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GENERAL CONFERENCE

DECISIONS AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

Twelfth regular session
Vienna, Austria
3-7 December 2007

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* All decisions were adopted by consensus. Discussions related to the adoption of the decisions are reflected in the summary records cited in the present contents.

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* All resolutions were adopted by consensus. Discussions related to the adoption of the resolutions are reflected in the summary records cited in the present contents.

Introductory note

1. The decisions and resolutions adopted by the General Conference at its twelfth regular session (2007) are reproduced in the present document.
2. The table of contents, for ease of reference, lists a serial number by which each decision or resolution may be cited, the title of each decision and resolution, the pertinent background document(s), a reference to the summary record of the plenary meeting at which the decision or resolution was adopted and the relevant agenda item. Decisions and resolutions are, as far as possible, set out in the order of the agenda.
3. The present document should be read in conjunction with the summary records of the General Conference, where details of the proceedings are provided.

AGENDA OF THE TWELFTH REGULAR SESSION

1. Opening of the session.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda.
4. Organization of work.
5. Credentials of representatives to the Conference.
6. Elections to organs:
 - (a) Industrial Development Board;
 - (b) Programme and Budget Committee.
7. Annual reports of the Director-General on the activities of the Organization for 2005 and 2006.
8. Reports of the Industrial Development Board on the work of its thirty-first, thirty-second and thirty-third regular sessions.
9. Forum on industrial development issues.
10. Financial matters:
 - (a) Scale of assessments of Member States;
 - (b) Financial situation of UNIDO;
 - (c) Working Capital Fund;
 - (d) Accounting standards;
 - (e) Appointment of an External Auditor.
11. Implementation of the medium-term programme framework, 2006-2009, including:
 - (a) South-South cooperation;
 - (b) Regional programme for Latin America and the Caribbean;
 - (c) UNIDO access to the Global Environment Facility.
12. Medium-term programme framework, 2008-2011.
13. Programme and budgets, 2008-2009.
14. Implementation of the Cooperation Agreement with the United Nations Development Programme.
15. Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management.
16. UNIDO Staff Pension Committee.
17. Matters related to intergovernmental, non-governmental, governmental and other organizations.
18. Date and place of the thirteenth session.
19. Closure of the session.

DECISIONS

GC.12/Dec.1 ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT

The General Conference elected by acclamation H.E. Mr. Omar Zniber (Morocco) President of the Conference at its twelfth session.

*1st plenary meeting
3 December 2007*

GC.12/Dec.2 ELECTION OF THE VICE-PRESIDENTS

The General Conference elected the following Vice-Presidents of the Conference at its twelfth session: H.E. Mr. Pablo Guzman (Bolivia), H.E. Mr. Edin Dilberović (Bosnia and Herzegovina), H.E. Mr. François-Xavier Deniau (France), H.E. Mr. Yusupha Kah (Gambia), H.E. Mr. Klaus-Peter Gottwald (Germany), H.E. Mr. Luis Alberto Padilla Menéndez (Guatemala), H.E. Mr. Sheel Kant Sharma (India), H.E. Mr. Ishaya El Khoury (Lebanon) and H.E. Mr. Alexander Yakovenko (Russian Federation).

*1st plenary meeting
3 December 2007*

GC.12/Dec.3 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The General Conference:

(a) Decided to suspend rule 42 of its rules of procedure for the first day of the Conference only, paragraph 1 (a) of which covers functions of the General Committee with regard to the adoption of the agenda;

(b) Adopted the agenda of its twelfth session as contained in document GC.12/1.

*2nd plenary meeting
3 December 2007*

GC.12/Dec.4 ORGANIZATION OF WORK

The General Conference:

(a) Decided to cover agenda items 7 to 18 in the plenary in the form of a general debate;

(b) Also decided to establish, in accordance with rule 44 of its rules of procedure, one Main Committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. Ole Lundby (Norway) on which each Member participating in the Conference may be represented;

(c) Further decided to refer agenda items 7 to 18 to the Main Committee for a more focused debate aimed at the preparation of consensus draft decisions and resolutions for submission to the plenary and requested the Chairman of the Main Committee to submit to the Conference on 7 December 2007, a written report on its work in accordance with decision GC.3/Dec.11.

