations and the World Trade Organization and finances general research and development on

trade promotion and export development. The International Trade Conference is a joint subsidiary organ of the World Trade Organization and

6th minute = 175 syllables

the United Nations. The broad policy guidelines for technical co-operation work of the International Trade Conference are determined by the governing organs of its

permanent bodies. An Executive Director is responsible for the management of the International Trade Center. Staff at the ITC headquarters

in Geneva numbers approximately 200. Several hundred **consultants** are **assigned** to projects of the International Trade Center in

developing countries and economies in transition each year all over the world. On 1 May 2004 the **enlargement** of the European Union has taken

7th minute = 190 syllables

place. The enlargement of the European Union is one of the most important opportunities for the European Union at the beginning of the

21st century. At the same time it is a unique, historic task to support the integration of the continent by peaceful means, extending a zone of stability and

prosperity to new member-states. In March 1998 the European Union formally launched the process that will make enlargement possible. It **embraces** the thirteen

applicant countries. At its Luxembourg summit in December 1997, the **European Council** decided that the enlargement process should **encompass** the

8th minute = 205 syllables

European Conference, the **accession** process and accession negotiations. The European Union can already look back on a history of successful enlargements. In 1951

it was the Treaties of Paris establishing the European Coal and Steel Community. The European Economic Community and the European

Atomic Energy Community were established in 1957 through the Rome Treaty, which was signed by six founding members: Belgium, the Federal Republic of Germany,

France, Italy, Luxembourg and the **Netherlands**. Denmark, the Republic of Ireland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland joined the European Union in 1973.