



# United Nations Industrial Development Organization

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## Industrial Development Board

Thirty-first session

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Item 11 of the provisional agenda

**Matters related to intergovernmental, non-governmental  
governmental and other organizations**

### **Information on intergovernmental organizations not in the United Nations system**

#### **Note by the Director-General**

Draws the attention of the Board to the desire of the Chairman of the Commission of the African Union and the Director-General of UNIDO to conclude a new relationship agreement between UNIDO and the African Union.

1. Article 19.1 (a) of the Constitution stipulates that the Director-General may, with the approval of the Board and subject to guidelines established by the Conference, "enter into agreements establishing appropriate relationships with ... intergovernmental and governmental organizations". The guidelines (decision GC.1/Dec.41, annex, paras. 8 and 9) stipulate that the Director-General shall circulate among the members of the Board information on intergovernmental and governmental organizations wishing to enter into agreements with UNIDO; upon approval of the Board, the Director-General shall conclude appropriate relationship agreements with the organizations concerned.

2. In its decision IDB.2/Dec.28 the Board authorized the Director-General to negotiate in the most appropriate way with 28 intergovernmental organizations included in document IDB.2/31 with a view to concluding agreements that establish appropriate relationships. The Organization of African Unity (OAU), subsequently succeeded by the African Union (AU), was among those organizations, and a relationship agreement between UNIDO and the OAU was concluded on 25 July 1989 (IDB.6/10, annex J).

3. In view of the establishment of the African Union, the Chairman of the Commission of the African Union and the Director-General of UNIDO consider that it would be appropriate to negotiate and conclude a new agreement between UNIDO and the African Union.

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4. Background information on the African Union, as required by paragraph 8 of the guidelines contained in the annex to decision GC.1/Dec.41, is set out in the annex to the present document.

### **Action required of the Board**

5. The Board may wish to consider adopting the following draft decision:

“The Industrial Development Board:

“(a) Takes note of the information contained in document IDB.31/10 and its annex;

“(b) Recalls its decision IDB.2/Dec.28, which authorized the Director-General to negotiate in the most appropriate way with, inter alia, the Organization of African Unity with a view to concluding an agreement that would establish an appropriate relationship;

“(c) Authorizes the Director-General to negotiate and conclude an appropriate relationship agreement between UNIDO and the African Union in accordance with the guidelines contained in the annex to decision GC.1/Dec.41.”

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## Annex<sup>1</sup>

### **African Union (AU)**

#### **Historical background**

Established on 26 May 2001 as a successor to the Organization of African Unity (OAU). The Constitutive Act of the African Union was adopted during the Lomé Summit of the OAU on 11 July 2000.

#### **Purpose**

Achieve greater unity and solidarity between the African countries and the peoples of Africa; defend the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of its Member States; accelerate the political and socio-economic integration of the continent; promote and defend African common positions on issues of interest to the continent and its peoples; encourage international cooperation, taking due account of the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; promote peace, security, and stability on the continent; promote democratic principles and institutions, popular participation and good governance; promote and protect human and peoples' rights in accordance with the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights and other relevant human rights instruments; establish the necessary conditions which enable the continent to play its rightful role in the global economy and in international negotiations; promote sustainable development at the economic, social and cultural levels as well as the integration of African economies; promote cooperation in all fields of human activity to raise the living standards of African peoples; coordinate and harmonize the policies between the existing and future Regional Economic Communities for the gradual attainment of the objectives of the Union; advance the development of the continent by promoting research in all fields, in particular in science and technology; work with relevant international partners in the eradication of preventable diseases and the promotion of good health on the continent.

#### **Cooperation with UNIDO**

The African Union and UNIDO shall cooperate in areas of common interest and within the mandate of UNIDO. In particular, the following activities will be targeted:

- Industrial policy formulation;
- Investment promotion;
- Energy;
- Technology transfer;
- Trade capacity-building; and
- Agro-processing.

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<sup>1</sup> The designations employed and the presentation of material in this annex do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of UNIDO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area of its authorities, or concerning the delimitations of its frontiers or boundaries.

## **Structure**

Assembly of Heads of State and Government

Executive Council

Commission

Permanent Representatives' Committee

Peace and Security Council

Pan-African Parliament

Economic, Social and Cultural Council

Court of Justice (not yet established)

Specialized Technical Committees

Financial institutions

## **Membership**

Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe

## **Relations with the United Nations**

Participates as observer in the session and the work of the General Assembly.

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