



UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

Journal

GENERAL CONFERENCE

No. 3

Nineteenth session

Vienna, 29 November–3 December 2021

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

Wednesday, 1 December 2021

8.20-9.20 a.m.	<i>Thematic event: UNIDO's contribution to the International Year of Creative Economy for Sustainable Development 2021</i>	Plenary Hall (M-building, 1 st floor) Zoom
9.30 a.m.-1 p.m.	5th plenary meeting General debate - Items 8 to 29 (<i>continued</i>)	Plenary Hall (M-building, 1 st floor) Interprefy online platform
9.30-10.15 a.m.	Meeting of the Credentials Committee (<i>members of the Credentials Committee only</i>)	Board Room D (C-building, 4 th floor)
1.50-2.50 p.m.	<i>Thematic event: The post-pandemic world will be digital: implications of 4IR for developing countries</i>	Plenary Hall (M-building, 1 st floor) Zoom
3-4.30 p.m.	6th plenary meeting Item 10: Launch of the Industrial Development Report 2022	Plenary Hall (M-building, 1 st floor) Interprefy online platform
4.30.-6.30 p.m.	General debate - Items 8 to 29 (<i>continued</i>)	Plenary Hall (M-building, 1 st floor) Interprefy online platform

Matters for inclusion in the *Journal* should be sent as far in advance as possible to pmo@unido.org

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FORECAST OF MEETINGS

Thursday, 2 December 2021

8.20-9.20 a.m.	Thematic event: <i>New forms of investments as drivers for a sustained post-COVID 19 recovery</i>	Plenary Hall (M-building, 1 st floor) Zoom
9.30 a.m.-1 p.m.	7th plenary meeting Item 5: Credentials of representatives to the Conference Item 11 Appointment of an External Auditor (d): General debate - Items 8 to 29 (<i>continued</i>)	Plenary Hall (M-building, 1 st floor) Interprefy online platform
1.50-2.50 p.m.	Thematic event: <i>Revival of industrial policy – prospect for establishing a global industry policy forum for multilateral policy learning and knowledge sharing</i>	Plenary Hall (M-building, 1 st floor) Zoom
3-6.30 p.m.	8th plenary meeting General debate (<i>if required</i>) - Items 8 to 29 (<i>continued</i>)	Plenary Hall (M-building, 1 st floor) Interprefy online platform
4.30-6.30 p.m.	Main Committee – 2nd meeting	Board Room D (C-building, 4 th floor) Interprefy online platform

FORECAST OF MEETINGS

Friday, 3 December 2021

8.20-9.20 a.m.	<i>Thematic event: Accelerating climate impact for Member States through inclusive and sustainable industrial development (ISID)</i>	Plenary Hall <i>(M-building, 1st floor)</i> Zoom
9.30 a.m.-1 p.m.	9th plenary meeting Consideration and adoption of decisions and resolutions Tribute ceremony for Mr. LI Yong Statements by Member States Item 30: Closure of the session	Plenary Hall <i>(M-building, 1st floor)</i> Interprefy online platform

SUMMARY OF MEETINGS

TUESDAY, 30 November 2021

3rd PLENARY MEETING

Item 4: Organization of work

With the President in the Chair, an introductory statement was made by H.E. Ms. Dominika Krois, Permanent Representative of Poland to UNIDO and President of the forty-ninth session of the Industrial Development Board.

Upon the recommendation of the General Committee, the Conference decided:

- (a) To cover items 8 to 29 in the form of a general debate;
- (b) To establish, in accordance with rule 44 of its rules of procedure, one Main Committee, under the Chairmanship of H. E. Ms. Dominika Krois, Permanent Representative of Poland to UNIDO, on which each Member participating in the Conference may be represented;
- (c) To refer agenda items 8 to 29 to the Main Committee for a more focused debate aimed at the preparation of consensus draft decisions and resolutions for submission to the plenary;
- (d) And to request the Chair of the Main Committee to submit a written report on its work to the Conference at the closing session of the plenary.

Item 5: Credentials of representatives to the Conference

The composition of the Credentials Committee is as follows: Bahamas, Bhutan, Chile, China, Namibia, the Russian Federation, Spain, Sierra Leone, and Sweden.

Item 6: Appointment of the Director General

The Conference decided to appoint the Director General by acclamation. The President signed the contract of the appointment with the Director General, after which the Director General took the oath of office and delivered a statement.

A congratulatory statement was made by Mr. LI Yong, outgoing Director General of UNIDO.

