



European Union

**Statement on the occasion of the
UNIDO Industrial Development Board and
Special Session of the General Conference
Vienna, 24-27 June 2013 and 28 June 2013**

Agenda item 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7

1. I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union. The following countries align themselves with this declaration: Croatia¹, Turkey[§], the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*, Montenegro*, Serbia*, Albania*, Bosnia and Herzegovina*, Norway⁺, Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Armenia.

Mr. Chairman,

2. Let me start by welcoming you as the Chair of this 41st Session of the Industrial Development Board. We are confident that under your able guidance, we will be in a position to make good progress this week and I would like to assure you and the other members of the Bureau of our full cooperation in this regard.
3. We would like to thank the Director General and his staff for the background documentation before the Board.
4. We would also like to thank the Director General for all his efforts, undertaken in the past eight years, to bring UNIDO to the expectations of the MS, to deepen and widen portfolio of its activities and to mobilize resources. We would like to wish him all success in his new assignment as the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General for Sustainable Energy for All, which is very much supported by the European Union.

Mr. Chairman,

5. At the last session of the PBC, the European Union offered its extensive comments on the Annual Report of the Director General for 2012. They stand.

¹ Accessing Country Croatia and the Candidate Countries former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia as well as potential Candidate Countries Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

[§] Candidate Country

6. We are pleased that it was possible to agree on the 2014-2015 biennium programme and budgets at the Programme and Budget Committee in May.
7. Conclusion 2013/3 of the PBC adopts the biennium budget, while at the same time stressing a number of important principles, including the need to actively pursue additional efficiency gains and cost-savings on an ongoing basis.
8. We endorse the decisions adopted by the PBC in May 2013.
9. The challenges facing UNIDO find resonance in the situation within many EU Member States, where efforts to sustain, or even increase, development aid are being undertaken against a backdrop of severe cutbacks of domestic services. We are pleased to see that “true Vienna spirit or the solidarity spirit” was once again demonstrated by Member States in contributing to the consensus on the budget proposal for 2014-15.
10. Moreover, we shall like to underline that, despite the recent withdrawal of some MS, the European commitment towards UNIDO remains unchanged. Let us recall that the contributions by the EU Member States account for around 40 per cent of the Regular Budget. The European Commission and EU Member States voluntary contributions to the UNIDO's Technical Cooperation Programme totalled around Euro 28 million in 2012. In addition, the EU contributes through different funds.
11. We agree with the Director General that the nomination of seven candidates, including two from the European Union, is a clear signal of the continued priority attached by Member States to this Organisation.
12. We look forward to working with the incoming Director General towards the successful implementation of all paragraphs in Conclusion 2013/3. We would also like to reiterate our thanks to the UNIDO Secretariat for their engagement and quick response in adjusting the biennium budget to the recent developments in membership of the Organisation. We also take note of the recommendation of the PBC that the medium-term programme framework 2010-2013 remain in force until the expiry of the forthcoming budget biennium, 2014-2015. It is further recommended that future medium-term programme frameworks should, pursuant to General Assembly Resolution 67/226, take into account the recommendations of the latest comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development.
13. We look forward to working with the incoming Director General towards the use of opportunities related to the Post-2015 Development Agenda. The post -2015 Agenda should put sustainable development at the core. It should also prioritize a profound economic transformation to end extreme poverty and improve livelihoods, i. e. to create opportunities for good and decent jobs and ensure that it reduces poverty and inequality, to strive to add value and raise productivity, so that growth begets more growth, and to put in place a stable environment that enables business to flourish. We recall the relevance and importance of UNIDO in such fields as trade capacity building, standards implementation, development of the private sector, including institution building, development of national and regional industry strategies and policies, development of value chains, in particular for innovative branches and those

with high impact for fighting poverty, environmentally sound processes and product management in industries, energy efficiency and industry related renewable energy.

Mr. Chairman,

14. We would like to reiterate our commitment to UNIDO's activities and our interest in the continued dialogue with the Organisation. We highly value the exchange of information between the Secretariat and Member States and would like to recall the IDB decision calling upon the Secretariat to organise regular briefings on UNIDO's activities. We look forward to continuing implementation of this decision and to participating in the briefings. We thank the Secretariat for the documentation prepared for the session and would like to stress the importance of its timely release.
15. Referring to the future of UNIDO, the EU appreciates the Co-Chairs' commitment and the active participation of the MS and Regional Groups in the deliberations of the Working Group. We recognize the uniqueness and relevance of UNIDO's clear mandate in industrial development, particularly in view of the key role that industry plays for development. The EU largely contributed to the elaboration of the document and will aim at the better future of the Organisation. We hope that the work of the WG will remain useful for the Organisation in the future. I thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Agenda item 8

