



**G-77 and China statement during the UNIDO Industrial Development Board,
51st session, 3-6 July 2023, delivered by H.E. Jaideep Mazumdar, Ambassador and
Permanent Representative of India**

Mr. President,

1. On behalf of the Group of 77 and China, I would like to congratulate you on your election as President of the IDB. I also congratulate the other members of the Bureau for their election. The Group is confident that, under your able leadership, the IDB will draw to a successful and fruitful conclusion.
2. The Group would also like to thank His Excellency Alejandro Solano Ortiz, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Costa Rica and President of the 50th session, and members of the Bureau for their hard work and dedication during the previous session.
3. The Group takes note of the introductory remarks by Director General Gerd Müller and wishes to reassure him of its support for his leadership of UNIDO. In particular, the Group appreciates the Director General's ongoing efforts to implement the ambitious, timely and much needed reforms to reduce costs, modernize the Organization and make it more efficient, in line with the needs and priorities of Member States, in particular developing countries.
4. The Group also wishes to thank the Secretariat for organizing this session. Concerning the agenda items for this session, the Group will address agenda items 3, 4 (a), (b), (c), (f) and (j), 5, 9, 10, and 11.

Agenda item 3: Annual Report of the Director General for 2022

Mr. President, on the present agenda item,

1. The Group of 77 and China would like to express its appreciation to the Director General for the Annual Report of UNIDO for 2022 covering the reform initiatives, achievements and improvements made, as well as challenges faced by the Organization during the past year. The Group recalls the statement it made during the 39th PBC on this agenda item and wishes to reiterate the following points on the report.
2. At the outset, the Group welcomes the implementation of the organizational reform programmes and the 17 per cent increase in the implementation of technical projects in 2022, especially in the areas of climate change and environmental protection, food security and renewable energies, for the purpose of promoting inclusive and sustainable industrial development in Member States.
3. The Group reaffirms the great importance it attaches to all the initiatives, activities, and programmes implemented or planned by the Organization during the period covered in the report. We encourage the Director General and the Secretariat to continue working towards full implementation of the Organization's mandate, in order to put developing countries and economies in transition on the path towards economic and social prosperity through industrialization.
4. The Group commends UNIDO for the technical assistance, policy advice and capacity building programmes it provided to Member States, particularly developing countries, and encourages UNIDO to strengthen its work in areas of cooperation on industrial parks, industrial

policy, development of SMEs and employment, green development, circular economy, digitalization and innovation, while exploring cooperation in new areas such as green hydrogen. We also encourage UNIDO to continue to strengthen partnerships, cooperation, and knowledge-sharing among Member States and other stakeholders, including through South-South, North-South, and triangular cooperation.

5. The Group recognizes the importance of resource mobilization and encourages UNIDO to explore ways of channeling climate finance funds to the implementation of projects, taking into account, inter alia, the climate vulnerability of the developing countries.

6. The Group notes with appreciation UNIDO's continued contribution towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by participating in various activities, including the IDB submission of input documents to the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development.

7. The Group further notes with satisfaction that the amount of funding secured in the past year from external sources for the implementation of UNIDO projects and programmes amounted to US\$ 621.9 million, of which US\$ 200.00 million has been mobilized and US\$ 180.3 utilized in 2022. We highlight that improving the mobilizations of funds lies at the heart of the delivery and the effectiveness of development cooperation activities and that the results represent a marginal increase of approximately US\$ 900,000 over the value of technical cooperation delivered in 2021.

8. Regarding Programme for Country Partnerships (PCPs), the Group has followed, with keen interest, the implementation of PCPs in Cambodia, Cote d'Ivoire, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Morocco, Nigeria, Peru, Rwanda, Senegal, Tanzania, and Zambia. We also attach great importance to the successful implementation of various activities under the framework of Country Programmes (CPs) in Member States. We strongly encourage UNIDO to expand both PCPs and CPs to other members of the Group, upon their request.

9. Finally, the Group welcomes the significant progress made in the implementation of the Medium-Term Programme Framework (MTPF) for 2022-2025 and the application of Integrated Results and Performance Framework (IRPF) in preparation of this report. In future reports, the Group encourages the provision of indicators for comparison and analysis of the Organization's achievements both in quantitative and qualitative terms.

10. With these remarks, the Group takes note of the Annual Report of the Director General for 2022 as contained in document IDB.51/2.

I thank you, Mr. President.

