

UNIDO – 19th General Conference

Agenda item 6: Appointment of the Director General

Statement by H.E. Dr. Götz Schmidt-Bremme,

Permanent Representative,

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary

of the Federal Republic of Germany

Vienna, 30 November 2021

Excellencies,

Colleagues,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In this round of congratulatory statements, a short contribution from Germany may also be well-placed: The German delegation feels honoured that the candidacy of Dr Gerd Müller for the position of the next Director General of UNIDO has been successful. We feel honoured by the trust placed in our candidate by so many delegations, and by the consensus reached among all UNIDO Member States. I am confident that he will not disappoint that trust. Gerd Müller will be a Director General for all Member States. He will lead UNIDO in a spirit of cooperation, dialogue, mutual respect, participation, and innovation. If I may cite a traditional saying from East Africa at this opportunity: “Don’t break the pot that holds you together!”

We won’t break the pot that holds us together.

And Gerd Müller will build upon the accomplishments of the outgoing Director General, Li Yong, to whom we all owe a great deal.

Germany wishes that, over the coming years, UNIDO will become a strong global promoter,— for inclusive and sustainable industrial development in the spirit of SDG 9, for the creation of decent jobs, for an environmentally sound and energy-saving industrial production, for the de-celeration of climate change, for enhanced cooperation with the private sector and as well as with other organizations, and for building back better from the COVID-19 pandemic. And we wish that UNIDO will also aim to set new standards and ambitions in the world.

Thank you.