*3rd plenary meeting
4 December 2007*

GC.12/Dec.5 APPOINTMENT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

The General Conference appointed the following Members to serve on the Credentials Committee: Angola, Chile, China, Dominican Republic, Indonesia, Namibia, Russian Federation, Switzerland and Turkey.

*3rd plenary meeting
4 December 2007*

GC.12/Dec.6 CREDENTIALS OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TWELFTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

The General Conference:

(a) Having considered the report of the Credentials Committee and the recommendation contained therein;

(b) Approved the report of the Credentials Committee.

*7th plenary meeting
6 December 2007*

GC.12/Dec.7 ELECTION OF TWENTY-SIX MEMBERS TO THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD

The General Conference, in pursuance of Article 9.1 of the Constitution, elected the following twenty-six members to the Industrial Development Board to hold office until the close of the fourteenth session of the Conference in 2011:

(a) Fifteen members from States in List A and C of Annex I to the Constitution: China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Ghana, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mexico, Morocco, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of

Korea, South Africa, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic and Tunisia;

(b) Eight members from States in List B of Annex I to the Constitution: Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Norway, Sweden and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

(c) Three members from States in List D of Annex I to the Constitution: Hungary, Poland and Romania.

*9th plenary meeting
7 December 2007*

As a result, the Industrial Development Board is composed of the following States: Afghanistan*, Algeria*, Austria*, Belgium**, Bolivia*, Burkina Faso*, China**, Colombia**, Costa Rica**, Côte d'Ivoire*, Cuba*, Czech Republic*, Ecuador**, Egypt*, Ethiopia*, France**, Germany**, Ghana**, Greece*, Guatemala*, Hungary**, India*, Iran (Islamic Republic of)*, Ireland*, Italy**, Japan**, Kenya*, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya**, Luxembourg*, Mexico**, Morocco**, Nigeria*, Norway**, Pakistan**, Paraguay*, Philippines**, Poland**, Republic of Korea**, Romania**, Russian Federation*, Saudi Arabia*, South Africa**, Spain*, Sri Lanka*, Sudan**, Sweden**, Switzerland*, Syrian Arab Republic**, Thailand*, Tunisia**, Turkey*, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland**, Uruguay*.

* Twenty-seven States whose term of office expires at the close of the thirteenth regular session of the General Conference, in 2009.

** Twenty-six States whose term of office expires at the end of the fourteenth regular session of the General Conference, in 2011.

GC.12/Dec.8 ELECTION OF TWENTY-SEVEN MEMBERS TO THE PROGRAMME AND BUDGET COMMITTEE

The General Conference, in pursuance of Article 10.1 of the Constitution, elected the following twenty-seven members of the Programme and Budget Committee to hold office until the close of the thirteenth regular session of the Conference in 2009:

(a) Fifteen members from States in List A and C of Annex I to the Constitution: Algeria, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ecuador, India, Indonesia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mexico, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, South Africa, Sudan and Tunisia;

(b) Nine members from States in List B of Annex I to the Constitution: Austria, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Norway, Switzerland, Turkey and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

(c) Three members from States in List D of Annex I to the Constitution: Poland, Russian Federation and Ukraine.

*9th plenary meeting
7 December 2007*

GC.12/Dec.9 SCALE OF ASSESSMENTS OF MEMBER STATES

The General Conference:

(a) Took note of the information in document IDB.33/3;

(b) Also took note of Board decision IDB.33/Dec.3;

(c) Decided to establish a scale of assessments for the regular budget expenditures of UNIDO for the fiscal period 2008-2009, based on United Nations General Assembly resolution 61/237, adjusted to the membership of UNIDO on the understanding that new Members shall be assessed for the year in which they become Members on the basis of the United Nations scale of assessments, as applicable to UNIDO.

