

General Conference**Eighteenth session**

Abu Dhabi, 3–7 November 2019

**Report of the Industrial Development Board on the work of
its forty-sixth session****(26–28 November 2018)****Contents**

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Introduction

1. The report of the Industrial Development Board on the work of its forty-sixth session is presented to the General Conference in accordance with Article 9.4 (c) of the Constitution. As recommended by the Programme and Budget Committee at its thirty-fourth session (conclusion 2018/4(e)), the Board decided to suspend rule 69 of the Rules of Procedure of the Board for its forty-sixth session and request the Director General to ensure that digital records in all six official languages be made available.

2. The following decisions of the Board, reproduced in annex I, are related to the work of the General Conference at its eighteenth session:

IDB.46/Dec.8 Informal working group on programme and budget committee-related issues

IDB.45/Dec.13 Annual Report of the Director General for 2017 (UNIDO and the third industrial development decade for Africa)

I. Organizational and procedural matters

3. The forty-sixth session of the Board was held at UNIDO Headquarters, Vienna International Centre, from 26 to 28 November 2018 (six plenary meetings).

Participation

4. The following 50 of the 53 members of the Board were represented at the session:

Algeria, Argentina, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Burkina Faso, China, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Ecuador, Egypt, Finland, Germany, Hungary, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), and Zambia.

5. The following 39 Member States of UNIDO also participated in the session:

Afghanistan, Albania, Armenia, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Chile, Colombia, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Eritrea, Indonesia, Iraq, Israel, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Malaysia, Monaco, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, Niger, Oman, Paraguay, Qatar, Romania, Senegal, Slovenia, State of Palestine, Syrian Arab Republic, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam, and Yemen.

6. The Sovereign Military Order of Malta participated as observer.

7. The following specialized agency was represented: International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

8. The following other intergovernmental organizations were represented: Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization (AALCO), European Union (EU), Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), International Center for Promotion of Enterprises (ICPE), International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB), International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), League of Arab States (LAS), and the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF).

9. The following non-governmental organizations were represented: Austro Arab Chamber of Commerce (AACC), Global Options and Linkages (Goal), International Alliance of Women (IAW), International Council of Women (ICW), International

Federation of Automatic Control (IFAC), Soroptimist International (SI), and the World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO).

Opening of the session

10. The forty-sixth session of the Board was declared open by the Acting President of the forty-fifth session, H.E. Ms. Faouzia Mebarki (Algeria).

Officers of the session

11. In accordance with rule 23 of the rules of procedure, the Board elected by acclamation H.E. Ms. Faouzia Mebarki (Algeria) as President, H.E. Mr. Gharib Abadi (Islamic Republic of Iran), H.E. Ms. Natasha Meli Daudey (Malta) and Ms. Andrea Nemes (Hungary) as Vice-Presidents, and Mr. Milton Cohen-Henriquez (Panama) as Rapporteur.

Agenda of the session

12. The Board adopted the following agenda:
1. Election of officers.
 2. Adoption of the agenda.
 3. Annual Report of the Director General for 2017.
 4. Report of the Programme and Budget Committee:
 - (a) Report of the External Auditor for 2017;
 - (b) Financial situation of UNIDO;
 - (c) Report by the informal working group on Programme and Budget Committee-related issues;
 - (d) Mobilization of financial resources;
 - (e) General risk management;
 - (f) Updated medium-term investment plan.
 5. UNIDO and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
 6. United Nations Development System reform.
 7. UNIDO activities in energy and the environment.
 8. Sustainable industrial development in middle-income countries.
 9. Activities of the Joint Inspection Unit.
 10. Addressing recommendations of the JIU review of management and administration in UNIDO.
 11. UNIDO Independent Audit Advisory Committee.
 12. Internal oversight activities.
 13. Evaluation activities.
 14. Personnel matters.
 15. UNIDO, gender equality and the empowerment of women.
 16. Matters related to intergovernmental, non-governmental, governmental and other organizations.
 17. Date and place of the eighteenth session of the General Conference.

18. Provisional agenda and date of the forty-seventh session.

19. Adoption of the report.

13. The Board adopted a proposal by the President to ensure the maximum utilization of available conference-servicing resources (see annex I, decision IDB.46/Dec.1).

14. The Board decided to set up informal in-session consultations with the aim of facilitating the drafting of decisions and entrusted Vice-President H.E. Ms. Natasha Meli Daudey (Malta) to chair those consultations.

