



UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

Journal

GENERAL CONFERENCE

No. 4

Nineteenth session

Vienna, 29 November–3 December 2021

SCHEDULE 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(d): Appointment of an External Auditor	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 Membership to PBC and IDB	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

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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

Wednesday, 1 December 2021

Thematic event: UNIDO's contribution to the International Year of Creative Economy for Sustainable Development 2021

The event was moderated by Ms. Margaret Childs.

Opening remarks were made by Ms. Carlota Sans, Creative Industries Expert of the Agro-Industries and Skills Development Division of UNIDO.

The event's panelists were H.E. Mr. Sadati Nejad Seyyed Javad, Minister of Agriculture of the Islamic Republic of Iran; Mr. Abdul Walid Attakhi, Student, Software design expert, Refugee of Afghan descent, IUBH University; Ms. Laurence Pia Toutou, Founder and Creator of La Liste Tunisienne; Mr. Nizar Hani, Director of Shouf Biosphere; Ms. Lina Sarkis, Development Coordinator of Shouf Biosphere; Ms. Saten Khoshoyan, Deputy CEO of Melante LLC; and Mr. Gerhard Hrebicek, President of the European Brand Institute (EBI).

Closing remarks were made by Mr. Bernardo Calzadilla-Sarmiento, Managing Director of Digitalization, Technology and AgriBusiness of UNIDO.

5th PLENARY MEETING

General debate: Item 8 to 29

With the Vice-President in the Chair, congratulatory statements were made by the representatives of Zimbabwe, Kenya, Oman, the Syrian Arab Republic, Sri Lanka, Turkey, Pakistan, Iraq, Colombia, Qatar, the State of Palestine (on behalf of the League of Arab States), Costa Rica, Spain, Slovenia, Jordan, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Thailand, Afghanistan, Chile, Peru, Myanmar, Egypt, Mexico, the United Republic of Tanzania, Nigeria, Togo, Poland, South Africa, Ghana, Nepal, the Republic of Korea, Burkina Faso, and Argentina.

Thematic event: The post-pandemic world will be digital: implications of 4IR for developing countries.

The event was moderated by Ms. Margaret Childs.

Opening remarks were made by Mr. Bernardo Calzadilla-Sarmiento, Managing Director of Digitalization, Technology and AgriBusiness of UNIDO.

The event's panelists were Ms. Inma Martinez, member of the Advisory Council, Secretary for Artificial Intelligence, Ministry of Economy and Digital Transformation of Spain; Mr. Santiago Pinzon Galan, Vice President of Digital Transformation of the National Business Association of Colombia (ANDI); and Mr. Jernej Salecl, Director General of Internationalisation, Entrepreneurship and Technology of the Ministry of Economic Development and Technology of Slovenia.

Closing remarks were made by Mr. Bernardo Calzadilla-Sarmiento, Managing Director of Digitalization, Technology and AgriBusiness of UNIDO.

6th PLENARY MEETING**Item 10: Launch of the Industrial Development Report 2022**

The event was moderated by Ms. Bethany Bell from the BBC.

Opening remarks were made by Mr. LI Yong, Director General of UNIDO.

A presentation of the main findings and messages of the Industrial Development Report 2022 as made by Mr. Hiroshi Kuniyoshi, Deputy to the Director General of UNIDO.

The event's panelists were H.E. Ms. Victoria Hernández Mora, Minister of Economy, Industry and Commerce of the Republic of Costa Rica; Ms. Xiaolan Fu, Founding Director of the Technology and Management Centre for Development, University of Oxford; and Mr. Jeffrey Sachs, President of the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network.

General debate – Items 8 to 29

With the Vice-President in the Chair, statements were made by the representatives of Austria, Lesotho, Senegal, Algeria, Tunisia, Sweden, Kuwait, Indonesia, Armenia, Madagascar, Cuba, and Azerbaijan.

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:

*New forms of investments as drivers for a sustained post-COVID 19 recovery*⁵

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 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 sharing

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)*²

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.

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

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>.