*9th plenary meeting
7 December 2007*

GC.12/Dec.10 FINANCIAL SITUATION OF UNIDO

The General Conference:

(a) Took note of the information provided in document GC.12/6;

(b) Urged those Member States and former Member States that had not yet paid their assessed contributions, including advances to the Working Capital Fund and prior years' arrears, to do so without further delay;

(c) Encouraged other Member States with long-outstanding arrears to consider entering into payment plan agreements to steadily reduce their outstanding assessed contributions;

(d) Further encouraged Member States to consider voluntarily renouncing their share of the unencumbered balances of appropriations to support UNIDO activities in areas such as:

- (i) Enhancement of field representation;
- (ii) Promoting increased coherence in its areas of work, including coordination of the United Nations Energy Group;
- (iii) Youth employment in productive activities;
- (iv) Follow-up on issues arising from the Ministerial Conference of the Least Developed Countries;
- (v) South-South cooperation;
- (vi) Regional programmes;
- (vii) Any other purpose to be specified by the Member States;

Requested Member States willing to do so to inform the Secretariat by 30 April 2008 of their preferred choice. Should no information be received by that date, the respective share will be credited to the Member State's assessed contributions;

(e) Requested the Director-General to pursue his efforts and contacts with Member States and former Member States to effect the collection of arrears;

(f) Requested the Director-General to report to the Industrial Development Board at its thirty-fourth session on the amounts renounced by Member States.

*9th plenary meeting
7 December 2007*

GC.12/Dec.11 RESTORATION OF VOTING RIGHTS – COSTA RICA

The General Conference:

(a) Took note of the information provided in document GC.12/14;

(b) Welcomed the commitment of Costa Rica to settle its arrears through a payment plan agreement and encouraged Costa Rica to pay regularly its instalments in line with the conditions therein;

(c) Gave satisfaction to the request by Costa Rica for the restoration of its voting rights in accordance with Article 5.2 of the UNIDO Constitution.

*7th plenary meeting
6 December 2007*

GC.12/Dec.12 PAYMENT PLAN AND RESTORATION OF VOTING RIGHTS – MOLDOVA

The General Conference:

(a) Took note of the information provided in document GC.12/13;

(b) Welcomed the commitment of Moldova to settle its arrears and decided to approve the payment plan as reported in document GC.12/13;

(c) Took note of the terms of the payment plan and encouraged Moldova to pay regularly its instalments in line with the conditions set therein;

(d) Gave satisfaction to the request by Moldova for the restoration of its voting rights in accordance with Article 5.2 of the UNIDO Constitution.

*7th plenary meeting
6 December 2007*

GC.12/Dec.13 WORKING CAPITAL FUND

The General Conference:

(a) Took note of Board decision IDB.33/Dec.4;

(b) Decided that the level of the Working Capital Fund for the biennium 2008-2009 should remain at €7,423,030 and that the authorized purposes of the Fund for the biennium 2008-2009 should remain the same as for the biennium 2006-2007, i.e. as stipulated in decision GC.2/Dec.27, paragraph (b);

(c) Urged Member States to pay their outstanding assessed contributions as soon as possible to minimize the need to withdraw sums from the Working Capital Fund to meet shortfalls in the payment of assessed contributions.

*9th plenary meeting
7 December 2007*

GC.12/Dec.14 ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

The General Conference:

(a) Took note of the recommendation of the Industrial Development Board on accounting standards as contained in decision IDB.33/Dec.5;

(b) Also took note of the information provided in documents IDB.33/5 and GC.12/11;

(c) Decided to adopt for UNIDO the International Public Sector Accounting Standards, effective 1 January 2010, as part of the United Nations system-wide adoption of those Standards.

*9th plenary meeting
7 December 2007*

GC.12/Dec.15 APPOINTMENT OF AN EXTERNAL AUDITOR

The General Conference decided to appoint the Auditor General of Pakistan as the External Auditor for UNIDO for a period of two years beginning on 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2010, under the terms of reference specified in the Financial Regulations of UNIDO.

