

Statement by H.E. Henryka Mościcka-Dendys, Undersecretary of State
of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Poland

41st session of the UNIDO Industrial Development Board
Vienna

Mr. President, Mr. Director General, Excellencies, Distinguished
Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the invitation
extended to Poland to attend the 41st Session of the Industrial
Development Board of UNIDO. It is for me indeed a great honour to
represent my country at this important event.

At the outset please allow me, Mr. President, to join previous speakers in
congratulating you and other Members of the Bureau on your election. I
am convinced that under your skilful guidance, this Board will reach
tangible results.

Since this IDB features the election of the new Director General of
UNIDO let me use this opportunity to commend Dr. Kandeh Yumkella,
who was in charge of the Organization for two previous terms. I would
like to express my sincere appreciation for his excellent work at the helm
of UNIDO. Under his visionary guidance and leadership, UNIDO has
evolved to become an important and respected actor of the United
Nations system. Dr. Yumkella prepared a good platform for the next
Director General to further develop the Organization and we are grateful
for that. Thank you Mr. Director General.

At the same time, we are all aware that at this juncture, we have to join
our efforts and consolidate the position of UNIDO. It is our shared
responsibility to ensure that the Organisation, with support of its Member

States and other partners, stays focused on its valuable mandate which is more relevant than ever in this period of multiple crises. Industrial development is at the core of the development paradigm, and it warrants as such long-term sustainable and inclusive economic growth, as well as social advancement.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

UNIDO has a unique mandate within the United Nations family, and this translates into well recognized comparative advantages. We need to stay focused on that mandate, but it is also an imperative to strengthen our cooperation with like-minded development partners. Be it at the level of the United Nations Development Group, the adherence to the MDG initiative and post-2015 development agenda, or the endorsement of the Aid Effectiveness frameworks. Moreover, there are other means of cooperation that the Organisation simply must pursue to continue its development in particular the South-South and Triangular cooperation, as well as Public-Private Partnerships. There is indeed a lot of opportunities we could use and we should use but as aforementioned, we must not lose our focus on the mandate which is the perfect guarantee for delivery to the benefit of all Member States of UNIDO, and in particular LDCs in Africa and Middle-income countries (MICs).

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Looking at the internal factors, Poland is confident that in these difficult times we must allow UNIDO Member States to make full use of their ownership rights. Moreover, the role of the Organization at the international forum must be further increased, and its relevance and efficiency enhanced. We must continue on the way to shape UNIDO, to answer the current needs of its members.

UNIDO's remarkable achievements, in particular during the last decade, are based on a bold vision which has clearly defined three strategic areas of interventions. This strategic long-term vision for the period 2005-2015 is slowly approaching the time, were one should take stock of what has been achieved, what has not, and where we want to go in the future. This is a critical process we should give great attention to. I would hence like to confirm the determination of Poland to be a constructive

partner in finalizing the New Vision for UNIDO, in close collaboration with UNIDO's new Management. An ambitious, integrative and realistic Vision that will shape the work of the institution in the years ahead. This is indeed a challenging task, especially in the current context marked by uncertainty and volatility. But it is a formidable opportunity that shall allow us to come up with a shared and common understanding on UNIDO's effective role as a specialized agency. A global understanding that Poland would anticipate to continue to be firmly based on country ownership, alignment, and mutual accountability.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

From the vantage point of a Representative of Poland, a country, that underwent over the last 20 years a particularly impressive transition from a development aid beneficiary, to a net contributor to international development assistance, I should like to acknowledge the fundamental role industry played in the process. Poland has the biggest share of GDP coming from industry of all European Union Member States and the only one that survived the current economic and financial crisis, while its economy was steadily growing. Industry was the key here and we want to remain a strong industrial country who champions industry as a way of fighting poverty all over the world. We have the expertise and experience, and we are ready to share it for the service of the mankind.

I would also like to mention that Poland has a proven track record in Europe and not only in the Eastern European Group (EEG) we proudly belong to, but also among our EU partners of the Western European Group (WEOG). Indeed, we are now in the position to put our experience and knowledge to the benefit of UNIDO, as we have been doing for a long time as a very active and committed Member of this Organization. This is also why we have taken the decision to nominate Minister Marcin Korolec, one of Poland's notable, most dedicated and internationally experienced professional and politician, as a candidate for the new head of UNIDO. We have also chosen Mr. Korolec because he knows UNIDO for a very long time and he has a vision for this Organization, based on crucial principles of responsible and results-focused leadership, as well as efficient and transparent management.

This is what Poland expects today from all UN based organizations, and we strongly believe that all of you, developing and developed countries, share with us the same principles and expectations. This nomination alone is a proof of Poland's commitment to UNIDO.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let me reiterate that Poland has a lot of positive experiences to share. We are proud of our industrial heritage, successful ongoing transformation, and we look forward to the future, knowing that we can continue to add the value to the international relations and global development. We are a humble nation with its economy based on small and medium sized enterprises and relying on the ingenuity of its people. Through successfully battling the crisis we proved that sometimes small, local solutions to global problems and mutual understanding are best-suited. Many of you had the opportunity to get to know Poland better during the recent campaign and at this stage, in the name of my country, I would like to thank all of you for your engagement, understanding and honesty and we are looking forward to further cooperation with you within UNIDO.

I thank you for your kind attention.