



European Union

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EU Statement  
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**Statement on the occasion of the  
Forty Fourth Session of the Industrial Development Board of the  
United Nations Industrial Development Organisation  
Vienna, 22-24 November 2016**

Thank you Mr Chair,

1. I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union and its Member States. The following countries align themselves with this statement: Turkey\*, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia\*, Montenegro\*, Serbia\*, Albania\*, Bosnia and Herzegovina\*, Norway+, Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova.
2. Allow me first to welcome you as Chair of this 44th Session of the Board and to congratulate the Director General, the Secretariat and all the members with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of UNIDO. We want to warmly thank the Secretariat for organising the elaborate and festive Anniversary Program, and for the background documentation to this meeting.
3. From the outset, Chair, we reiterate our firm commitment to a well-functioning and efficiently managed Organisation that actively pursues cost efficiency on an ongoing basis. This will allow UNIDO, in line with its core mandate, to continue to successfully help countries to realise sustainable and inclusive industrialisation (SDG 9 and 12), and thus to generate growth and decent work (SDG 8), which is key to lifting people out of poverty (SDG 1) and reducing inequalities (SDG 5 and 10) while also reducing carbon emissions and pollution (SDG 7, 12 to 15).
4. In this regard we are grateful for recent improvements in UNIDO's governance, such as the creation of the Open Data Platform which provides full transparency on the projects carried out by UNIDO and the organisation of numerous briefings to keep Member States abreast of developments. We would like to encourage UNIDO to start organising the regular enhanced dialogues as agreed at the PBC: these dialogues could absorb the other meetings and briefings and they could discuss UNIDO's contributions to the 2030 agenda as agreed in Resolution GC.16/Res.2 of 3 December 2015.
5. We appreciate UNIDO's Programme for Country Partnership (PCP) which addresses the potentials of selected developing countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America. The IDB meeting could be an opportunity to learn more about the PCP Programme, the success it has had, the selection of possible further PCP countries and the financial implications

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\* Candidate countries, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Albania as well as potential candidate countries Bosnia and Herzegovina continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

+ Norway is a member of the EFTA and of the European Economic Area.

thereof. If this has financial implications for other developing countries, there will be a need to discuss this during the IDB or next year's Programme and Budget Committee.

6. As regards this meeting of the IDB, we look forward to discussing the DG's Report on a General Risk Strategy and his Report on the implementation of the 2016-2019 'Gender equality and the empowerment of women' strategy (as requested in Resolution GC.16/Res.3 of 3 December 2015). We are also very much looking forward to establish the Independent Evaluation Unit and the Audit Advisory Committee as a follow up to the reports of the external auditor and the agreement reached at the PBC.
7. Allow me, finally Chair, to reiterate our commitment to cooperation and ongoing dialogue with UNIDO. As main contributors we are also open to discussing new projects and programmes that match our partners' priorities in areas where UNIDO has established expertise and can provide added value. We should also look to further mobilise the private sector to create decent work and deliver inclusive and sustainable development. We encourage UNIDO to focus clearly on the creation of jobs and to scale up the projects in particular also in countries that face instability and mass out fluxes of persons. We finally recall the importance of monitoring the implementation and impact of projects and programs to ensure efficiency and results that contribute in a durable way to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Thank you, Chair.