Candidatures for the appointment of an External Auditor

Report by the Director-General

1. The General Conference, in its decision GC.11/Dec.16, decided to extend the appointment of the Auditor-General of South Africa as the External Auditor of UNIDO for a period of two years, from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2008, under the terms of reference specified in the Financial Regulations of UNIDO.

2. General Conference decision GC.6/Dec.18 requests the Director-General to invite proposals from Member States for the appointment of an External Auditor and to submit such proposals to the Programme and Budget Committee for consideration. In compliance with that decision, a note verbale dated 15 January 2007 was sent to Member States in which they were invited to inform the Director-General by 21 February 2007 of their interest in providing the services of an External Auditor, with a view to submitting such proposals to the Programme and Budget Committee at its twenty-third session, to be held from 2 to 4 May 2007.

3. As of 21 February 2007, the following candidatures had been received for the appointment of an External Auditor:

   - Mr. Josef Moser  
     President of the Austrian Court of Audit
   - Mr. Muhammad Yunis Khan  
     Auditor General of Pakistan
   - Sir John Bourn  
     Comptroller and Auditor General of the United Kingdom National Audit Office

4. All candidates completed the standardized form “Proposal for appointment of External Auditor”. The compilation of replies received will be brought to the attention of the Committee for its consideration in a conference room paper to be distributed prior to the session, thus facilitating the decision-making process.
5. An information note dated 23 February 2007 was circulated to Permanent Missions, together with copies of the relevant communications concerning the candidatures, which are also reproduced in the annex to the present document.

**Action required of the Committee**

6. The Committee may wish to propose to the Industrial Development Board that it recommend to the General Conference the appointment of one of the candidates as External Auditor for UNIDO for a period of two years beginning 1 July 2008. The appointment would fall under the terms of reference specified in article XI (and annex) of the Financial Regulations of UNIDO. The travel and other costs related to the work of the External Auditor are to be borne by the UNIDO regular budget for which a fixed fee, as approved in the programme and budgets, is foreseen.
Annex

Communications concerning candidatures for the appointment of an External Auditor by 21 February 2007

A. Communication concerning the candidature of Mr. Josef Moser, President of the Austrian Court of Audit

Permanent Mission of Austria to the United Nations (Vienna), IAEA, UNIDO and CTBTO (PrepCom)

Andromeda- Tower, 11th fl., Donau-City-Str. 6, 1220 Vienna; Tel.: 263 72 91; Fax: 05 01159 216; e-Mail: owvien@bmaa.gv.at


The Permanent Mission of Austria presents its compliments to the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and with reference to information note No. 1 of 9 January 2007 has the honour to forward a proposal for the appointment of the external auditor of UNIDO by Dr. Josef Moser, President of the Austrian Court of Audit (ACA) and Secretary General of the International Organization of the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI), for consideration by the forthcoming PBC.

The Permanent Mission of Austria avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the United Nations Industrial Development Organization the assurances of its highest consideration.

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To the
United Nations International Development Organization
Vienna International Centre
Vienna
Fax : 26026/69

B. Communication concerning the candidature of Mr. Muhammad Yunis Khan, Auditor General of Pakistan

Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the International Organizations Vienna

No. UNIDO-2/PakUNIDO/2006 20 February 2007

The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in Vienna presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), and with reference to their note No. CU 2007/01 dated 15 January 2007 has the honour to inform that the Government of Pakistan has decided to offer the services of Mr. Muhammad Yunis Khan, Auditor General of
Pakistan, as the External Auditor of UNIDO for the two year term starting from 1 July 2008.

Mr. Muhammad Yunis Khan took oath of the office of the Auditor General of Pakistan on 20 July 2002. Mr. Khan has to his credit a rich and varied experience in public financial management and administration. He joined the Pakistan Audit and Accounts Service in 1966. After thirty-six years of meritorious service, he was appointed the Auditor General of Pakistan. He has been on the panel of the external auditors of the UN, the Finance Secretary to the Government of the North West Frontier Province of Pakistan, and the Vice-Chairman of the Export Promotion Bureau of Pakistan. Immediately before his appointment as the Auditor General of Pakistan, he was serving as Finance Secretary to the Government of Pakistan.

