

Biography of the Director General



Li Yong, Director General, United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), has had an extensive career as a senior economic and financial policy-maker. As Vice-Minister of Finance of the People’s Republic of China and member of the Monetary Policy Committee of the Central Bank for a decade, Mr. Li was involved in setting and harmonizing fiscal, monetary and industrial policies, and in supporting sound economic growth in China. He pushed forward financial sector reform, and prompted major financial institutions to establish corporate governance, deal with toxic assets and strengthen risk management. Mr. Li gave great importance to fiscal and financial measures in favor of agricultural development and SMEs, the cornerstones for creating economic opportunities, reducing poverty and promoting gender equality. He played a key role in China’s cooperation with multilateral development organizations, such as the World Bank Group and the Asian Development Bank.

- June 2013 Director General of UNIDO
- 2003-2013 Vice-Minister, Ministry of Finance (MOF), People’s Republic of China
- 2002-2003 Assistant Minister, MOF
- 1999-2002 Secretary General, Chinese Institute of Certified Public Accountants
- 1996-1998 Executive Director for China, World Bank Group
- 1992-1996 Deputy Director General and then Director General, World Bank Department, MOF
- 1990-1992 Senior Advisor to Executive Director for China, World Bank Group
- 1989-1990 Director, World Bank Department, MOF
- 1985-1989 Second Secretary and then First Secretary, Permanent Mission of China to the United Nations
- 1984 Deputy Director, Foreign Fiscal Research Office, Research Institute for Fiscal Science, MOF