**G-77 and China statement during the UNIDO Industrial Development Board,
51st session, 3-6 July 2023, delivered by H.E. Ms. Mary Wangui Mugwanja,
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Kenya**

Agenda item 4: Report of the Programme and Budget Committee

Mr. President,

1. The Group of 77 and China would like to convey its appreciation to H.E. Aftab Ahmad Khokher, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Pakistan and Chair of the 39th session of the Programme and Budget Committee, for the Report of the Programme and Budget Committee (PBC).

2. The Group wishes to recall the points it had raised during the 39th session of the PBC, and reiterates the following:

(a) On the Report of the External Auditor for 2022

Bearing in mind the points it raised on this agenda item at the 39th session of the PBC, the Group of 77 and China strongly urges UNIDO to fully implement all the findings and recommendations of the External Auditor for 2022 on an equal basis, regardless of the level of importance and priority assigned to them in the report, as well as to work on closing the remaining unresolved, partially resolved, and still-open findings of the previous and prior audit years, as the Group considers all of these recommendations to be particularly pertinent to ensure that the Organization functions as efficiently and effectively as possible.

(b) On the Financial situation of UNIDO, including unutilized balances of appropriations

The Group encourages all Member States to pay their assessed contributions in full and on time in order to maintain a healthy and stable financial outlook for the Organization. Predictable, sufficient, and assured funding remains vital for UNIDO to effectively deliver its core mandate of promoting inclusive and sustainable industrial development in Member States, particularly developing countries. In this regard, the Group also recognizes difficulties some Member States experience for reasons beyond their control in paying their full contributions on time. The Group further requests the Director General to continue holding discussions with all former Member States to encourage them to rejoin the Organization.

(c) On the Report by the informal working group on Programme and Budget Committee-related issues (IWG)

The Group of 77 and China would like to emphasize its appreciation of the mandate of the IWG and believes that it is a valuable platform for both the Secretariat and Member States to deliberate and explore possible recommendations on important issues, including the programme and budgets of UNIDO and, therefore, encourages all Member States to continue participating in the meetings of the IWG. The Group supports the discussions on the creation of a levy on voluntary contributions by non-contributing parties, as a way to strengthen the regular budget and encourages non-contributing parties to engage in the debate.

(f) On the mobilization of financial resources

The Group maintains the view that a sufficient, assured and predictable funding is vital for UNIDO to effectively deliver its core mandate and activities and encourages the donor community to continue their contributions to UNIDO's programmable funds, including dedicated trust funds and special purpose funding at the country, regional or global level. The Group also encourages the Director General to continue searching for diverse and innovative funding resources, as well as to work on initiatives aimed at the efficient use of available resources.

In this regard, the Group takes note of the ongoing rebranding of the Special Account of Voluntary Contributions for Core Activities (SAVCCA) to Innovation and Transformation Fund (ITF) and urges UNIDO to place at the heart of the rebranding efforts the value to be derived from such an endeavour.

The Group welcomes the recommendation of the PBC pertaining to the preparation of strategic guidelines on partnerships and resource mobilization.

(j) On budget flexibility

The Group takes note of the different views expressed by Member States with regard to the budget flexibilities proposed by the Secretariat with a view to improving budget management.

3. With this statement, the Group of 77 and China takes notes of the Report of the Programme and Budget Committee.

Thank you, Mr. President.

**G-77 and China statement during the UNIDO Industrial Development Board,
51st session, 3-6 July 2023, delivered by H.E. Mr. Holger Federico Martinsen,
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Argentina**

Agenda item 5: Programme and Budgets, 2024-2025

Mr. President,

1. The Group takes note of the proposed Programme and Budgets 2024-2025 as presented in document IDB.51/6 and the adjustments made to the proposal, as contained in document IDB.51/6/Add.1.
2. The Group also notes that the proposed Programme and Budgets 2024-2025 is prepared based on results-based budgeting principles, in compliance with General Conference decision GC.18/Dec.14. This is the second time that UNIDO has adopted this approach in such a comprehensive and consolidated manner, following the General Conference decision.
3. The Group further notes, with appreciation, the Director General's proposal to increase technical cooperation delivery to Member States by up to 25 per cent during the 2024-2025 biennium.
4. The Group recognizes the challenges working within limited resources, balancing savings and income with expenditure and obligations, and coping with shifting demands due to cascading difficult global circumstances including the climate change, the energy and food crises, which have negatively impacted many Member States. We therefore welcome the adjustments made to the initial programme and budgets proposals aimed at taking into account the circumstances of Member States without sacrificing the quality of service delivered to stakeholders, particularly in the area of technical cooperation.
5. While the Group welcomes the Director General's reform initiatives aimed at increasing technical cooperation and ensuring the efficiency and effectiveness of UNIDO, including by improving human resources management and gender mainstreaming, it also continues to convey its request for the Director General to enhance efforts to recruit and promote professionals from under-represented regions, especially at higher management positions.