II. Annual Report of the Director General for 2017 (item 3)

15. Under item 3, the Board had before it the Annual Report of UNIDO 2017 (including the programme performance report) (IDB.46/2) and its appendices, an update by the Secretariat on the definition of indicators and setting of targets in the integrated results and performance framework (PBC.34/CRP.2), and a note by the Secretariat on UNIDO support in fostering the local pharmaceutical industry in developing countries (IDB.46/CRP.9).

16. The Board considered a draft decision submitted by the President (IDB.46/L.13) and adopted decision IDB.46/Dec.13 (see annex I).

III. Report of the Programme and Budget Committee (items 4 (a) to (f))

17. Under item 4, including sub-items (a) to (f), the Board had before it the report of the Programme and Budget Committee on the work of its thirty-fourth session (IDB.46/9).

A. Report of the External Auditor for 2017

18. Under sub-item 4(a), the Board had before it the report of the External Auditor on the accounts of UNIDO for the financial year 1 January to 31 December 2017 (IDB.46/3) and the unaudited annexes for the year ended 31 December 2017, contained in conference room paper PBC.34/CRP.3.

19. The Board considered a draft decision submitted by the President (IDB.46/L.2) and adopted decision IDB.46/Dec.2 (see annex I).

B. Financial situation of UNIDO

20. Under sub-item 4(b), the Board had before it a report by the Director General on the financial situation of UNIDO (IDB.46/4), an update by the Secretariat on financial figures (IDB.46/CRP.2), a note by the Secretariat entitled "UNIDO in the United Nations Resident Coordinator system" (IDB.46/CRP.3), a note by the Secretariat on the regulatory framework of and guidelines for withdrawals from the Working Capital Fund (PBC.34/CRP.6), and a note by the Secretariat on digital records (PBC.34/CRP.8).

21. The Board considered a draft decision on the financial situation of UNIDO submitted by the President (IDB.46/L.3) and adopted decision IDB.46/Dec.3 (see annex I).

C. Report by the informal working group on Programme and Budget Committee-related issues

22. Under sub-item 4(c), the Board had before it a report by the Co-chairs of the informal working group on Programme and Budget Committee-related issues (IDB.46/5) and their update on the working group's deliberations since 20 June 2018 (IDB.46/CRP.4).

23. The Board considered a draft decision submitted by the President (IDB.46/L.8) and adopted decision IDB.46/Dec.8 (see annex I).

D. Mobilization of financial resources

24. Under sub-item 4(d), the Board considered a report by the Director General on the mobilization of financial resources (IDB.46/6), information on the mobilization of financial resources contained in chapter 7 of the Annual Report of UNIDO 2017 (IDB.46/2), and a conference room paper prepared by the Secretariat on projects approved under the Industrial Development Fund, thematic and individual trust funds, and other voluntary contributions in 2017 (PBC.34/CRP.5).

25. The Board considered a draft decision submitted by the President (IDB.46/L.4) and adopted decision IDB.46/Dec.4 (see annex I).

E. General risk management

26. Under sub-item 4(e), the Board had before it a report by the Director General on the general risk management (IDB.46/7*) and an update by the Secretariat on the risk management committee (PBC.34/CRP.7).

27. At the proposal of the President, the Board took note of the documentation provided.

F. Updated medium-term investment plan

28. Under sub-item 4(f), the Board had before it a report by the Director General on the medium-term investment plan 2018–2021 (IDB.46/8).

29. At the proposal of the President, the Board took note of the documentation provided.

IV. UNIDO and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (item 5)

30. Under item 5, the Board had before it a report by the Director General on UNIDO and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (IDB.46/10) and a conference room paper on UNIDO technical cooperation programmes, projects and tools contributing to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (IDB.46/CRP.5).

31. At the proposal of the President, the Board took note of the documentation provided.

V. United Nations Development System reform (item 6)

32. Under item 6, the Board had before it a report by the Director General on the United Nations Development System reform (IDB.46/11).

33. The Board considered a draft decision submitted by the President (IDB.46/L.12) and adopted decision IDB.46/Dec.12 (see annex I).

VI. UNIDO Independent Audit Advisory Committee (item 11)

34. Under item 11, the Board had before it the annual report of the UNIDO Independent Audit Advisory Committee 2018, submitted by its Chairperson (IDB.46/16), and the response thereon by the management of UNIDO (IDB.46/16/Add.1).

35. At the proposal of the President, the Board took note of the documentation provided.

VII. Internal oversight activities (item 12)

36. Under item 12, the Board had before it a report by the Director of the Office of Evaluation and Internal Oversight on internal oversight activities (IDB.46/17).