*7th plenary meeting
6 December 2007*

GC.12/Dec.16 PROGRAMME AND BUDGETS, 2008-2009

The General Conference:

(a) Took note of decision IDB.33/Dec.6 of the Industrial Development Board;

(b) Also took note of the revised programme and budget proposals for the biennium 2008-2009 as contained in document GC.12/8;

(c) Approved estimates of gross regular budget expenditure of €159,638,038 to be financed from assessed contributions in the amount of €154,623,038 and other income of €5,015,000;

(d) Also approved estimates of gross expenditure totalling €22,759,077 for the purpose of the operational budget for the biennium 2008-2009 to be financed from support cost income in the amount of €22,139,877 and other income of €619,200 as may be provided for in the financial regulations;

(e) Noted that the one-time project expenses of the adoption of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards by UNIDO would be excluded from the base in the amount of €1,195,000, when comparing the budgets for 2010-2011 with those of 2008-2009.

*9th plenary meeting
7 December 2007*

GC.12/Dec.17 STRATEGIC APPROACH TO INTERNATIONAL CHEMICALS MANAGEMENT

The General Conference:

(a) Took note of the information provided in document IDB.33/20;

(b) Also took note of Board decision IDB.33/Dec.7;

(c) Endorsed the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management as contained in the Dubai Declaration on International Chemicals Management, the Overarching Policy Strategy and the Global Plan of Action;

(d) Supported the participation of UNIDO in the implementation of the Strategic Approach.

*9th plenary meeting
7 December 2007*

GC.12/Dec.18 UNIDO STAFF PENSION COMMITTEE

The General Conference:

(a) Took note of Board decision IDB.33/Dec.8;

(b) Decided to elect the following two members and two alternate members of the UNIDO Staff Pension Committee for the biennium 2008-2009:

Members:	Mr. David Best	(Switzerland)
	Ms. Gloria Polastri	(Ecuador)
Alternate members:	Mr. Andrew Mogadingwane	(South Africa)
	Mr. Bilal Kabalan	(Lebanon)

(c) Authorized the Industrial Development Board to proceed with the election for any of the above-mentioned posts that might become vacant before the General Conference holds its thirteenth session.

*9th plenary meeting
7 December 2007*

GC.12/Dec.19 DATE AND PLACE OF THE THIRTEENTH SESSION

The General Conference:

(a) Noted that the thirteenth session of the Conference had been tentatively scheduled for 7-11 December 2009 in Vienna, as stated in the annotated agenda (GC.12/1/Add.1);

(b) Acknowledged the tentative interest of some Member States to host the thirteenth session of the Conference;

(c) Requested the Director-General to undertake the necessary consultations with interested Member States, with particular regard to rule 8 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference;

(d) Delegated to the Industrial Development Board, in accordance with Article 8 (2) (b) and Article 8 (4) of the Constitution of UNIDO, the authority to consider and determine at its thirty-fourth session the venue and date of the thirteenth session of the General Conference.

*9th plenary meeting
7 December 2007*

RESOLUTIONS

GC.12/Res.1 REGIONAL PROGRAMME FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

The General Conference,

Recalling resolution GC.11/Res.1, entitled “Regional programme for Latin America and the Caribbean”, in which the Director-General was requested to establish a regional programme for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recognizing the joint work that has been carried out to date by Member States and the Secretariat with the aim of defining that regional programme and, in particular, the conclusions set out in the adopted document of the Latin America and the Caribbean Second Expert Group Meeting, held in Vienna from 28 to 30 November 2007,

Considering that resolution GC.11/Res.1 requested inter alia the Secretariat of UNIDO to identify and mobilize financial resources which would permit the implementation of the regional programme for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Requests the Director-General:

(a) To adopt the necessary measures so that the activities in execution of the regional programme for Latin America and the Caribbean are duly reflected in the medium-term programme framework, 2008-2011, in order to sustain the work initiated;

(b) To continue his efforts, in consultation with the Member States of the region, to identify and mobilize additional voluntary financial resources required for its full implementation, at the same time calling upon the international community to provide financial support to the programme;

(c) To keep the governing bodies of UNIDO regularly informed of action taken in pursuance of the present resolution.

