

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

**List of Publications on  
Foreign Direct Investment  
and  
Transnational Corporations  
(1973-2003)**



United Nations  
New York and Geneva, 2004

### **Note**

UNCTAD serves as the focal point within the United Nations Secretariat for all matters related to foreign direct investment and transnational corporations. In the past, the Programme on Transnational Corporations was carried out by the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations (1975-1992) and the Transnational Corporations and Management Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Development (1992-1993). In 1993, the Programme was transferred to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. UNCTAD seeks to further the understanding of the nature of transnational corporations and their contribution to development and to create an enabling environment for international investment and enterprise development. UNCTAD's work is carried out through intergovernmental deliberations, technical assistance activities, seminars, workshops and conferences.

The term "country" as used in this publication also refers, as appropriate, to territories or areas; the signations employed and the presentation of the material do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. In addition, the designations of country groups are intended solely for statistical or analytical convenience and do not necessarily express a judgement about the stage of development reached by a particular country or area in the development process.

The material contained in this study may be freely quoted with appropriate acknowledgement.

#### **Language editions and symbols used**

Unless otherwise indicated, the publications are only available in English. The following abbreviations are used to indicate the availability of language editions: A = Arabic; C = Chinese; E = English; F = French; R = Russian; S = Spanish. (An asterisk (\*) indicates a language edition in preparation.)

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## **PREFACE**

In 1973, the United Nations Economic and Social Council gave a "Group of Eminent Persons" the task of advising on matters related to transnational corporations (TNCs) and their impact on the development process. Taking into account the increasing importance of such companies in the world economy, particularly in developing countries, as a source of foreign direct investment (FDI), trade and technology transfer, the group recommended that a permanent Programme and Centre be established to study TNCs and related policy issues. The Group also recommended the creation of a Commission on Transnational Corporations, to which the Centre was to report, so as to serve the needs of the United Nations in this area through information gathering, research and policy analysis, technical assistance and consensus-building. The United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations (UNCTC) began its work in 1974.

Established as the focal point within the United Nations Secretariat for all matters related to FDI and TNCs, the Programme was initially carried out by UNCTC (1975-1992) and the Transnational Corporations and Management Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Development (DESD/TCMD) (1992-1993). In 1993, the Programme was transferred to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

In its work in this area, UNCTAD seeks to further the understanding of the nature and impact of TNCs, especially their potential contribution to development, including through the creation of an appropriate enabling environment for international investment and enterprise development. This work is carried out through intergovernmental deliberations, policy analysis and research, technical assistance activities, seminars, workshops and conferences.

This catalogue reflects the sustained efforts made by the United Nations with a view towards enhancing the understanding of developing countries and economies in transition with respect to the role of FDI. It is also a tribute to the dedication of competent staff over 30 years of work. The usefulness of the publications listed has been confirmed regularly through feedback from policy-makers, scholars and journalists alike. The publications themselves can be found at [www.unctad.org/dite](http://www.unctad.org/dite).

The objective of UNCTAD's work in this area will be to continue to meet the challenges arising from the evolution of the global economy and contribute directly to the cause of development.

Geneva, April 2004

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Director,  
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## **Internet addresses of related DITE sub-programmes**

For further information about the publications and activities of UNCTAD's Division for Investment Technology and Enterprise Development (DITE) on FDI and TNCs, please see the websites listed below.

[www.unctad.org/en/subsites/dite](http://www.unctad.org/en/subsites/dite)

1. Electronic Library of UNCTC publications (forthcoming)  
[www.unctad.org/dite](http://www.unctad.org/dite)
2. World Investment Report  
[www.unctad.org/wir](http://www.unctad.org/wir)
3. FDI Statistics  
[www.unctad.org/fdistatistics](http://www.unctad.org/fdistatistics)
4. Investment Policy Reviews  
[www.unctad.org/ipr](http://www.unctad.org/ipr)
5. International Investment Agreements  
[www.unctad.org/jia](http://www.unctad.org/jia)
6. Advisory Services on Investment and Training  
[www.unctad.org/asit](http://www.unctad.org/asit)
7. LDCs Investment Guides  
[www.unctad.org/investmentguides](http://www.unctad.org/investmentguides)
8. Transnational Corporations Journal  
[www.unctad.org/dite – under FDI section](http://www.unctad.org/dite – under FDI section)
9. International Standards on Accounting and Reporting  
[www.unctad.org/isar](http://www.unctad.org/isar)