Thank you, Mr. President.

**G-77 and China statement during the UNIDO Industrial Development Board,
51st session, 3-6 July 2023, delivered by H.E. Mr. Vasco Mushe Samupofu, Ambassador
and Permanent Representative of Namibia**

Agenda Item 9: Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA III)

Mr. President,

1. The Group of 77 and China takes note of the report on the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA III) as contained in document IDB.51/15 which highlights the progress made in the implementation of IDDA III.
2. The Group underscores UNIDO's role as the central coordinating agency within the United Nations system responsible for fostering inclusive and sustainable industrial development in Member States. To this end, the Group expresses its appreciation to the Director General of UNIDO for initiating the process for the development of a UNIDO Africa Strategy, which will provide a common guiding framework for the Organization's interventions in promoting industrial development in Africa and urges the Director General to continue the consultations with Member States and all stakeholders and provide regular updates on progress of the development of the Strategy with the aim of completing the process before the 20th session of the General Conference.
3. The Group appreciates UNIDO's various initiatives on the continent of Africa, including technical assistance activities, collaborative efforts, global forums and advocacy, and normative activities aimed at firmly anchoring Africa on the path towards inclusive and sustainable industrial development.
4. The Group welcomes the collaboration between UNIDO, the African Union Commission (AUC) and other stakeholders in organizing the 17th Extraordinary Session of the AU Assembly of Heads of State and Government on Africa's Industrialization and Economic Diversification which was held in Niamey, Niger, from 20th – 25th November 2022 and the subsequent development of an action plan for the implementation of the decisions of the Session. The Group urges UNIDO to continue supporting and mobilizing IDDA III partners for the successful implementation of the Action Plan.
5. The Group further welcomes the development of the draft UNIDO LDC Strategy which was presented to the 5th United Nations Conference on Least Development Countries (UN LDC 5) held in Doha, Qatar from 5th – 9th March 2023. The Group wishes to encourage UNIDO to work towards achieving synergy between the Africa Strategy and the LDC Strategy to avoid overlap and ensure consistency in the implementation of the Organization's industrial development initiatives.
6. The Group notes with appreciation that, in 2022, UNIDO had more than 250 projects under implementation in Africa totalling \$63.3 million excluding interregional and global

portfolios, within the framework of Programme for Country Partnerships (PCPs) and Country Programmes (CP).

Mr. President,

7. The Group also acknowledges with appreciation UNIDO's activities aimed at enhancing the capacities of African countries to benefit from the 4th Industrial Revolution. The Group notes UNIDO's unique position to offer strategic support in technology transfer, knowledge sharing and capacity building through educational and vocational training with enhanced focus on African women and youth.

8. To further enhance economic growth on the African continent, the Group encourages UNIDO to align with the core objectives of the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA). In this regard, emphasis should be placed on building systemic resilience through local manufacturing, energy efficiency through sustainable alternatives, green technology, harmonization of standards, and building local and human capacity to respond to both internal and external shocks.

9. Taking into account the approaching conclusion of the designated term of IDDA III, the Group underscores the importance of the full implementation of the IDDA III Joint Roadmap and remains hopeful that the IDDA III Secretariat will play a more coordinated role in implementing the Joint Roadmap.

10. The Group also encourages UNIDO to continue collaborating with Member States, strategic development partners, other United Nations and inter-governmental agencies, as well as development finance institutions to support the implementation of objectives of the IDDA III. Maintaining synergies between UNIDO and the African Union will contribute towards building technical competencies and policy knowledge for the development and implementation of regional and continental industrial initiatives.

11. To conclude, the Group of 77 and China appreciates UNIDO's continued contributions to Africa's socio-economic development through the vehicle of the IDDA III.

Thank you, Mr. President

G-77 and China statement during the UNIDO Industrial Development Board, 51st session, 3-6 July 2023, delivered by H.E. Ms. Mary Wangui Mugwanja, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Kenya

Agenda item 10: Climate neutral industry and circular economy

Mr. President,

1. The Group reaffirms the high importance of the potential benefits for countries to transform their economies to promote sustainable consumption and production patterns, by engaging with partners to integrate circular economy, bioeconomy and Industry 4.0 for more sustainable industrial activity and manufacturing systems, according to national plans and priorities.