37. At the proposal of the President, the Board took note of the documentation provided.

VIII. UNIDO activities in energy and the environment (item 7)

38. Under item 7, the Board had before it a report by the Director General on UNIDO activities in energy and the environment (IDB.46/12).

39. At the proposal of the President, the Board took note of the documentation provided.

IX. Sustainable industrial development in middle-income countries (item 8)

40. Under item 8, the Board had before it a report by the Director General on the strategic framework for partnering with middle-income countries (IDB.46/13).

41. The Board considered a draft decision submitted by the President (IDB.46/L.10) and adopted decision IDB.46/Dec.10 (see annex I).

X. Activities of the Joint Inspection Unit (item 9) and addressing recommendations of the JIU review of management and administration in UNIDO (item 10)

42. Under items 9 and 10, the Board had before it two reports by the Director General, one on the activities of the Joint Inspection Unit (IDB.46/14), together with a note containing the UNIDO comments on the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit (IDB.46/CRP.10), and one report specifically on the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit review of management and administration in UNIDO (IDB.46/15).

43. At the proposal of the President, the Board took note of the documentation provided.

XI. Evaluation activities (item 13)

44. Under item 13, the Board had before it a note by the Director of the Office of Evaluation and Internal Oversight on evaluation activities (IDB.46/18).

45. The Board considered a draft decision submitted by the President (IDB.46/L.6) and adopted decision IDB.46/Dec.6 (see annex I).

XII. Date and place of the eighteenth session of the General Conference (item 17)

46. Under item 17, the Board had before it a report by the Director General on the date and place of the eighteenth session of the General Conference (IDB.46/22).

47. The Board considered a draft decision submitted by the President (IDB.46/L.11) and adopted decision IDB.46/Dec.11 (see annex I).

XIII. Personnel matters (item 14)

48. Under item 14, the Board had before it a report by the Director General on personnel matters (IDB.46/19), annexes I to V to the report by the Director General (IDB.46/CRP.6) and a note by the Secretariat, providing the list of UNIDO staff as of 21 November 2018 (IDB.46/CRP.7).

49. At the proposal of the President, the Board took note of the documentation provided.

XIV. UNIDO, gender equality and the empowerment of women (item 15)

50. Under item 15, the Board had before it a report by the Director General on UNIDO, gender equality and the empowerment of women (IDB.46/20/Rev.1).

51. At the proposal of the President, the Board took note of the documentation provided.

XV. Matters related to intergovernmental, non-governmental, governmental and other organizations (item 16)

52. Under item 16, the Board had before it a report by the Secretariat on the review of the consultative status of non-governmental organizations (IDB.46/21) and its addendum (IDB.46/21/Add.1), an application for consultative status by one non-governmental organization (IDB.46/23) and a note from the Director General with information on intergovernmental organizations (IDB.46/24).

53. The Board considered two draft decisions submitted by the President with regard to the review of the consultative status of non-governmental organizations (IDB.46/L.7), and to the intergovernmental organizations (IDB.46/L.5), and adopted decisions IDB.46/Dec.7 and IDB.46/Dec.5 (see annex I). Regarding the application for consultative status by one non-governmental organization, the Board considered a draft decision submitted by the President based on a recommendation by the Bureau and adopted decision IDB.46/Dec.14 (see annex I).

XVI. Provisional agenda and date of the forty-seventh session (item 18)

54. Under item 18, the Board had before it a note by the Director General on the provisional agenda and date of the forty-seventh session (IDB.46/CRP.8).

55. The Board considered a draft decision submitted by the President (IDB.46/L.9) and adopted decision IDB.46/Dec.9 (see annex I).

XVII. Adoption of the report (item 19) and closure of the forty-sixth session

56. On 28 November, the Board considered a draft decision submitted by the President (IDB.46/L.15) entitled “Third special session of the General Conference” and adopted decision IDB.46/Dec.15 (see annex I).

57. On 28 November, the Board considered the draft report on the work of its forty-sixth session (IDB.46/L.1) and adopted it as a whole with the understanding that the Rapporteur would be entrusted with the task of finalizing the report.

58. The Board closed its forty-sixth session at 4.16 p.m. on 28 November 2018.

Annex I

Decisions adopted by the Board at its forty-sixth session

<i>Decision No.</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Page</i>
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Decision IDB.46/Dec.1 Utilization of available conference-servicing resources

The Industrial Development Board, with the aim of utilizing the available conference-servicing resources to the maximum extent possible, decided to suspend with immediate effect rule 32 of its rules of procedure relating to the quorum, for the meetings of its forty-sixth session only, provided no substantive decisions were taken at those meetings.

