



European Union

**Statement on the occasion of the
UNIDO Special Session of the General Conference
Vienna, 28 June 2013**

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

Dear Mr Chairman,

2. We would like to thank Mr Yumkella for all his efforts, undertaken as the Director General in the past eight years, to bring UNIDO to the expectations of the MS, to deepen and widen portfolio of its activities and to mobilise 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.
3. I would like to extend our congratulations to Mr Li Yong on the result of the elections. This marks the end of an energetic and informative campaign, from which we draw considerable optimism for the future of this Organisation.
4. 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.
5. 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.
6. Mr Li Yong, we look forward to working with you, 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 prioritise a profound economic

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.

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.

7. 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.
8. For its part, the EU is preparing to discuss 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.
9. Furthermore, we look forward to working with the incoming Director General towards the successful implementation of all the recent PBC decisions. We thank the UNIDO Secretariat for their engagement and quick response in adjusting the biennium budget to the recent developments in membership of the Organisation. We 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.
10. Mr. Li Yong, 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.