The Auditor General’s organization is the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) in the country for ensuring public accountability and fiscal transparency in governmental operations. In his present capacity as the Auditor General of Pakistan, the mandate given to him in the Constitution of the country and supported by the subsidiary legislation enables him to develop independent and objective assessments of the process of governance, which augment the legislative oversight of the peoples’ representative on governmental organizations.

SAI Pakistan has a long history of being at the centre of public accountability. Since the independence of the country, SAI Pakistan has enjoyed a constitutional status that ensures continuity of its operations for promoting transparency in governmental operations. Over the years, SAI Pakistan has developed professional expertise in auditing in accordance with the Internationally Accepted Auditing Standards (IAAS) and the best practices as adopted for the public sector by the International Organisation for Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI).

SAI Pakistan is engaged in a wide range of operations. Financial Assurance provided by SAI of Pakistan covers a very broad range of three tiered (Federal, Provincial and District) governmental operations. Also Regularity and Compliance Audits are conducted by SAI Pakistan under roll over planning for all organizations at all tiers. Performance Audits by the organization focus on the outcomes of various projects and programmes with special emphasis on social sectors.

At the same time SAI Pakistan is not oblivious to the need for training, research and publications, which remain the main tools of the organization to keep abreast of developments in the profession. SAI Pakistan is an equal opportunity employer and has a core of over 700 audit professionals who are recruited from different fields and are converted into audit and accounts professional under a rigorous conversion training program. SAI Pakistan has a large number of officers who have specialized in various disciplines from universities in the US, UK, the Netherlands, Australia and Sweden.

At the international level, SAI Pakistan has the distinction of serving on the Board of the UN Auditors for 15 years (1961-1976). After successfully completing the three years term for 2003-2005, recently it has been re-appointed as the External Auditor of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) for the term 2006-2008. Earlier SAI Pakistan was the External Auditor of the Preparatory Commission of OPCW for four years. It also has the experience of auditing regional organizations like South Asian Association for Regional
Cooperation (SAARC), Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) and Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO).

SAI Pakistan is an active member of the International Organisation of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI), Asian Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (ASOSAI), Economic Cooperation Organization Supreme Audit Institutions (ECOSAI), International Consortium on Governmental Financial Management (ICGFM), International Symposium on Audit Research (ISAR) and its personnel have served on various committees of these bodies. At present SAI Pakistan is represented on the Capacity Building, the IT Audit and the Environmental Audit Committees of the INTOSAL.

Foregoing in view the Government of Pakistan believes that its offer for undertaking the services of the External Auditor of UNIDO by Mr. Muhammad Yunis Khan will meet the approval of all the member states.

The detailed performa will be submitted shortly.

The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the esteemed Secretariat the assurances of its highest consideration.

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The Secretariat of United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
(Kind Attention: Mr. Kandeh K. Yumkella, Director-General)
Vienna International Centre
P.O. Box. 300, A-1400, Vienna
Fax No. 0043-1-26026-6874

C. Communication concerning the candidature of Sir John Bourn, Comptroller and Auditor General of the United Kingdom National Audit Office

Note Verbale: 11/07

The Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland presents its compliments to the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and makes reference to CU 2007/01 regarding nominations for the position of External Auditor. The Permanent Mission has the honour to transmit the application of Sir John Bourn, Comptroller and Auditor General of the United Kingdom National Audit Office. This application has the full support of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

The Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland requests that the nomination be transmitted to all the United Nations Industrial Development Organization member states for their consideration.
The Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the United Nations Industrial Development Organization the assurances of its highest consideration.

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[Stamp of the Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Vienna, Austria]

United Kingdom Mission
Vienna
21 February 2007