With the President in the Chair, congratulatory statements were made by the representatives of Lebanon, Belarus, Uruguay, Austria, Kenya, Costa Rica (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), Algeria (on behalf of the African Group), Cyprus (on behalf of the Western European and Other States Group), Peru (on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean Countries), the European Union and its Member States, Cambodia, Japan, Germany, Italy, Hungary, Namibia, Panama, India, Sri Lanka, Turkey, Pakistan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Iraq, Bangladesh, Qatar, the State of Palestine (on behalf of the League of Arab States), Costa Rica, Poland, the United Arab Emirates, Israel, Afghanistan, Ghana, the Philippines, Cyprus, Peru, Egypt, Mexico, the United Republic of Tanzania, Nigeria, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), the Dominican Republic, Armenia, Malaysia, Morocco, Guatemala, Angola, Ireland, the Russian Federation, Barbados, Switzerland, Spain, Oman, the Republic of Korea, Burkina Faso, Paraguay, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Senegal, Algeria, Tunisia, the State of Palestine, Indonesia, South Africa, the United States of America, and the International Network for Bamboo and Rattan (INBAR).

4th PLENARY MEETING

Item 10: Fourth Donor Meeting

The event, which consisted of a panel discussion under the theme “Scaling up impact through innovative partnerships”, was moderated by Ms. Bethany Bell.

An opening statement was delivered by Mr. LI Yong, Director General of UNIDO.

The event’s panelists were Mr. Martin Saladin, Head of Operations at the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs, (SECO) Switzerland; Mr. Stefano Dotto, Head of Sector for Climate Change, Energy, Environment and Transport within the Regional Programmes Neighbourhood South in the Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations of the European Commission; H.E. Mr. Norio Maruyama, Ambassador of Japan to South Africa; Mr. Alberto Giani, Italian Agency for Development Cooperation's field office in Maputo, Team Leader for Agriculture, Food Security and Rural Development; and Ms. Jessica Magnusson, Senior Advisor at the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida).

Closing remarks were delivered by Mr. Hiroshi Kuniyoshi, Deputy to the Director General of UNIDO.

General debate – Items 8 to 29

With the President in the Chair, statements were made by Mozambique, Yemen, Italy, Belarus, the Dominican Republic, Venezuela (Bolivian Republic of), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Guatemala, Hungary, the United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, the Philippines, Algeria (on behalf of the African Group), Costa Rica (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), the European Union and its Member States, Japan, the Russian Federation, Germany, Finland, Norway, Ecuador, Panama, and India.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Format of the session

The nineteenth session of the General Conference is held in a hybrid format involving both in-person and virtual participation. In addition to attending in person, registered delegates may also attend virtually on the Interprefy online platform.

For health and safety reasons, the Secretariat strongly encourages Permanent Missions to promote the virtual participation of as many delegates as possible, including through the public live stream, in addition to discouraging international travel at this point.

In-person participants: To access the venue, delegates need to present their personalized badge (to be obtained at the Pass Office) in addition to the floating badge (to be obtained at the entrance of the Plenary Hall – M-building, 1st floor – for participants attending the plenary meetings, and at the entrance of the Board Room D – C-building, 4th floor – for participants attending the Main Committee). Access will not be permitted upon presentation of regular VIC access cards.

For in-person participation in the General Conference, in compliance with the guidance issued by the Vienna International Centre Crisis Management team, the following measures are considered mandatory and will be enforced:

- By swiping their Vienna International Centre grounds pass/conference access badge, those entering the Vienna International Centre confirm they are carrying proof of compliance with the “2.5G” rule (vaccinated, recovered or a valid PCR test).
- Participants in meetings of more than 25 people – which includes the General Conference’s plenary and main committee meetings - **must show** proof of a valid PCR test not older than 48 hours, **also if they are vaccinated or recovered**.

Should participants not be able to present the required certificate, they will be denied access to the conference room.

Virtual participants: The Interprefy log-in link will be circulated only to those participants registered for the session. When accessing the platform, please enter your name in the following format: [COUNTRY/ORGANIZATION] LAST NAME, first name.

Furthermore, and as the General Conference is an open session, additional participants may follow the plenary sessions on the UNIDO website where the session will be streamed live (<https://www.unido.org/19th-general-conference>).

Written copies of statements

Statements submitted to the Secretariat of the Policymaking Organs will be published on the UNIDO website (www.unido.org/gc/19) and the Extranet (www.unido.org/extranet – login required) unless clear instructions are given by the submitting delegation that they should not be made available online.

