

23 JUNE 2011

STATEMENT BY TURKEY

UNIDO INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD / 39TH SESSION

(AGENDA ITEM 5)

Thank you Mr Chairman,

Let me begin with joining others in congratulating on your election as the Chair of the Board. I also congratulate members of the Bureau. We are confident that under your able guidance we will achieve successful outcomes.

Mr. Chairman,

I would like to reiterate our fundamental approach regarding UNIDO's programme and budget for 2012-2013. We are going through an exceptional period. The negative impacts of global economic and financial crisis, and withdrawal of a member state, with significant contribution to the Organization's budget forced us to reconsider the budgetary requirements and also triggered the discussion as to the future of UNIDO. Despite the unfortunate developments we face allow me to express our sincere belief that with our relevant guidance and support, UNIDO has the capacity and strength to overcome these challenges. It has done so before, and can definitely do it again. Moreover, there are encouraging signs as to the future of the organization: PCOR seems well on track, we look forward to reap its efficiency gains. Also, the technical cooperation delivery capacity of the organization is continuously growing together with the level of available funds.

Let us bear in mind also that irrespective of the difficulties we face, the demand to the developmental assistance of UNIDO does not decrease, instead, it continues to grow. Therefore we need to find the appropriate balance between our priorities and the necessity to address the fundamental developmental problems of the countries in need. In fact, we should not lose sight of the fact that in our globalized world, prosperity and security related issues in different parts of the globe become more and more interlinked.

Mr Chairman,

Our delegation believes that the decision that we took during the last PBC session, regarding the UNIDO's Programme and Budgets for 2012-2013, reflects the balance that I cited earlier. It was a compromise, upon which the Director General based his revised proposal. We genuinely hope that this compromise will be retained which has been achieved after long deliberations.

The revised proposal foresees cuts in various components, which will inevitably negatively affect functioning of the Organization. My delegation, since the beginning of the budget discussions, has been supportive of the idea that while adapting to the new

circumstances, we must also ensure that the adverse impacts of this process are kept at the lowest level possible and the momentum that the Organization has achieved in recent years, is retained. This requires both efforts from the Secretariat, as well as, responsible and well evaluated guidance from our side, as the member states. In that context my delegation is of the view that we pay utmost care to protecting the ability of the Organization to bring concrete changes, in the lives of the people in need.

The programmes on “Support to Least Developed Countries” and “Energy and environment” and are two items that we attach particular importance in the revised programme and budget.

As regards the LDC’s, which are the most vulnerable segment of the international community, we believe that there is a real need to keep focus on these countries, in particular through activities in the field of agro-industry. The internationally agreed developmental goals which emanate from major global summits, the last one being UN-LDC IV in Istanbul in May this year, not only gave guidance to UNIDO but also places responsibility on the Organization to continue to tackle developmental problems of these countries. We therefore believe that UNIDO’s 2012-2013 budget needs to ensure necessary financial infrastructure to this end.

We support UNIDO’s activities in the field of environment and energy, in particular green industry and energy initiative. We believe this could represent a strategic path for UNIDO for its future programmatic orientation. This field has so far also helped raise the profile of the Organization in the international arena. Today, it has been widely acknowledged that efforts to ensure environmentally sustainable production is not a hindrance rather help increase efficiency, profit and employment opportunities. As a particular note, we share the expectation that the proposed cut in the proposed budget regarding this area will not substantially affect ongoing implementation and commitments.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, we have listened to the various delegations which have expressed support to UNIDO’s activities and overall performance. We add our voice to these delegations. We believe that despite the current challenges the Organization face, its mandate is relevant and its services are needed more than ever.

I thank you Mr. Chairman.