

UNIDO – 49th Industrial Development Board
Statement by H.E. Mr. Gerhard Küntzle, Permanent Representative,
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
of the Federal Republic of Germany
12–15 July 2021

Agenda Item 3 – Annual Report

Madam Chair,

Excellencies, Director-General, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Germany fully supports the statement made by the European Union. We would like to add the following comments:

UNIDO really is at the forefront of pressing issues in industrial development. And UNIDO is shaping the international sustainability debate - to mention just a few recent international fora, there were the global consultations on the circular economy in May, the webinars of research networks on sustainable supply chains, together with Italian and German research institutes, in June; and the Vienna Energy Forum in July – all of this is cutting edge and the latest “state of the art”. It shows how UNIDO is uniquely positioned to convene important stakeholders and to unveil solutions, all with a view to implementing the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Climate Agreement.

I am convinced: UNIDO must be a leading UN agency to implement the 2030 Agenda, the Paris Agreement, and the Convention on Biological Diversity!

Germany is willing to support UNIDO with voluntary contributions (all in all about 6 million euros a year, which includes UNIDO’s ITPO Office in Germany, among other programmes). And our voluntary cooperation will be continued in the context of putting our bilateral Roadmap into practice.

We are glad that, with this Roadmap, we have a sound basis for our work with UNIDO. And we will put it into action, for example in our common job creation projects in African countries, and our budding cooperation on the production and use of green hydrogen and in waste management. Waste management - as part of the circular economy, and of the new waste alliance called "PREVENT".

In areas like, for example, the circular economy, waste management and the use of clean technologies, UNIDO truly is a global leader and can further strengthen its position.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let us ensure that UNIDO can do its job as part of the United Nations, for the benefit of all. My country stands ready to take on obligations and to shoulder responsibilities in the future. Let me thank you on behalf of the German government for the broad support you gave for the German candidate Gerd Müller to be the next Director-General!