*1st plenary meeting
26 November 2018*

Decision IDB.46/Dec.2 Report of the external auditor for 2017

The Industrial Development Board:

(a) Welcomed the report of the External Auditor on the accounts of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization for the financial period 1 January to 31 December 2017, including the financial performance report, as contained in document IDB.46/3, and the Annual Report of UNIDO 2017, including the programme performance report for 2017 (IDB.46/2);

(b) Also welcomed the statements of the Director General and the External Auditor made at the thirty-fourth session of the Programme and Budget Committee;

(c) Expressed its gratitude to the External Auditor for the important services rendered by him and welcomed all his invaluable findings and recommendations;

(d) Commended the Auditor General of Germany for the successful completion of their mandate from 1 July 2014 and welcomed the Auditor General of the Philippines, who took up the role of External Auditor as of 1 July 2018;

(e) Recognized the important contribution the External Auditor makes to the improvement of UNIDO's governance structure, management, operations and performance, through his recommendations, including those in his recent report IDB.46/3;

(f) Took note of the actions taken by the Director General to implement recommendations of prior years;

(g) Endorsed the recommendations of the External Auditor and requested the Director General to continue implementing them and to report thereon to the Industrial Development Board starting from its forty-seventh session.

*6th plenary meeting
28 November 2018*

Decision IDB.46/Dec.3 Financial situation of UNIDO

The Industrial Development Board:

(a) Took note of the information provided in document IDB.46/4;

(b) Urged those Member States and former Member States that have not yet paid their assessed contributions, including advances to the Working Capital Fund and prior years' arrears, to do so without delay;

(c) Requested the Director General to pursue his efforts and contacts with Member States and former Member States to effect the collection of arrears;

(d) Urged the Secretariat to continue working with Member States to encourage timely payment of assessed contributions, including within the informal working group on Programme and Budget Committee-related issues;

(e) Decided to ask the Secretariat to continue replacing written summary records of the Industrial Development Board and the General Conference with digital records;

(f) Recalled that the search for productivity gains and efficiencies must be a continuous management process, while mindful of not affecting the quality of the delivery of projects, and welcomed the list of priority areas for efficiencies mentioned in document IDB.46/4, and therefore requested the Secretariat to report in the thirty-fifth session of the Programme and Budget Committee on all de-prioritization and efficiencies identified and/or implemented since the thirty-third session of the Programme and Budget Committee, with the goal to offset the financial impact on Member States of recosting and new expenditure proposals in the budgets for 2018–2019.

*6th plenary meeting
28 November 2018*

Decision IDB.46/Dec.4 Mobilization of financial resources

The Industrial Development Board:

- (a) Took note of the information contained in document IDB.46/6;
- (b) Decided to delegate to the Director General the authority to approve projects for financing under the Industrial Development Fund in 2018 and 2019 in accordance with the priorities defined in the medium-term programme framework 2018–2021 (IDB.45/8 and GC.17/6);
- (c) Encouraged Member States and other donors to increase their voluntary contributions to UNIDO including for the recently created Partnership Trust Fund as well as the Special Account of Voluntary Contributions for Core Activities (SAVCCA) and the Major Capital Investment Fund (MCIF);
- (d) Also encouraged all donors to consider contributing programmable funds, specifically to enable UNIDO to respond rapidly to requests for assistance and develop and implement its programmatic activities in a prompt and coordinated manner;
- (e) Requested Member States to consider contributing to UNIDO to enable the Organization to work with funding sources requiring co-funding, either through contributing to the dedicated trust funds or by special purpose funding at country or global level;
- (f) Encouraged Governments of recipient countries to play an active role in sharing with UNIDO the responsibility for mobilizing funds for jointly agreed priority activities, and specifically to take the lead in identifying and accessing funds available at the country level, including local cost sharing opportunities, and funds from bilateral donors, multi-donor trust funds, United Nations Development Programme, World Bank as well as other development finance institutions;
- (g) Strongly recommended that Member States cooperate with and support the Organization in its efforts to develop and promote its programmes and initiatives in the international development context, and especially through international conferences and other forms of dialogue, in order to ensure that these initiatives are well known, their relevance for international development targets are recognized, and resources are made available.

*6th plenary meeting
28 November 2018*

Decision IDB.46/Dec.5 Relationship agreements with intergovernmental organizations

The Industrial Development Board:

- (a) Took note of the information provided in document IDB.46/24;
- (b) Authorized the Director General, in accordance with Article 19.1 (a) of the Constitution and the guidelines for the relationship of UNIDO with

intergovernmental, governmental, non-governmental and other organizations (General Conference decision GC.1/Dec.41, annex, para. 9) and on the basis of the information contained in the annex to document IDB.46/24, to conclude an appropriate relationship agreement with the following intergovernmental organizations:

- GCC Standardization Organization (GSO);
- Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD);
- West African Health Organization (WAHO).

