

UNIDO – Special Session of the General Conference

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Statement by H.E. Ambassador Formica  
Permanent Representative of Italy

ITALY

*Mr. Chairman,*

*At the outset, let me join previous colleagues in expressing our gratitude to Mr. Kandeh Yumkella for all his efforts and the achievements made in the past eight years as Director General of UNIDO. I wish also to express once again our most sincere appreciation for his engagement at the service of the Organization.*

*I would like to extend our warm congratulations to Mr. Li Yong on the outcome of the elections held last Monday. We are confident that under his leadership UNIDO will be able to gain a prominent role in the definition and coordination of a global industrial agenda, in line with the post-2015 development framework, enhancing the relevance of the Organization in the fight against poverty, unemployment and environmental degradation.*

*Mr. Chairman,*

*Let me stress once again that the time has come for Member States in UNIDO to demonstrate a clear unity of purpose, as a necessary precondition to fully exploit the potential of the Organization, to strengthen its expertise and to sharpen its mandate in the fields of poverty-eradication through industrial development, trade capacity building, energy and environmental sustainability of manufacturing processes, agro-industry, technical assistance for promoting standards and quality control in industrial production.*

*In this regard, Italy will stand ready to work closely together with the new Director General over the coming years.*

*In wishing him every success in his new endeavours, let me assure of our full cooperation and support in his new role.*