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## I. TRENDS IN FDI AND THE ACTIVITIES OF TNCs

### A. World Investment Report

UNCTAD, *World Investment Report 2003. FDI Policies for Development: National and International Perspectives* (New York and Geneva, 2003). 303 pages. Sales No. E.03.II.D.8.

UNCTAD, *World Investment Report 2003. FDI Policies for Development: National and International Perspectives. Overview*. 42 pages (A, C, E, F, R, S). Document symbol: UNCTAD/WIR/2003 (Overview). Available free to charge.

The *World Investment Report 2003 (WIR03)* is the thirteenth volume in a series covering global trends and developments relating to FDI and TNCs. In Part One, *WIR03* discusses overall trends in FDI, with special focus on the FDI downturn. In 2001 and 2002 FDI flows dropped drastically and no rebound is expected in 2003. The reasons for the downturn are discussed from a global perspective, as well as by region – developed countries, Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Central and Eastern Europe. Part Two focuses on key issues that straddle national FDI policies and international investment agreements (IIAs) with a view to bringing out the development dimension. Special attention is given to the rise of IIAs, the right to regulate, home country measures and corporate social responsibility. The report includes a statistical annex of over 100 pages – also on CD Rom.

UNCTAD, *World Investment Report 2002: Transnational Corporations and Export Competitiveness* (New York and Geneva, 2002). 350 pages. Sales No. E.02.II.D.4.

UNCTAD, *World Investment Report 2002: Transnational Corporations and Export Competitiveness. Overview*. 66 pages (A, C, E, F, R, S). Document symbol: UNCTAD/WIR/2002 (Overview). Available free of charge.

In Part One, *WIR02* examines the worldwide decline in FDI flows in 2001 – the first in ten years, mainly due to a slowdown of world economic growth and to a decrease in cross-border mergers and acquisitions. Although the drop was concentrated in developed countries, developing countries also saw their FDI inflows reduced. *WIR02* also features two new indices measuring FDI performance and potential, as well as the lists of the top TNCs of the world, of developing countries, and of Central and Eastern Europe. Part Two of the *Report* focuses on the role of TNCs in the export competitiveness of developing countries. Based on an analysis of recent trends in international trade, it identifies the countries and products in which TNCs have driven export performance and describes the most relevant corporate strategies behind these patterns. Part Three presents policy options available for developing countries to attract and upgrade export-oriented FDI. *WIR02* includes a statistical annex of over 100 pages.

UNCTAD, *World Investment Report 2001: Promoting Linkages* (New York and Geneva, 2001). 354 pages. Sales No. E.01.II.D.12.

UNCTAD, *World Investment Report 2001: Promoting Linkages. Overview*. 63 pages (A, C, E, F, R, S). Document symbol: UNCTAD/WIR/2001 (Overview). Available free of charge.

*WIR01* analyzes the geography of FDI, patterns and shifts in the locational distribution of FDI, at the national, regional and international levels. *WIR01*'s special topic is linkages between foreign affiliates and local companies in developing countries as a means to enhance the competitiveness of the enterprise sector. Backward linkages, i.e. long-term business relationships between foreign affiliates and local suppliers, can be of mutual benefit for both partners. *WIR01* identifies best practices in the area of linkage formation, drawing on country experiences, analyzes the focus on general patterns of linkages between foreign affiliates and local firms, how they have worked, what obstacles were encountered and, in particular, what policy measures, if any, could help to strengthen them or create new ones. In 2001 again *WIR* presents the list of the largest TNCs of the world, of developing countries and of Central Europe. As in the past years, the *Report* offers useful empirical information and policy analysis for decision-makers in government and business and to researchers.

UNCTAD, *World Investment Report 2000: Cross-border Mergers and Acquisitions and Development* (New York and Geneva, 2000). 337 pages. Sales No. E.00.II.D.20.

