



United Nations Industrial Development Organization

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Industrial Development Board

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Item 10 of the provisional agenda

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

Application from a non-governmental organization for consultative status

Note by the Director-General

The present document provides information on the Global Alliance of SMEs (GASME), a non-governmental organization applying for consultative status with UNIDO.

1. In accordance with Article 19.1 (b) of the Constitution of UNIDO and the Guidelines for the Relationship of UNIDO with intergovernmental, governmental, non-governmental and other organizations (decision GC.1/Dec.41), in particular paragraph 17 of the annex thereto, information on the Global Alliance of SMEs (GASME), a non-governmental organization (NGO) seeking consultative status with UNIDO, is circulated to the members of the Board in the annex to the present document. More detailed information on the NGO is available with the Secretariat.

2. Paragraph 17 of the annex to the Guidelines stipulates that the Board shall establish appropriate procedures for reviewing applications from NGOs for consultative status. To facilitate and accelerate its work, the Board may wish to follow the practice established at previous sessions and request the Bureau of the Board to review the application of, and information on, the NGO referred to in the annex to the present document and to submit its recommendations to the Board for consideration at its current session.

For reasons of economy, this document has been printed in a limited number. Delegates are kindly requested to bring their copies of documents to meetings.

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Annex

Global Alliance of SMEs (GASME)

Historical background

GASME is a non-profit organization established in 2009 in the United States of America by the US-China Exchange Association in association with other mainstream business and trade organizations from G-20 countries.

Its mission is to create a bilateral and multilateral exchange platform for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) worldwide; enable mutually beneficial collaborations among SMEs; facilitate SMEs in the areas of financing, trade, investment, technology, branding and talent development, and promote healthy and sustainable development of SMEs worldwide.

Statutes

Available

Structure of governing bodies and administration

- Global Leadership Council, composed of the Honorary Global Chairman, three Honorary Vice-Chairmen, an Executive Chairman, an Executive Vice-Chairman and President, five Vice-Chairmen, a Senior Advisor and a Secretary General
- Secretariat

Activities related to the work of UNIDO

In June 2012, on the occasion of the China SME Global Development Forum, organized by GASME and UNIDO in Vienna, a letter of intent was signed by the two organizations for setting up a “Preparatory Committee” to integrate global resources and forge a global communication platform for SMEs, so as to promote the development of SMEs worldwide and in particular from developing countries.

In addition, GASME is proposing to establish a UNIDO SME Centre in China, which will comprise a training centre offering specialized training for SMEs from developing countries and an SME innovation centre helping to develop and disseminate technological innovations of SMEs, and other supporting facilities.

Relations with the United Nations, other IGOs and NGOs

GASME has formed partnerships with 40 business and trade associations in more than a dozen countries on five continents, about 100 partner trade organizations from 15 countries on five continents, including Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, South Africa, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

Membership

GASME has three member categories in China: Vice-Chairmen (5), Lead Entrepreneurs by Industry (89) and Members (about 2,800); and two member categories in the United States of America: Vice-Chairmen (3) and Members (about 200).

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