2. The Group recognizes that a circular economy offers a promising and essential approach towards some of the most pressing global challenges and can accelerate the achievement of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development and many of the Sustainable Development Goals, including Goal 5, while advancing the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

3. The Group notes with satisfaction the efforts made by Member States to initiate or adopt policies, regulatory and legal frameworks incorporating elements of a circular economy, including national, subnational and regional strategies, roadmaps and actions plans on circular economy, as well as resource efficiency, product, chemical and waste management targets, laws and regulations.

4. The Group expresses its appreciation to UNIDO for holding the first round of global consultations on Circular Economy in May 2021 and the preparations towards holding of the second round of global consultations on Circular Economy in 2023. The Group is hopeful that the second round of global consultations on Circular Economy will afford experts from Member States and other relevant stakeholders opportunity to exchange views on best practices, emerging innovations and the promotion and adoption of circular economy principles and practices by industries of Member States.

Mr. President,

5. The Group of 77 and China further takes note of the Director General's report on UNIDO's strategy in response to climate change and expresses its appreciation to the Secretariat for drafting the strategy, in line with the General Conference resolution GC.19/Res.2 and the IDB Decision IDB.20/Dec5.

6. The Group commends H.E. Mr Mohamed Elmolla, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Egypt, for his efforts in facilitating the negotiations on UNIDO's Strategy in response to Climate Change and hopes that this Strategy brings about the desired outcomes.

7. The Group welcomes the new version of the draft strategy and supports its adoption during this session and requests the Director General to continue working with Member States

in developing the action plan of this strategy, to be considered during the 20th session of the General Conference of UNIDO.

8. The Group supports the position that the strategy be guided by the low-greenhouse gas emission and climate-resilient development principle, and enhances the efficiency, effectiveness and coordination of UNIDO's activities in the support of Member States climate priorities related to Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development (ISID).

9. In this regard, the Group stresses the importance of the establishment of the Loss and Damage Fund during COP27, held in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt in November 2022 and emphasizes the importance of expediting the early operationalization of funding arrangements for loss and damage, which is planned to be announced during COP28, to be held in the United Arab Emirates.

10. Finally, the Group acknowledges the important role UNIDO shall play in coordinating and leveraging climate finance opportunities, including through funding arrangements for responding to loss and damage, to enable a paradigm shift towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development particularly in developing countries.

Thank you, Mr. President.

**G-77 and China statement during the UNIDO Industrial Development Board,
51st session, 3-6 July 2023, delivered by Mr. Gustav Kwaku Sefe Dovlo, Minister
Counselor of Ghana**

Agenda item 11: Inclusive and Sustainable Development in Middle-Income Countries

Mr President,

1. The Group recognizes that Middle-Income Countries (MICs) consist of a wide range of diverse countries, which have contributed to international economic stability, while still facing specific challenges and needs in the context of sustainable development, respectively, in the economic, social and environmental areas.
2. The Group underscores that a robust, green and digital industrial transformation of economies of MICs will contribute to sustainable development and is necessary for achieving internationally agreed development goals, particularly poverty eradication. In that context, the Group requests UNIDO to increase its efforts in supporting middle-income countries in adopting sustainable industrial development policies and practices, in order to mitigate the environmental impact and promote a quantitative leap with regard to value addition to products and companies.
3. The Group welcomes the gradual adjustment of the UNIDO strategic approach for MICs to the emerging priorities of the Organization to ensure consistency and coherence with UNIDO's new vision of progress by innovation. In this regard, the Group takes note of the updated workplan for the implementation of the strategic framework submitted to this session in conference room paper IDB.51/CRP.4.
4. The Group further notes, with appreciation, emerging initiatives by UNIDO, including holding of the inaugural Multilateral Industrial Policy Forum (MIPF) in 2023, establishment of Global Industrial Policy Advice Facility in 2021, and development of the Global Programme for Hydrogen in Industry among other development cooperation initiatives.
5. The Group acknowledges the work carried out so far by UNIDO in support of MICs and requests the Director General to explore further initiatives towards strengthening its engagement with MICs to support their economic growth and competitiveness. UNIDO is further encouraged to assist stakeholders in understanding and assessing the financial needs of MICs and help the latter comprehend how these financial resources can be mobilized, improving their integration into global economy.

Thank you, Mr. President.