*9th plenary meeting
7 December 2007*

GC.12/Res.2 VIENNA MINISTERIAL DECLARATION OF THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

The General Conference,

Taking note of the Ministerial Conference of the Least Developed Countries convened in Vienna on 29 and 30 November 2007,

Also taking note of the Vienna Ministerial Declaration of the Least Developed Countries adopted by the Ministerial Conference and contained in the annex to the present resolution,

Invites the Director-General, in implementing the medium-term programme framework, 2008-2011, to take special account of the needs of the least developed countries.

*9th plenary meeting
7 December 2007*

Annex

Vienna Ministerial Declaration of the Least Developed Countries

We, the Ministers and Heads of Delegation of the least developed countries participating in the Ministerial Conference held in Vienna, Austria on 29-30 November 2007, reiterating our commitment to strengthen the role of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in promoting the industrial development of the least developed countries as a means to accelerate their development and integration into the multilateral trading system, particularly in the context of the new opportunities being created by Aid for Trade and the Enhanced Integrated Framework,

Recalling the Declaration and Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010, adopted in Brussels in 2001,

Appreciating the particular focus by UNIDO, within its mandate, on two essential commitments of the Brussels Programme of Action:

“Commitment 4: Building productive capacities to make globalization work for LDCs;

Commitment 5: Enhancing the role of trade in development”.

Being aware of the importance that foreign trade can play in the industrialization and economic development of a least developed country, and also aware that trade is an opportunity and not a guarantee, and therefore requires policy intervention to be successful,

Recalling that within the framework of the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 8, Indicator 40 is aimed at increasing the proportion of Official Development Assistance provided to help build trade capacity,

Recalling also that the Sixth World Trade Organization Ministerial Conference, held in Hong Kong in 2005, called for the expansion of Aid for Trade to help developing countries, particularly least developed countries, to benefit from WTO agreements, expand their trade and enhance their ability to take full advantage of new trade opportunities,

Recognizing that new opportunities are being created by Aid for Trade and the Enhanced Integrated Framework,

Deeply appreciating the efforts of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to assist the least developed countries to take the path to sustainable economic development, using manufacturing as a dynamic force, and to export more value added products complying with international standards,

Declare that:

1. The Millennium Development Goals, as well as the other internationally agreed development goals, can most effectively be achieved in the least developed countries through a process that also emphasizes industrial growth, diversification and export of manufactured products.
2. The least developed countries have the primary responsibility for their own development; however, the international community and multilateral institutions can play a vital supportive role by providing them with adequate resources and technical assistance to enhance their productive capacities.
3. The commitments made in the 2005 World Summit to address the special needs of the least developed countries should be implemented fully. In this regard, all countries, the United Nations system, the Bretton Woods institutions and other organizations should make concerted efforts and adopt speedy measures to meet in a timely manner the goals and targets of the Brussels Programme of Action and the World Summit.

4. The beneficial and meaningful integration of the least developed countries into the multilateral trading system is an important objective of the Doha Development Agenda and the 2005 Sixth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization. It is vital that the LDCs be able to enter the global value chains with manufactured products and processed foods, apart from other contributions in services, with the aid of targeted technical assistance from UNIDO.

5. In order to enable the least developed countries to benefit from the opportunities of the multilateral trading system, their manufacturing supply-side needs must be addressed. This requires the enhancement of their productive capacity, as stated in Commitment 4 of the Brussels Programme of Action. This will enable the least developed countries to enhance the role of trade in their development (Commitment 5).

6. Considering the limited opportunities available to least developed countries, we call upon UNIDO to play a pioneering role in developing industrial productive capacity in those countries in a manner that ensures that products conform to acceptable international standards. Depending on the needs of specific LDCs this may, inter alia, entail efforts to develop entrepreneurship, creating an enabling business environment, developing domestic research capacity, investment facilitation, development of agro business, along with delivery of targeted technical assistance and capacity-building for developing standards, testing, certification and accreditation capabilities accepted in international markets, and integration of the local with the global value chains, lending support in finding markets.