16. I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union. The following countries align themselves with this declaration: Croatia², Turkey[§], the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*, Montenegro*, Serbia*, Albania*, Bosnia and Herzegovina*, Norway⁺, Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Armenia.
17. The European Union takes note with satisfaction of UNIDO activities related to energy and environment, fully acknowledging its specific role in furthering a cleaner and more sustainable industrial development through the promotion of energy efficiency in industrial processes and the assistance to developing countries in the fields of renewable energy for productive use, energy policy and low emissions technologies.
18. We would also like to reiterate our deep appreciation for the efforts carried out by the Organisation in improving the contribution of its TC programmes to the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), in particular MDG 7, through its commendable projects and activities in the areas of energy and environment, accounting for 46% of the overall technical cooperation provided in 2012.
19. As we know, according to the recent Report of the UN High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda, energy should be fully integrated into the universal post-2015 Development Agenda. *Securing sustainable energy for all* is increasingly perceived as a specific but cross-cutting development goal, with clear targets. Given the self-evident nexus between energy and industrial development – a substantial nexus very well described at the last Vienna Energy Forum – and also given the growing importance of achieving and spreading sustainable patterns of production and consumptions throughout the global manufacturing process, we are confident that UNIDO will be able to sharpen its profile in the post-2015 Development Framework, playing its part in the accomplishment of SDGs and assisting developing countries in their transition to a greener economy.
20. A shift to a global green economy would require a new industrial revolution involving a large scale transition to lower carbon emissions and resource efficient growth. In this context UNIDO will be able to offer its expertise in the field of industry-related energy efficiency, access to renewable energy for productive uses, promotion of clean technology innovation, and environmental sustainability.
21. With such expertise UNIDO would qualify as possible partner in the implementation of the UN SG Initiative on SE4All, which will start being operational in the next months. We believe that UNIDO should strive more towards joint programming with other UN Organisations and should build on complementarities with other international and regional organisations in the field of energy and environment, in order to create synergies and avoid duplications.

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22. Along the same lines, we attach great importance to the efforts carried out by UNIDO in order to foster public-private partnerships. The financial requirements of achieving significant progress in energy and environmental sustainability of industrial processes are particularly onerous. It is true that while national political support is needed, resources cannot be mobilised without private sector participation. In this regard, we keep on supporting public-private initiatives, such as the Green Industry Platform and we call upon the Organisation to further exploit its potential to foster and scale up the use of green industrial policies and practices in global manufacturing.
23. We would also like to commend UNIDO for providing continuous support to the benchmarking of energy management standards, noting with satisfaction that, after the successful launch of the ISO 50001, the Organisation still remains at the forefront of the promotion and dissemination of best available industrial energy efficiency practices and technologies in developing countries and private companies, in order to facilitate the adaptation of their productive capacity to the demand of the international market.
24. The EU strongly encourages UNIDO to search for new effective partnerships and to strengthen the implementation of programmes co-financed by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Multilateral Fund for Implementation of the Montreal Protocol, bilateral donors and multi-donor initiatives focused on capacity-building required to shift to more sustainable patterns of industrial production. In this regard, we would like to reiterate our appreciation for the update provided on the functioning of the Trust Fund on renewable energy, which since its establishment has been allowing the Organisation to leverage funding in order to develop a number of sound projects and activities aimed at increasing the use of renewable energy for productive uses in developing countries and economies in transition.
25. As far as renewable energy is concerned, bearing in mind the successful partnership between UNIDO and the ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Efficiency (ECREE), the EU welcomes the recent signature of a Memorandum of Understanding for the establishment of an additional regional renewable energy centre together with the East African Community (EAC). We will follow with interest the intention of UNIDO to create a stronger South-South cooperation network between the regional sustainable energy centres in the ECOWAS, the EAC and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) regions from 2014, in order to improve access to modern, reliable and affordable energy services for productive uses, enhance energy efficiency and reduce the negative environmental externalities of energy-intensive industries.
26. In general terms, still recognising the effort carried out by UNIDO in mobilising a broader network of its South-South and International Technology Centres, we would reiterate our call upon the Secretariat to keep on promoting a deeper involvement of those Centres in the implementation of technical cooperation activities in the field of energy and environmental sustainability of industrial processes. I thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Agenda item 12 (IDB, SS GC)

27. I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union. The following countries align themselves with this declaration: Croatia³, Turkey[§], the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*, Montenegro*, Serbia*, Albania*, Bosnia and Herzegovina*, Norway⁺, the Republic of Moldova and Armenia.
28. We would also like to thank the Director General for all his efforts, undertaken in the past eight years, to bring UNIDO to the expectations of the MS, to deepen and widen portfolio of its activities and to mobilize resources. We would like to wish him all success in his new assignment as the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General for Sustainable Energy for All, which is very much supported by the European Union.
29. I would like to extend our congratulations to Mr Li Yong on the outcome of today's ballot and look forward to his appointment as Director General at the General Conference on Friday.
30. The elections this week have marked the end of an energetic and informative campaign, from which we can draw considerable optimism for the future of this Organisation.
31. The contributions made by all the candidates provided fresh insights and new ideas on the way forward for UNIDO. In this regard, we would like to thank all of them for the time and hard work that they have dedicated to their campaigns.
32. Mr Li Yong, you take up the post of Director General at an important time for UNIDO as well as a significant period for the global development agenda. Indeed, the need to emphasise UNIDO's unique mandate in the context of the post-2015 development agenda was an issue that you highlighted during your campaign.
33. For its part, the EU is finalising a coordinated position on a new set of goals that will drive our international development efforts after 2015. A key element of these core EU policy principles is that the eradication of poverty and the promotion of sustainable development are intrinsically linked, mutually reinforcing and should be integrated into one single overarching framework post-2015.
34. We stand ready to engage with you over the coming months and assure you of our full cooperation and support in your new role. We wish you every success and – again – extend our warm congratulations. I thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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