

**Statement by H.E. Ambassador Shim Yoon Joe**  
**Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea**  
**38<sup>th</sup> Session of the Industrial Development Board of UNIDO**  
Vienna, 24–26 November 2010

Mr. President [H.E. Mr. Helmut Böck (Austria)],

1. Allow me at the outset to congratulate you on your assumption of the presidency of the 38th session of the Industrial Development Board (IDB) of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). I have every confidence that your able leadership will be conducive to the success of this meeting, and I assure you of my delegation's full support and cooperation throughout the session.
  
2. I would also like to express my gratitude to the Director-General, Dr. Kandeh Yumkella, for demonstrating initiative in adopting a proactive approach to addressing global development challenges within the scope of UNIDO's mandate. We believe that under his leadership, substantial progress has been made to further enhance the quality of the services UNIDO provides in support of its mission to reduce poverty through sustainable industrial development.
  
3. UNIDO's integral role within the United Nations System Chief Executive Board (CEB) and Dr. Yumkella's chairmanship of the UN-Energy interagency mechanism as well as the UN Advisory Group on Energy and Climate Change (AGECC), for example, have helped establish the Organization as a leader in areas germane to the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, such as climate change and energy access and security. UNIDO's contributions to achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

and addressing the global economic and financial crisis are paying off with donor contributions and new funding for technical cooperation on the rise. I hope that this positive trend continues as the international community embraces the role of effective industrial development policies to promote innovation and accelerate growth through, for example, greening industry, renewable energy and the transition to a low-carbon economy.

4. As an expression of my government's support of UNIDO's mission and its efforts to facilitate dialogue and cooperation among Member States, I would like to introduce the 2010 International Forum on Regional Development being held this week from 22–25 November in Seoul. This event—co-hosted by the Korean Ministry of Knowledge Economy, the Presidential Committee on Regional Development and UNIDO—aims to establish a new paradigm in international cooperation. To this end, we will consider the creation of regional cooperation networks and the exchange of best practices in three fields—Specialized Industry, Creative Industry, and Regional Development Models. This initiative will benefit from UNIDO's comparative advantage in identifying sustainable and balanced regional development models and revitalizing international cooperation. Taking this opportunity, I would like to thank the Secretariat for its assistance with the organization of the Forum as well as the Member States whose participation will contribute to a successful outcome.
5. Having transformed itself from a recipient of international aid to a donor country on the strength of its industrial development, Korea is actively pursuing innovative means of cooperation with UNIDO and developing countries. In the wake of the recent financial crisis, global warming and the worsening energy crisis, Korea has elected to focus on enhancing international cooperation for green growth and climate action and increase

green ODA to developing countries. At the G-8 Extended Summit in 2008, for example, Korea announced the “East Asia Climate Partnership Program.” This initiative will make USD 200 million available by 2012 to support climate change adaptation and technology transfer in the region. Within the scope of this partnership, the Korean government is trying to work with various international organizations, including UNIDO, to develop projects aimed at increasing efficiency in coping with the negative impacts of climate change.

6. Climate change presents both challenges as well as opportunities in terms of new energy sources and related technologies. With this in mind, Korea launched the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) at the East Asia Climate Forum in June 2010. The GGGI is a non-profit institute headquartered in Seoul with the goal of becoming a world-class multilateral organization by 2012. It was founded on the belief that economic growth and environmental sustainability are not merely compatible objectives, but necessary for the future of humankind. Consequently, the institute seeks to position the green growth model as one that is both practical and effective in the pursuit of economic growth and sustainable development. The GGGI currently supports several projects in partner countries through program development and implementation, capacity building, best practice sharing, and the provision of grants to local institutions. The Korean government will fund the initiative for the first three years of its initial operation plan, after which the GGGI will be operated on the basis of voluntary financing from member countries and non-profit foundations.
7. As host of the recently concluded G-20 Summit, Korea attached great importance to including pertinent development items on the agenda. The

Seoul Action Plan, for example, contains items on development policies and structural reform—including green growth and innovation-oriented policy measures—to achieve the agreed objectives of strong, sustainable and balanced growth. In addition, the Seoul Development Consensus for Shared Growth recognizes the need to strengthen development efforts to address the global financial crisis that has disproportionately affected the poorest countries and slowed progress towards the MDGs. The G-20 has therefore committed to a Multi-Year Action Plan designed to complement existing development efforts and foster robust development partnerships between the G-20 and Low Income Countries. I believe the prominence of the development agenda at the Summit reflects growing appreciation for the role of vulnerable countries in the G-20 framework for strong, sustainable and balanced growth. I hope that UNIDO, as a forum for both developing and industrialized countries, will factor in to our efforts to stay abreast of the most relevant and effective development solutions through enhanced knowledge sharing networks.

