

Mr. Chairman (H.E. Helmut Boeck, Permanent Representative of Austria),

1- Allow me at the outset to congratulate you on your election. I congratulate as well the members of your bureau on their appointment. Lebanon stands ready to work closely with you and your team.

2- Lebanon, associates itself with the statements delivered on behalf of G77 and Asian Group.

3- We also thank the Director General for his leadership of UNIDO, which has developed into an effective organization with clear goals and priorities. My delegation hopes that his ongoing change Management exercise would produce improvement in efficiency and enhancement in technical cooperation delivery capacity.

4- Mr. President, under the Agenda Item 4-c
My delegation commends the work undertaken by UNIDO in the Arab region, and while taking note of the regional programme draft jointly prepared by UNIDO and the Arab Industrial Development and Mining Organization (AIDMO): "Enhancing the role of SME's in the economic and social development in Arab States" which we look forward to see it converted into activities in line with the national requirements and priorities.

5- On the national level, we put ^{our} ~~my~~ appreciation on record for UNIDO commitment towards strengthening the organization's partnership and cooperation with Lebanon for the benefit of the country's industrial development.

6- Lebanon, who hosts the regional office of UNIDO, highly appreciates the cooperation with the organization which has produced many projects as the Centre for Lebanese Cleaner Production (LCPC),

which is still receiving support from some donor countries as Austria, for example, and to which we extend our sincere gratitude.

7- UNIDO has engaged with Lebanon in several projects which helped the rebuilding of war-affected, Lebanese enterprises since 2006, one of which is the “Lebanese agro-industry support and economic recovery (LAISER)” project, that aimed to revitalize over 150 small enterprises.

8- The success of the project has been recognized recently by a phase III approval in partnership with the esteemed government of Italy. My delegation would like to express its appreciation to the constructive contribution of Italy in this sense.

9- While recognizing UNIDO efforts in funds mobilization, we are confident that UNIDO would sustain those efforts to explore wider scope of funding for the implementation of the projects in Lebanon.

10- Lebanon welcomes the country programme framework 2010-2013 entitled: “support for enhanced competitiveness and Market Access” prepared on the basis of a technical assessment mission conducted in May 2010 by UNIDO team and discussions held with decision-makers of the government of Lebanon, the private sector and development partners.

11- However, we would recommend that priorities and needs reflected in the responses provided by the different national stakeholders after consideration of the draft, be taken into account upon finalization of the document, in order that programme ultimately serves its fundamental aims.

12- UNIDO has done several successful projects in the recent past in the area of energy and environment. We have studied with interest the thematic content of several projects mentioned previously in the DG 2009 report and believe that there is scope for replication in other parts of the developing world including my country Lebanon.

13- Aware of the fact that the development of renewable energy resources in Lebanon can greatly contribute to the socio-economic growth of the country, Ministry of Energy launched recently a raising-awareness campaign for savings through solar water heaters. In this vein, Lebanon looks forward to benefit from UNIDO valuable services and expertise under the energy and environment thematic area, to go in line with UNIDO long standing advocacy for industrial energy efficiency, cleaner production and renewable energy.

14- The delegation of Lebanon seizes this opportunity to extend thanks and appreciation to the Arab Program chief and staff, and to the UNIDO field office in Lebanon, as well as the projects managers' team, for their dedication and effort in implementing the projects and exploring new field of cooperation.

15- My delegation supports the focus on strengthening field representation in the framework of the initiated management reforms, and acknowledges the role of field offices in effective and efficient technical cooperation delivery by the Organization. Nevertheless, we are of the view that coordination between UNIDO Headquarters, UNIDO Representatives and national counterparts, would contribute to a better follow-up and a further elaboration of appropriate projects in line with the domestic needs and requirements.

16- Finally, while we reiterate our appreciation and due recognition to UNIDO's advisory and global forum roles in improving the visibility of the organization, we believe that it is the quality and the success of UNIDO's technical cooperation projects which would create demand for its services from recipients, interest for funding from the donor community, and achieve ultimately the intended end-result.

Thank you Mr chairman.