UNCTAD, *World Investment Report 2000: Cross-border Mergers and Acquisitions and Development. Overview*. 65 pages (A, C, E, F, R, S). Document symbol: UNCTAD/WIR/2000 (Overview). Available free of charge.

*WIR00* highlights important sectoral and geographical changes in the pattern of FDI, with particular focus on developing countries. *WIR00* focuses specifically on the growing role of cross-border mergers and acquisitions (M&As) in worldwide FDI. Cross-border M&As have been prevalent in developed countries for some time, and they have become increasingly important as well in developing countries and economies in transition. *WIR00* analyzes the driving forces behind the recent expansion of cross-border M&As, their impact on corporate performance, as well as on host country development, particularly as compared with greenfield investment as a mode of FDI entry. The *Report* presents various policy options to address possible negative effects of M&As.

UNCTAD, *World Investment Report 1999: Foreign Direct Investment and the Challenge of Development* (New York and Geneva, 1999). 541 pages. Sales No. E.99.II.D.3.

UNCTAD, *World Investment Report 1999: Foreign Direct Investment and the Challenge of Development. Overview*. 75 pages (A, C, E, F, R, S). Document symbol: UNCTAD/WIR/1999 (Overview). Available free of charge.

*WIR99* offers empirical information and policy analysis for decision-makers in government and business and for researchers. Part I, entitled Trends, examines the most recent FDI global and regional trends. It briefly describes the investment strategies of the world's 100 largest TNCs; analyzes the momentum for an increasing globalization of economies through FDI and the activities of TNCs; and explores the growing importance of M&As in fuelling FDI flows. It also reviews recent developments in bilateral and regional investment agreements including the key issues of the discussion on a possible multilateral agreement on investment. Part II, entitled Foreign Direct Investment and the Challenge of Development, looks at the impact of FDI on key objectives of economic development: increasing financial resources for investment, enhancing technological capabilities, boosting export competitiveness, generating and upgrading employment, and protecting the environment. *WIR99* concludes that although

FDI can yield major economic benefits for the host country, such benefits do not materialize of their own accord: Government policy does matter, at both national and international levels. Governments therefore have an important role to play in creating the conditions that attract FDI and in maximizing the positive contribution that FDI can make to growth and development.

UNCTAD, *World Investment Report 1998: Trends and Determinants* (New York and Geneva, 1998). 463 pages. Sales No. E.98.II.D.5.

UNCTAD, *World Investment Report 1998: Trends and Determinants. Overview*. 72 pages (A, C, E, F, R, S). Document symbol: UNCTAD/WIR/1998 (Overview). Available free of charge.

WIR98 documents the continuing growth of FDI which reached new record levels in 1997. Apart from standard chapters featuring FDI trends at the global and regional levels, the report covers policy developments as well as the top 100 largest TNCs worldwide and the top 50 largest TNCs from developing countries. Special attention is paid to the impact of the financial crises in Asia on FDI flows to and from that region; success stories in terms of attracting FDI in Africa; the interrelationship between FDI, exports and the balance-of-payments in Latin America and the Caribbean; and the absorptive capacity for FDI of Central and Eastern Europe. In addition, WIR98 has an extensive analysis of the host country determinants of FDI flows.

UNCTAD, *World Investment Report 1997: Transnational Corporations, Market Structure and Competition Policy* (New York and Geneva, 1997). 416 pages. Sales No. E.97.II.D. 10.

UNCTAD, *World Investment Report 1997: Transnational Corporations, Market Structure and Competition Policy. Overview*. 76 pages (A, C, E, F, R, S). Document symbol: UNCTAD/ITE/IIT/5 (Overview). Available free of charge.

WIR97 addresses the following questions: What are the latest trends in global, regional and national FDI flows? Which are the TNCs in developed and developing countries? Is the FDI boom set to continue into the twenty-first century? How does FDI affect market structure and competition? What are the policy implications?

Record levels of FDI are flowing worldwide, furthering the globalization of production. Developing economies on the whole have been an integral part of this process, both as

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