Pre-recorded video statements

Delegations can also submit pre-recorded video statements to the session. Delegations wishing to do so are requested to notify the Secretariat via email to pmo@unido.org.

Conference coverage on the Internet

In line with decision IDB.46/Dec.3 (e), written summary records are replaced with digital recordings. The sound recordings will be made of the meetings of the plenary and sessional bodies as appropriate. The sound recordings will be made available in all official languages on the UNIDO Extranet (<http://extranet.unido.org> – login required). The recordings will also be available through the VIC Online Services (<http://myconference.unov.org>).

The VIC Online Services will also allow participants convenient access to documentation and information for participants regarding facilities and services available in the VIC. The application can be accessed from participants’ mobile devices such as smart phones and tablet PCs at the following address: <http://myconference.unov.org>.

Forum on industrial development issues and thematic events

The eighth UNIDO Forum on Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development (ISID), the UNIDO Donor Meeting, and the launch of the Industrial Development Report 2022 will be held in the plenary and constitute this year's forum on industrial development issues.

Furthermore, a restricted number of additional events will provide a unique and interactive platform for an inclusive discussion and exchange of ideas and information between high-level development policy experts, private sector, academia and leading development partners:

UNIDO's contribution to the International Year of Creative Economy for Sustainable Development 2021²

In 2019, the 74th session of the United Nations General Assembly declared 2021 the International Year of Creative Economy for Sustainable Development (A/RES/74/198). The resolution identified the ongoing need to support developing countries and countries with economies in transition in diversifying production and exports, including in new sustainable growth areas, including creative industries.

The creative economy is one of the most rapidly growing sectors at a global level and is highly dynamic in terms of income-generation, job creation and export earnings. UNIDO supports the development of creative industries in vulnerable rural communities to accelerate inclusion and economic integration, thereby contributing to improved livelihoods

Every region, community and country has a unique cultural heritage. UNIDO works to put cultural heritage at the centre of local economic development strategies, combining traditional cultural heritage with modern design and innovative approaches to develop novel products for regional and international markets.

The objective of the event is to raise awareness of GC.19 participants regarding the end of the year celebration on the year of the creative economy, and demonstrate that UNIDO, through its activities, is actively contributing to achieving the resolution.

Date and time: Wednesday, 1 December 2021, 8.20–9.20 a.m.

Venue: Plenary Hall (M-building, 1st floor)

This event will also be accessible online through Zoom [\[link\]](#)

The post-pandemic world will be digital: implications of the 4IR for developing countries³

Together with inputs from technology partners, UNIDO this event invites 4IR experts to promote discussion and dialogue on how developing countries can effectively and efficiently transition to the 4IR model.

¹ More details available at the following link: <https://www.unido.org/fifth-donor-meeting>.

² More details available at the following link: <https://www.unido.org/unidos-contribution-international-year-creative-economy-sustainable-development-2021>.

³ More details available at the following link: <https://www.unido.org/post-pandemic-world-will-be-digital-implications-4ir-developing-countries>.

The session will feature a number of video segments, taking stock of the state-of-the-art technologies and business models associated with the 4IR. These segments will be followed by two moderated fireside chats, featuring high level participants, on the actionable steps that developing countries should consider in a post-COVID scenario to catalyse their digital transformation and strengthen the outputs of their manufacturing sectors.

Expected Results:

- Provision of roadmap/action agenda to implement the recommendation presented in IDR 2020 and promote alignment with MTPF 2022–2025.
- Production of an issue paper on the niche role of UNIDO in facilitating the digital transformation across key sectors in Member States.

Main Output Expected:

- Provision of inputs/recommendations for development and implementation of 4IR Strategic Framework
- Development of background papers on the state of the art policies for application of frontier technologies applied to SMEs in developing countries.
- Development of Technology Foresight papers for least developed and middle-income countries.

Date and time: Wednesday, 1 December 2021, 1.50–2.50 p.m.

Venue: Plenary Hall (M-building, 1st floor)

This event will also be accessible online through Zoom [\[link\]](#)

Launch of the Industrial Development Report 2022⁴

The COVID-19 pandemic has shaken the global economy in a way no other crisis has in recent history and might revert years of progress towards achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The impact of the crisis, however, has not been the same across all countries. While some countries have been hit particularly hard by the pandemic, reporting extremely high COVID-19 mortality rates (per million), others have managed to keep the number of deaths associated with the virus relatively low. By the same token, the deceleration in economic activity throughout 2020 and 2021 has been heterogeneous across countries and regions.