*6th plenary meeting
28 November 2018*

Decision IDB.46/Dec.6 Evaluation activities

The Industrial Development Board:

- (a) Took note of the report on the evaluation activities (IDB.46/18);
- (b) Reiterated its support to the evaluation function for accountability, learning and contribution to development effectiveness;
- (c) Encouraged outcome- and impact-driven evaluations on results, and the incorporation of information on performance and lessons into management and strategic planning processes.

*6th plenary meeting
28 November 2018*

Decision IDB.46/Dec.7 Review of the consultative status of non-governmental organizations

The Industrial Development Board:

- (a) Took note of the information provided in document IDB.46/21 and IDB.46/21/Add.1;
- (b) Taking into consideration GC.1/Dec.41, annex B, paragraph 21, recommended to the Board to discontinue the consultative status for those organizations that have not demonstrated sufficient interest in cooperating with UNIDO in the past four years;
- (c) Recommended that the Board should review at least every four years the list of NGOs holding consultative status, in line with GC.1/Dec.41, annex B, paragraph 20 (a).

*6th plenary meeting
28 November 2018*

Decision IDB.46/Dec.8 Informal working group on Programme and Budget Committee-related issues

The Industrial Development Board:

- (a) Took note of the information contained in document IDB.46/5;
- (b) Thanked the informal working group on Programme and Budget Committee-related issues for its work to date, appreciating the work of the Co-chairs, decided to extend its mandate until it is decided by the Board to conclude its deliberations, and requested its Co-chairs to continue reporting annually to the Board, through the Programme and Budget Committee, and encouraged all Member States to actively engage with the deliberations of the working group;
- (c) Encouraged the working group to prepare its agenda on a six-month basis;

(d) Requested the informal working group to keep deliberating on all Programme and Budget Committee-related issues, in particular on the issue of unutilized balances of appropriations, with a view to producing a proposal on these issues for the consideration of the thirty-fifth session of the Programme and Budget Committee;

(e) Called on all Member States to reach an agreement on the proposals to address the issue of unutilized balances of appropriations through the informal working group, and for the informal working group to present the agreed proposal to be considered by the thirty-fifth session of the Programme and Budget Committee and ultimate adoption by the forty-seventh session of the Industrial Development Board and by the eighteenth session of the General Conference.

*6th plenary meeting
28 November 2018*

Decision IDB.46/Dec.9 Provisional agenda and date of the forty-seventh session

The Industrial Development Board:

(a) Took note of the information contained in document IDB.46/CRP.8;

(b) Decided to approve the following provisional agenda for its forty-seventh session:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Annual report of the Director General for 2018.
4. Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA III).
5. Report of the Programme and Budget Committee:
 - (a) Report of the External Auditor for 2018;
 - (b) Financial situation of UNIDO;
 - (c) Scale of assessments for apportionment of the regular budget expenses for the biennium 2020–2021;
 - (d) Working Capital Fund for the biennium 2020–2021;
 - (e) Report by the informal working group on Programme and Budget Committee-related issues;
 - (f) Mobilization of financial resources;
 - (g) General risk management;
 - (h) Appointment of an External Auditor.
6. Programme and budgets, 2020–2021.
7. UNIDO and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
8. UNIDO activities in energy and the environment.
9. Activities of the Joint Inspection Unit.
10. Addressing recommendations of the JIU review of management and administration in UNIDO.
11. UNIDO Independent Audit Advisory Committee.
12. Internal oversight activities.
13. Evaluation activities.
14. Personnel matters.
15. UNIDO, gender equality and the empowerment of women.

16. Matters related to intergovernmental, non-governmental, governmental and other organizations.
17. Provisional agenda and date of the forty-eighth session.
18. Adoption of the report.
- (c) Decided to hold its forty-seventh session from 1 to 3 July 2019.

*6th plenary meeting
28 November 2018*

Decision IDB.46/Dec.10 Strategic Framework for Partnering with Middle-Income Countries

The Industrial Development Board:

- (a) Recalled resolution GC.17/Res.6 on sustainable industrial development in middle-income countries;
- (b) Took note of the report of the Director General (IDB.46/13) on developing a UNIDO strategic framework for collaboration with middle-income countries (MICs) aimed at promoting their achievement of inclusive and sustainable industrial development;
- (c) Expressed its appreciation to the Director General for submitting his outlined proposal including the scope and prospects for programmatic cooperation between UNIDO and its MIC Member States;
- (d) Requested the Director General to organize consultations with Member States for the finalization of the draft strategic framework with a view to present it for consideration to the Board at its forty-seventh session.