7. Given the increasing importance of the South as a destination for least developed country exports and the potential for these countries to benefit from their increasing collaboration with the South, UNIDO should promote mutually beneficial least developed countries-South cooperation in areas within its mandate.

8. UNIDO should help least developed countries with commodity-specific interventions, wherever required by those countries, including in the development of technology, enhancing research, moving up the value chain and improving the welfare of those employed in, or dependent on, those commodities in the least developed countries. This is particularly needed for cotton.

9. The emergence of Aid for Trade, to assist least developed countries in developing their trade-related productive capacity and for meeting other trade-related needs, is a landmark development. The Enhanced Integrated Framework is a promising tool for analysis

and identification of needs in the area of trade capacity-building, and for implementation of projects identified.

10. UNIDO's core mandate is to support industrial development, including in least developed countries. Aid for Trade and the Enhanced Integrated Framework emphasize development of supply capacity and trade-related infrastructure. We call upon UNIDO to work closely with countries engaged in the Framework process and, wherever possible, to act as an implementing agency, particularly concentrating in developing industrial capacity and standards and conformity related infrastructure.

11. In enhancing productive capacity, donors should also utilize the services of UNIDO. We call upon UNIDO to create a special Trust Fund for least developed countries, and urge donors to contribute generously to the Fund.

12. UNIDO is hosting an LDC Ministerial Conference after more than a decade. Given the importance of building productive capacity, particularly manufacturing capacity which is within the mandate of UNIDO, we urge that the LDC Ministerial Conference be held at regular intervals, preferably UNIDO should consider holding it each year.

The Ministers and Heads of Delegation of the least developed countries are deeply grateful to UNIDO for hosting the Ministerial Conference and for the excellent arrangements made for it. We thank the G-77 and China for co-sponsoring this event. We also take this opportunity to thank all those who, through their participation or input, have contributed to its success.

GC.12/Res.3 RESULTS-BASED MANAGEMENT

The General Conference,

Recalling the Director-General's commitment to enhancing organizational excellence and strengthening delivery capacity both at UNIDO Headquarters and in the field,

Welcoming the introduction of results-based management principles and practices at UNIDO,

Further welcoming the establishment of the Results-based Management Steering Committee at UNIDO to carry out a baseline self-assessment of the status of results-based management implementation in UNIDO, draft a conceptual framework for further development of results-based management in the Organization, and define a time-bound results-based management implementation strategy with milestones,

Cognizant of the need to further refine and harmonize results-based management within the United Nations system,

Requests the Director-General:

(a) To continue to give priority to the comprehensive adoption of results-based management principles by UNIDO, and the full integration of results-based management approaches and methods in all spheres of its activities;

(b) To continue to provide the governing bodies with regular updates on the implementation of results-based management in UNIDO;

(c) To ensure that UNIDO continues to work with other organizations within the United Nations system to harmonize its approach to results-based management.

*9th plenary meeting
7 December 2007*

GC.12/Res.4 UNIDO ACTIVITIES IN THE PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES

The General Conference,

Recalling General Conference resolution GC.11/Res.2,

Fully aware of the severe economic and social conditions under which the Palestinian people are living in the occupied territories,

Conscious of the significance of economic growth to the generation of job creation for poverty reduction and promotion of peace and stability,

Taking note of the Palestinian Authority's successful efforts in reforming its financial system, ensuring a high level of transparency and rehabilitating its economy,

Noting with satisfaction the valuable support rendered by UNIDO to the Palestinian economy by implementing the integrated programme to develop and upgrade the Palestinian industrial sector, and in particular, the encouraging outcome of the pilot phase of this programme that started in 2000:

1. Expresses its appreciation to Member States and UNIDO for providing the funds needed to carry out the pilot phase of the programme;

2. Emphasizes the need to continue implementing in full the next phase of the programme;

3. Encourages Member States to contribute funding to the next phase of the programme;

4. Requests the Director-General to keep Member States informed of the achievements in this regard.

*9th plenary meeting
7 December 2007*

GC.12/Res.5 MANO RIVER UNION ROUND TABLE JOINT COMMUNIQUE

The General Conference,

Taking note of the Mano River Union Round Table held on 4 December 2007 during the twelfth session of the General Conference of UNIDO,