Why have some countries weathered this crisis better than others? And what lessons can be gleaned from these countries for the future of industrialization? The IDR 2022 seeks to answer these two guiding questions. During the launch event of the report, the main findings and messages will be presented and then discussed with a panel of prominent experts on the field of industrial development. The event aims to help stimulate thinking on future courses of action to build back better from the crisis in terms of policymaking, development practices, research and advocacy.

Date and time: Wednesday, 1 December 2021, 3–4.30 p.m.

Venue: Plenary Hall (M-building, 1st floor)

This event will also be accessible online through the Interpretify platform.

New forms of investments as drivers for a sustained post-COVID 19 recovery⁵

The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic and the social and its economic ripple effects across the globe have not facilitated the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and has dampened global production which had particularly impacted the operations of developing countries' SMEs. The pandemic coincides with the fourth industrial revolution (4IR) that leaves SMEs struggling to usher in a long-term digital shift, as they often lack the knowledge, financial support and a qualified workforce.

It is in this context that a fundamentally new approach is required on how developing countries define their investment promotion and facilitation efforts to better cater to the needs of new investor groups, particularly impact investors and “quality” foreign direct investments (FDI) and on how to link these investor groups to the local fabric of SMEs.

Impact investment presents a paradigm shift to conventional investment thinking by focusing on positive social and environmental change. Positive FDI spill-overs or the arrival of new impact investors will however

⁴ More details available at the following link: <https://www.unido.org/launch-industrial-development-report-2022>.

⁵ More details available at the following link: <https://www.unido.org/new-forms-investments-drivers-sustained-post-covid-19-recovery>.

not come automatic without efforts but it requires ongoing interventions by the relevant investment promotion stakeholders in the developing countries' hosting economies.

Date and time: Thursday, 2 December 2021, 8.20–9.20 a.m.

Venue: Plenary Hall (M-building, 1st floor)

This event will also be accessible online through Zoom [\[link\]](#)

Revival of industry policy – prospect for establishing a global industrial policy forum for multilateral policy learning and knowledge sharing⁶

This event will discuss the importance of industrial policy and of building policymaking capacity in attaining the SDGs. The event deliberates on UNIDO's response, namely, the proposal to create an industrial policy forum to facilitate multilateral dialogue on industrial policymaking and knowledge sharing to foster industrial development. The proposal for the forum acknowledges the revival of industrial policy, and its potential role as a driver of prosperity and resilience in a post-pandemic world.

Industrial policy can help countries, particularly developing ones, achieving inclusive and sustainable industrial development. While evidence needed to inform policy formulation processes is still scarce, most approaches build on case-specificity. Knowledge-sharing and innovative mechanisms to build capacities among policymakers should foster the contribution of industrial development as the driver of economic transformation.

Participants at the event are invited to deliberate on how an industrial policy forum can address the need for best practices and new approaches to industrial policy formulation, design and implementation in developing countries, given challenges and megatrends such as the pandemic, digitalization, greening of the economy and climate change.

Date and time: Thursday, 2 December 2021, 1.50–2.50 p.m.

Venue: Plenary Hall (M-building, 1st floor)

This event will also be accessible online through Zoom [\[link\]](#)

Accelerating climate impact for Member States through inclusive and sustainable industrial development (ISID)⁷

UNIDO is uniquely positioned within the United Nations to develop and implement industrial practices that support climate-neutral and climate-resilient development pathways. Its work is vital to delivering on Member State Nationally Determined Contributions and meeting the objectives of the Paris Agreement, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and associated mid-century net-zero objectives.

In this context, the nineteenth session of the General Conference will consider a decision to develop a strategic framework to guide UNIDO's climate-related activities and mainstream climate best practice across the operations of the organization.

This event will feature a high-level panel of external experts and Member State leadership, which will discuss the climate change landscape following COP26 and the role that low-carbon and resilient industrial development can play in meeting the objectives of the Paris Agreement and charting a path towards carbon neutrality.

Date and time: Friday, 3 December 2021, 8.20–9.20 a.m.

Venue: Plenary Hall (M-building, 1st floor)

This event will also be accessible online through Zoom [\[link\]](#)

⁶ More details available at the following link: <https://www.unido.org/revival-industrial-policy-prospects-establishing-global-industrial-policy-forum-multilateral-policy-learning-and-knowledge-sharing>.

⁷ More details available at the following link: <https://www.unido.org/accelerating-climate-impact-member-states-through-inclusive-and-sustainable-industrial-development-isid>.