*6th plenary meeting
28 November 2018*

Decision IDB.46/Dec.11 Date and place of the eighteenth session of the General Conference

The Industrial Development Board:

- (a) Recalled rule 4 of the rules of procedure of the General Conference stating that regular sessions of the General Conference shall be held at the seat of the Organization, unless otherwise determined by the Conference;
- (b) Recalled also rule 8 of the rules of procedure of the General Conference stipulating that actual additional costs directly or indirectly involved in holding a session away from Headquarters shall be borne by the host Government;
- (c) Took into consideration the report of the Director General (IDB.46/22), which informed the Board of the generous offer of the Government of the United Arab Emirates to host the eighteenth session of the General Conference in Abu Dhabi;
- (d) Took also note with appreciation of the assurances received from the Government of the United Arab Emirates to bear all additional costs directly or indirectly involved in holding the session in Abu Dhabi, as referred to in paragraph (b);
- (e) Further took note of the request of the Government of the United Arab Emirates to explore the possibility of scheduling the eighteenth session of the General Conference from 3 to 7 November 2019;
- (f) Welcomed the offer by the Government of the United Arab Emirates to host the General Conference;
- (g) Decided to hold the eighteenth session of the General Conference in Abu Dhabi, from 3 to 7 November 2019;

(h) Requested the Director General to negotiate and conclude an appropriate Conference agreement with the Government of the United Arab Emirates;

(i) Also requested the Director General to report to the forty-seventh session of the Board on the progress achieved in this matter.

*6th plenary meeting
28 November 2018*

Decision IDB.46/Dec.12 United Nations development system reform

The Industrial Development Board:

(a) Recalled General Assembly resolutions [71/243](#) on the Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, and [72/279](#) on Repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

(b) Recognized a revitalized, strategic, flexible, and results- and action-oriented United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) as the most important instrument for the planning and implementation of United Nations development activities in each country, and in that regard stressed that UNIDO's development results, outcome and performance as the specialized agency of the United Nations mandated to promote inclusive and sustainable industrial development, and its active role within the United Nations development system should be accordingly reflected in UNDAFs;

(c) Took note of the ongoing efforts to refine and update the Integrated Results and Performance Framework (IRPF) of UNIDO and its potential contribution to support the positioning of the Organization in the system-wide strategic document;

(d) Recognized the challenges and underlined the importance of making use of the opportunities of the repositioning of the United Nations development system to strengthen the central role of UNIDO in promoting inclusive and sustainable industrial development within the renewed architecture of the United Nations development system;

(e) Noted that the foreseeable financial impact of the repositioning of the United Nations development system on UNIDO is a topic of importance that will be discussed in the context of the forthcoming deliberations of the programme and budgets for the biennium 2020–2021 and in the informal working group on PBC-related issues;

(f) Requested the Director General:

(i) To continue working with the United Nations Secretariat to strengthen the position of UNIDO in the context of the repositioning of the United Nations development system through the existing United Nations system-wide engagement mechanisms, namely the United Nations Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB), its associated High-level Committee on Management (HLCM), the High-level Committee on Programmes (HLCP), as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG);

(ii) To ensure that this effort is implemented within existing resources and that the highest necessary representation is made within the above-mentioned forums;

(iii) To report on UNIDO's role, including its field network, within the United Nations Country Teams and UNDAF, as well as its involvement in the revamped regional mechanisms of the United Nations development system and UNSDG in light of the United Nations development system reform, with the aim to strengthen the Organization's delivery of its mandate to Member States;

- (iv) To report on the services provided by the Resident Coordinator System to UNIDO and have a periodical assessment of the benefits of those services for UNIDO, without prejudice to UNIDO's obligations in General Assembly resolution [72/279](#);
- (v) To report follow-up actions to the recommendations provided by the Industrial Development Board to the high-level political forum on sustainable development (HLPF) under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council;
- (vi) To report regularly on the above to the Programme and Budget Committee, the Industrial Development Board, and the General Conference of UNIDO.