Also taking note of the Joint Communiqué agreed by the Heads of State and Senior Ministers of the Mano River Union countries and Côte d'Ivoire and other countries present at the Round Table, as contained in the annex to the present resolution,

Expresses its appreciation to the Director-General and to the Republic of Austria for having organized the Mano River Union Round Table,

Encourages UNIDO, within its mandate and where so requested, to support within the medium-term programme framework, 2008-2011, the implementation of programmes proposed in the Joint Communiqué.

*9th plenary meeting
7 December 2007*

Annex

Mano River Union Round Table

Towards sustainable peace: Empowering youth to strengthen economic resilience and human security

Joint Communiqué

The Mano River Union Round Table "*Towards sustainable peace: Empowering youth to strengthen economic resilience and human security*" was convened in Vienna, Austria, on 4 December 2007, in the context of the twelfth session of the General Conference of UNIDO.

The Round Table brought together the Heads of State and Government and Senior Ministers of the Mano River Union countries and Côte d'Ivoire, dignitaries and senior officials from other African countries,

representatives of the donor community, the private sector and civil society.

The Heads of State and Government and Senior Ministers of the Mano River Union countries and Côte d'Ivoire, and other Governments present at the Round Table, unanimously agreed that youth employment presents a major challenge and emphasized its implications for the political security of the subregion.

Progress towards political and economic stability has been achieved in the Mano River Union region (Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia) and Côte d'Ivoire.

In the wake of political stabilization and economic recovery of the region, further measures are needed to strengthen its economic, environmental and social resilience. That effort to building resilience will inevitably have to address the issue of youth employment as an explicit area for action. Even if the private sector were to attain a healthy growth rate, it would not be able to generate sufficient jobs to mop up the large pool of unemployed youth. Self-employment and youth entrepreneurship and empowerment through profitable youth-led initiatives as well as special considerations for young women will need to be accompanied by additional financial schemes to complement national youth employment schemes.

Governments in the subregion have made progress towards creating the enabling environment for addressing the issue of youth employment by way of national policies, action plans and programmes for job creation. Meeting this challenge requires concerted efforts by Governments, the international community, the private sector, youth themselves and other relevant stakeholders to generate prospects that afford a better future for young people. Those efforts need to be innovative and creative, learning from both the successes and failures of the past, and at the same time developing new approaches that unveil new opportunities.

The multi-stakeholder programme on productive and decent work for youth in the Mano River Union region was welcomed as an initial response to increasing calls for viewing youth as a potential social and economic resource for peacebuilding and stability and as an immediate strategy for addressing poor youth needs through direct programme action.

The commitment of United Nations agencies to "deliver as one" was seen as a positive initiative and the hope was expressed that the programme for youth employment in Mano River Union countries and Côte d'Ivoire could serve as an example to be extended to other countries of the West African region as well as other parts of Africa facing similar threats.

The donor community was called upon to support the multi-stakeholder programme on productive and decent work for youth in the Mano River Union and Côte d'Ivoire, which has been initiated by UNIDO, in collaboration with other United Nations agencies.

GC.12/Res.6 UNIDO'S PARTICIPATION IN UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM-WIDE COHERENCE

The General Conference,

Recalling decision IDB.31/Dec.3,

Noting the ongoing discussions on United Nations system-wide coherence and its impact in terms of enhancing UNIDO's role in helping developing countries, particularly least developed countries, as well as countries with economies in transition,

Taking into account the United Nations reform event to be hosted by UNIDO in Vienna in March 2008,

Requests the Director-General:

(a) To continue the coordination and promotion of UNIDO activities in relation to the ongoing discussions on United Nations system-wide coherence at the global, regional and country levels;

(b) To inform the governing bodies of UNIDO on the results of discussions on United Nations system-wide coherence and its implications for UNIDO;

(c) To include an item on United Nations system-wide coherence in the provisional agenda of the thirty-fourth session of the Industrial Development Board.

