



**G-77 and China Statement during the UNIDO IDB 49th session, 12-15 July 2021,
delivered by H.E. Ambassador Alejandro Solano Ortiz,
Permanent Representative of Costa Rica**

Madam President, [H.E. Madam Dominika Krois, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Poland]

1. On behalf of the Group of 77 and China, I would like to congratulate you on your election as the President of the IDB and other members for their election to the bureau of this session. The Group is confident that you will steer the IDB with great skills for its successful and fruitful conclusion.
2. The Group would also like to thank the former President of the 48th session, H.E. Mr. Darmansjah DJUMALA, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Indonesia, for his leadership during the previous session, and the members of his bureau for their outstanding work in continuing to move the process forward successfully.
3. The Group would like to express its deep appreciation for Mr. LI Yong, the Director General, for his outstanding work, dedication, commitment and contributions in achieving inclusive and sustainable industrial development in the developing countries. The Group would also like to thank the Secretariat for organizing this session.

Thank you, Madam President.

Agenda item 18: Recommendation of a candidate for the post of Director General

Madam President,

1. On behalf of the Group of 77 and China, I would like to express our most sincere congratulation on the election of Mr. Gerd Müller as the new Director General of UNIDO and to assure him of the Group's full cooperation during his mandate.
2. The Organization finds itself at a special juncture that requires optimism, pragmatism, and action. The still-ongoing global pandemic has seen the global development agenda evolve and the new and unique circumstances it has brought have greatly affected the priorities of both the traditional donors and recipients. This has also served to highlight that the services and expertise of UNIDO on its priority fields are still very much needed by all States of the Group of 77, while creating new challenges for a small but very specialized Organization.
3. The vast experience of Mr. Gerd Müller gives the Group hope and confidence for a better future of UNIDO, based on its relevance and contribution towards inclusive and sustainable industrial development. The Group is encouraged that under your guidance, UNIDO will be better positioned to not only meet all challenges, but to explore opportunities that will improve the delivery of cooperation, increase mobilization of resources, and excel in its management.
4. The Group would also like to take this opportunity to thank the other candidates for sharing their vision for the Organization, to acknowledge them for their commendable showing throughout the election process, and to encourage them to work hand-in-hand with the new Director General towards the common goal of promoting and improving UNIDO's core mandate.
5. Director General, you count on the support of the Group, including its openness for a permanent and continuous dialogue.

6. The Group of 77 and China wishes the newly elected Director General full success in this new endeavor.

Thank you, Madam President.