*6th plenary meeting
28 November 2018*

Decision IDB.46/Dec.13 Annual Report of the Director General for 2017 (UNIDO and the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa)

The Industrial Development Board:

(a) Welcomed the adoption, in 2015, of General Assembly resolution [70/1](#) on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and General Conference resolution GC.16/Res.2, which calls on UNIDO to align all its activities with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals;

(b) Recognized General Assembly resolution [70/293](#) on the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (2016–2025), which mandates UNIDO, as the lead Organization, to develop, operationalize and spearhead the implementation of IDDA III as well as enhance technical assistance and efforts towards resource mobilization for African countries specifically for this purpose;

(c) Emphasized the need to ensure that tangible progress towards IDDA III implementation is based on respective national, regional and continental priorities aimed at the attainment of inclusive and sustainable industrial development with a positive impact on socioeconomic development, yielding job creation particularly for the youth and women of the continent;

(d) Appreciated the various initiatives undertaken by the Secretariat, including the Work Plan on IDDA III for 2018 and the UNIDO Roadmap entitled "Implementation of IDDA III (2016–2025)", with concrete programmatic activities and time frame and the launching of the IDDA III Champions, comprising leaders of Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya, the Niger, Senegal, South Africa, Zambia and Malta;

(e) Acknowledged the close collaboration and invaluable contribution of all traditional and non-traditional donors, and in particular the African Union, the Economic Commission for Africa, the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) and the African Development Bank, which will continue to create the necessary awareness and partnerships to ensure meaningful and concrete implementation and outcomes of IDDA III;

(f) Requested the Director General for that purpose, to consult and work closely with all African States to ensure:

- (i) Full ownership by African countries of current and future activities and programmes;
- (ii) That the projects and programmes within IDDA III are aligned to the priorities of the African countries, including to the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals and targets and the 2063 Agenda of the African Union;
- (iii) That projects and programmes will deliver concrete results including in terms of job creation and poverty reduction;

(g) Also requested the Director General, for that purpose:

(i) To continue the dialogue with all relevant partners active in the continent, in particular the African Union, NEPAD, the Economic Commission for Africa and the African Development Bank;

(ii) To promote and improve all the broad partnerships, in implementing IDDA III projects and programmes, necessary to ensure synergies among the activities of all stakeholders, private and public, among African countries, traditional and non-traditional donors, as well as the United Nations specialized agencies and with bilateral, regional and multilateral initiatives and platforms, such as G20 initiatives on supporting industrialization in Africa and least developed countries;

(h) Also requested the Director General:

(i) To continue working closely with Member States and international organizations to provide necessary data and information in order to present a comprehensive overview of the Africa-centred programmes and projects of all the international organizations and donors to ensure synergies and to identify where additional efforts would be needed to implement IDDA III;

(ii) To regularly assess, and report to UNIDO Member States, and international partners, in a formal manner, on the Roadmap for the implementation of IDDA III;

(iii) To propose, in collaboration with African States, tangible solutions that improve the Roadmap accordingly, and accordingly mobilize additional activities with partners and potential investors;

(i) Further requested the Director General to regularly report on the progress made on IDDA III in the annual reports of the Director General to the Programme and Budget Committee, the Industrial Development Board, and the General Conference and to the Informal Working Group on PBC-related matters, on a quarterly basis;

(j) Reiterated General Assembly resolution 70/293 by further requesting the Director General of UNIDO to mobilize adequate resources for the implementation of IDDA III;

(k) Additionally requested the Director General to ensure that, within available resources, the Organization allocates adequate human and financial resources for the implementation of IDDA III projects.

*6th plenary meeting
28 November 2018*

Decision IDB.46/Dec.14 Application from a non-governmental organization for consultative status

The Industrial Development Board:

(a) Took note of the information contained in document IDB.46/23;

(b) Decided, in accordance with Article 19.1 (b) of the Constitution and the guidelines for the relationship of UNIDO with intergovernmental, governmental, non-governmental and other organizations (General Conference decision GC.1/Dec.41, annex, para. 17), to grant consultative status with UNIDO to the following non-governmental organization:

International Institute of Industrial Ecology and Green Economy (2iecologie).

*6th plenary meeting
28 November 2018*

Decision IDB.46/Dec.15 Third special session of the General Conference

The Industrial Development Board:

In view of the consensus arrived at during the open-ended informal consultations of the Members completed in November 2018:

(a) Decided to request the Director General to convene the third special session of the General Conference in Vienna on Friday, 30 November 2018, in order to consider a proposal relating to the listing of States in Annex I of the Constitution of UNIDO;

(b) Recommended to the Conference that, for the purpose of convening the third special session on 30 November 2018:

(i) The officers of the special session and the members of the Credentials Committee should remain the same as at the seventeenth session of the Conference;

(ii) Credentials submitted for the seventeenth session should be relied upon for the third special session unless a representative submits new credentials;

(iii) The following rules of procedure of the General Conference may need to be suspended for the duration of the special session: rules 5.2, 9, 12.2, 23, and 28; and

(iv) The provisional agenda for the third special session of the General Conference should be adopted as follows:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Credentials of representatives to the Conference.
4. Listing of States in Annex I of the Constitution of UNIDO.
5. Closure of the session.