*9th plenary meeting
7 December 2007*

Annex

DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE
AT ITS TWELFTH REGULAR SESSION

Symbol	Agenda item	Title
GC.12/1	3	Provisional agenda
GC.12/1/Add.1	3	Annotated provisional agenda
GC.12/2	8	Report of the Industrial Development Board on the work of its thirty-first session (6-7 June 2006)
GC.12/3	8	Report of the Industrial Development Board on the work of its thirty-second session (29 November-1 December 2006)
GC.12/4	8	Report of the Industrial Development Board on the work of its thirty-third session (25-27 June 2007)
GC.12/5	4	Lists of States included in Annex I to the Constitution of UNIDO. Note by the Secretariat
GC.12/6	10 (b)	Financial situation of UNIDO. Report by the Director-General
GC.12/7	11	Implementation of medium-term programme framework, 2006-2009, including South-South cooperation, regional programme for Latin America and the Caribbean and UNIDO access to the Global Environment Facility. Report by the Director-General
GC.12/8	13	Programme and budgets, 2008-2009. Revised proposals of the Director-General
GC.12/9	14	Implementation of the Cooperation Agreement with the United Nations Development Programme. Progress report by the Director-General
GC.12/10	17	Matters related to intergovernmental, non-governmental, governmental and other organizations. Note by the Director-General
GC.12/11	10 (d)	International Public Sector Accounting Standards. Progress report by the Secretariat
GC.12/12	10 (e)	Candidatures for the appointment of an External Auditor. Note by the Secretariat
GC.12/13	10 (b)	Moldova: Proposed payment plan and request for restoration of voting rights. Note by the Director-General
GC.12/14	10 (b)	Request from Costa Rica for restoration of voting rights based on payment plan. Note by the Director-General
GC.12/15	-	Report of the Main Committee. Submitted by the Chair of the Main Committee Mr. Ole Lundby (Norway)

GC.12/L.1	5	Credentials of Representatives to the Conference. Report of the Credentials Committee

Symbol	Agenda item	Title
GC.12/L.2	10 (b)	Draft decisions submitted on behalf of the Main Committee by its Chairman
GC.12/L.2/Add.1	10 (a), 10 (b), 10 (c), 10 (d), 12, 13, 15, 16	Draft decisions and resolutions submitted on behalf of the Main Committee by its Chairman
GC.12/L.2/Add.2	12, 18	Draft decisions and resolutions submitted on behalf of the Main Committee by its Chairman

GC.12/CRP.1	10 (b)	Status of assessed contributions and unencumbered balances of appropriations. Note by the Secretariat
GC.12/CRP.2	3	List of documents. Note by the Secretariat
GC.12/CRP.3	4	Report on the results of the informal consultations of Permanent Missions in Vienna for the preparation of the General Conference. Submitted by the Acting President of the Industrial Development Board, H.E. Mr. L. A. Padilla Menéndez (Guatemala)
GC.12/CRP.4	9	Industrial development in a changing global landscape: the contribution of UNIDO. Theme paper for the Industrial Development Forum
GC.12/CRP.5	12	How can Aid for Trade transform LDCs? Prepared by the Secretariat for the Least Developed Countries Ministerial Conference
GC.12/CRP.6	12	UNIDO Contributions to United Nations system-wide coherence: An update
GC.12/CRP.7	10 (e)	Candidatures for the appointment of an External Auditor. Note by the Secretariat

GC.12/INF.1	-	Advance information for participants
GC.12/INF.2	-	Provisional list of participants
GC.12/INF.2/Rev.2	-	List of participants
GC.12/INF.3	-	Recommendations of the Arab Regional Round Table
GC.12/INF.4	-	Decisions and resolutions of the General Conference

IDB.31/2 and Add.1	7	<i>Annual Report of UNIDO 2005</i>
IDB.33/2	7	<i>Annual Report of UNIDO 2006</i>
IDB.32/8 and Add.1	12	Medium-term programme framework, 2008-2011. Proposal by the Director-General
IDB.33/20	15	Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management. Note by the Secretariat