

Agenda Item 4: Report of the Programme and Budget Committee

a) Report of the External Auditor for 2015:

Madam PRESIDENT

16. The African Group takes note of the Report of the External Auditor on the accounts of UNIDO for the financial year of 2015 and would like to thank the External Auditor for the work done ;

17. The Group is pleased to note that the External Auditor's examination revealed no shortcomings or errors considered material with regard to accuracy, completeness and validity of the financial statements of UNIDO;

18. The Group is convinced that the External Auditor work enhances the reliability and transparency of UNIDO's financial accounts and therefore invites UNIDO to comply with the observations and recommendations provided in the abovementioned report ;

b) Financial situation of UNIDO :

Madam PRESIDENT

19. The African Group notes the Report on the financial situation of UNIDO contained in document IDB44/4.PBC.32/4. The Group took note of the fall in revenue of the organization due to the withdrawal of some of its member states and the pending outstanding assessed contributions by some former member states to the tune of 148.8 million Euro which further compound the financial situation of UNIDO;

20. The Group therefore calls on member states to pay their outstanding contributions and urges former member states to pay their arrears of assessed contributions. The Group commends member states that have renounced their unutilized balances to UNIDO ;

21. The Group assures its unwavering support to UNIDO regarding the challenges it faces including the departure of some member States from the Organization ;

22. The Group further reiterates its position that the Special Resources for Africa (SRA) should remain institutionalised as part of the regular budget because of its crucial role in fostering industrialization in Africa ;

c) Mobilization of Financial resources :

Madam PRESIDENT

23. The African Group takes note of the Director General's report on the mobilization of financial resources, contained in document IDB.44/5-PBC.32/5;

24. The Group expresses its appreciation for the efforts made in mobilizing a capital of 173, 8 million dollars under extraordinary funds in 2015 despite the financial challenges facing UNIDO ;

25. The Group recommends that UNIDO intensify efforts in mobilizing financial resources through collecting pending contributions from member states and former member states as a means of meeting its financial demands in the short run. The Group also encourages the Secretariat to continue to pursue innovative sources of financing, including through additional contributions from traditional and emerging multilateral and bilateral sources;

26. The Group notes the relevance of the programmable trust funds and the recently created two accounts, the special account of Voluntary Contributions of Core Activities and Major Capital Investment Fund, for the development of technical cooperation activities through operationalization of new initiatives and projects. The group recommends Member States to provide more voluntary contributions to the Partnership Trust Fund, and to renounce their share of unutilized balances for the purposes of promoting the implementation of the ISID;