Mr. President,

8. While my delegation associates itself with the joint statement of the Asian Group by Ambassador Jaffeer of Sri Lanka, I would like to add some general observations on the meeting's agenda in my national capacity.

*Agenda Item 2: Report of the Programme and Budget Committee.*

9. First of all, my delegation welcomes the Programme and Budget Committee report and appreciates the hard work and dedication by its members. We support the adoption of the draft decisions contained therein and would like to highlight the External Auditor's contributions to the

improvement of UNIDO's management, operations and performance. We join with others in requesting the Secretariat to continue following up the External Auditor's recommendations. We believe that doing so will improve UNIDO's financial management and facilitate the implementation of the Programme for Change and Organizational Renewal (PCOR).

10. We welcome the PCOR as a positive step towards meeting rising demands by donors and Member States and achieving the objectives outlined in the new mission statement. Noting the progress that has been made since the Programme's launch in January, we appreciate the Secretariat's briefing last week that provided a breakdown of budget allocations for PCOR projects. In the context of the External Auditor's assessment that results-based management (RBM) initiatives have lost momentum with the shift in focus to the PCOR, however, we hope that the RBM objectives will be realized within the scope of change management as indicated by the Secretariat.

*Agenda Item 3: Multilingualism.*

Mr. President,

11. My delegation takes note of the Secretariat's report on multilingualism at UNIDO pursuant to the resolution adopted at the 13<sup>th</sup> General Conference (GC.13/Res.4). There is no doubt that the dissemination of information in all six official languages of the United Nations will enhance access to the Organization's documentation and support outreach efforts to target

audiences. Nevertheless, my delegation questions the feasibility of doing so “within existing resources and without detriment of resources designated to technical cooperation.”

12. One corollary of the laws of thermodynamics is that one cannot get something for nothing. Indeed, making available the quantity of documentation on the variety of subjects for different readerships as requested by the resolution entails a non-trivial demand on resources. We do not see a way around the need to allocate additional resources or reallocate existing resources if language parity as outlined in the resolution is to be achieved.
13. At a time of budgetary austerity for many Member States and international organizations, we expect the Secretariat to continue to carefully review the resources at its disposal and ensure they are used with maximum efficiency to further the primary objective of the Organization.

*Agenda Item 9: UNIDO activities in the field of energy and environment.*

Mr. President,

14. The Director-General’s report on UNIDO activities in the field of energy and environment highlights the Organization’s leadership on issues that have risen to the top of the global agenda. Recognizing that universal access to modern energy plays an important role for the attainment of the MDGs, my delegation hopes that UNIDO’s efforts to focus its programmatic activities under the Green Industry Initiative will succeed in positioning economies on more sustainable pathways of growth.

15. Recalling UNIDO's leadership role in UN-Energy, we note with satisfaction that coordination and cooperation with the international development aid community and the private sector have improved as a result of its efforts. With reference to the report *Energy for a Sustainable Future* produced by the UNIDO-chaired AGECC, we believe that the two energy development goals outlined therein—ensuring universal access to modern energy services and reducing global energy intensity—would be well-served by designating 2012 as the International Year of Sustainable Energy Access.
  
16. Lastly, in light of Korea's emphasis on low-carbon green growth as its national development paradigm, we are particularly gratified to take note of UNIDO's considerable engagement in the fields of renewable energy, energy efficiency, and green industries under the Global Environment Facility (GEF) mandate to help countries achieve sustainable industrial development. Sharing the Director-General's assessment of the role of renewable energy technologies in attaining the MDGs, we welcome the continued focus on such technologies for productive uses during the 2010–2013 Medium Term Fiscal Plan (MTFP) period. Given the centrality of energy and environment-related issues to development, Korea looks forward to continuing its cooperation with UNIDO and other Member States in this and other thematic areas to contribute to our common vision of a future free from the worst conditions of poverty.

Thank you, Mr. President /END/