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Annex II

Documents submitted to the Board at its forty-sixth session

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Title</i>
IDB.46/1	2	Provisional agenda
IDB.46/1/Add.1/Rev.1	2	Annotated provisional agenda
IDB.46/2	3, 4 (d)	<i>Annual Report 2017</i>
IDB.46/3	4 (a)	Report of the External Auditor on the accounts of UNIDO for the financial year 1 January to 31 December 2017
IDB.46/4	4 (b)	Financial situation of UNIDO. Report by the Director General
IDB.46/5	4 (c)	Report of the informal working group on Programme and Budget Committee-related issues. Report by the Co-chairs
IDB.46/6	4 (d)	Mobilization of financial resources. Report by the Director General
IDB.46/7*	4 (e)	General risk management. Report by the Director General
IDB.46/8	4 (f)	Medium-term investment plan 2018–2021. Report by the Director General
IDB.46/9	4	Report of the Programme and Budget Committee on the work of its thirty-fourth session
IDB.46/10	5	UNIDO and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Report by the Director General
IDB.46/11	6	United Nations Development System reform. Report by the Director General
IDB.46/12	7	UNIDO activities in energy and the environment. Report by the Director General
IDB.46/13	8	Strategic framework for partnering with middle-income countries. Report by the Director General
IDB.46/14	9	Activities of the Joint Inspection Unit. Report by the Director General
IDB.46/15	10	Recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit review of management and administration in UNIDO. Report by the Director General
IDB.46/16	11	Report of the Audit Advisory Committee. Report by the Chair
IDB.46/16/Add.1	11	Report of the Audit Advisory Committee. Management response
IDB.46/17	12	Internal oversight activities. Report by the Director of the Office of Evaluation and Internal Oversight

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Title</i>
IDB.46/18	13	Evaluation activities. Note by the Director of the Office of Evaluation and Internal Oversight
IDB.46/19	14	Personnel matters. Report by the Director General
IDB.46/20/Rev.1	15	UNIDO, gender equality and the empowerment of women. Report by the Director General
IDB.46/21	16	Review of the consultative status of non-governmental organizations. Report by the Secretariat
IDB.46/21/Add.1	16	Review of the consultative status of non-governmental organizations. Report by the Secretariat
IDB.46/22	17	Date and place of the eighteenth session of the General Conference. Report by the Director General
IDB.46/23	16	Application from a non-governmental organization for consultative status. Note by the Director General
IDB.46/24	16	Information on intergovernmental organizations. Note by the Director General
Conference room papers		
IDB.46/CRP.1*	2	List of documents
IDB.46/CRP.2	4 (b)	Update on financial figures. Note by the Secretariat
IDB.46/CRP.3	4 (b)	UNIDO in the United Nations Resident Coordinator system. Note by the Secretariat
IDB.46/CRP.4	4 (c)	Update since 20 June 2018. Note by the Co-chairs
IDB.46/CRP.5	5	UNIDO technical cooperation programmes, projects and tools contributing to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals
IDB.46/CRP.6	14	Personnel matters. Annexes to the report by the Director General
IDB.46/CRP.7	14	List of UNIDO staff. Note by the Secretariat
IDB.46/CRP.8	18	Provisional agenda and date of the forty-seventh session. Note by the Director General
IDB.46/CRP.9	3	UNIDO support in fostering the local pharmaceutical industry in developing countries. Note by the Secretariat
IDB.46/CRP.10	9	Activities of the Joint Inspection Unit. Note by the Director General

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Title</i>
PBC.34/CRP.2	3	Integrated results and performance framework: definition of indicators and setting of targets. Update by the Secretariat
PBC.34/CRP.3	4 (a)	Annexes to the report of the External Auditor on the accounts of UNIDO for the financial year 1 January to 31 December 2017 (unaudited). Prepared by the Secretariat
PBC.34/CRP.5	4 (d)	Projects approved under the Industrial Development Fund, thematic and individual trust funds, and other voluntary contributions in 2017
PBC.34/CRP.6	4 (b)	Working Capital Fund: regulatory framework and guidelines for withdrawals. Note by the Secretariat
PBC.34/CRP.7	4 (e)	General risk management: update on the Risk Management Committee. Note by the Secretariat
PBC.34/CRP.8	4 (b)	Digital Records. Note by the Secretariat
