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Report of the Industrial Development Board on the work of its thirty-first session

(6-7 June 2006)

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For reasons of economy, this document has been printed in a limited number. Delegates are kindly requested to bring their copies of documents to meetings.



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Introduction

1. The report of the Industrial Development Board on the work of its thirty-first session is presented to the General Conference in accordance with Article 9.4 (c) of the Constitution. The summary records of the Board (IDB.31/SR.1-4), where the details of the proceedings are contained, form an integral part of the present report.

I. Organizational and procedural matters

2. The thirty-first session of the Board was held at UNIDO Headquarters, Vienna International Centre, from 6 to 7 June 2006 (four plenary meetings—see IDB.31/SR.1-4).

Participation

3. The following 52 of the 53 members of the Board were represented at the session: Afghanistan, Algeria, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Czech Republic, Egypt, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Luxembourg, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Paraguay, Poland, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Zimbabwe.

4. The following 45 Member States of UNIDO also participated in the session: Angola, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Benin, Bulgaria, Cape Verde, Costa Rica, Croatia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, Gambia, Georgia, Hungary, Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lithuania, Madagascar, Malaysia, Malta, Mongolia, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Oman, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Sudan, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

5. The Sovereign Military Order of Malta participated as observer.

6. The following United Nations bodies were represented: United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

7. The following United Nations specialized agencies and related organizations were represented: Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

8. The following other intergovernmental organizations were represented: African Union, European Commission, International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB), International Institute of Refrigeration (IIR), League of Arab States (LAS), Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

9. The following non-governmental organizations were represented: Arab Federation for Food Industries (AFFI), Association of Former United Nations Industry and Development Experts (AFIDE), Austrian Senior Experts Pool (ASEP), Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce, Austro-Egyptian Chamber of Commerce,

Institut Supérieur de Gestion (ISG), International Alliance of Women (IAW), International Association ZNANIE, International Congress of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs (ICIE), International Council of Women (ICW), International Investment Center (IIC), International Organization for Standardization (ISO), Mountain Unlimited, Society of Chemical Industry (SCI), Soroptimist International, Volunteers Association for International Service (AVSI), World Association for Small and Medium Enterprises (WASME).

Opening of the session

10. The thirty-first session of the Board was declared open by the President of the thirtieth session, Mr. T. Stelzer (Austria).

Officers of the session

11. In accordance with rule 23 of the rules of procedure, the Board elected by acclamation Mr. A. A. Soltanieh (Iran, Islamic Republic of) as President; Mr. M. Skoknic Tapia (Chile); Mr. E. Koffi (Côte d'Ivoire) and Mr. O. Herasymenko (Ukraine) as Vice-Presidents; and Mr. D. Best (Switzerland) as Rapporteur.

Agenda of the session

12. The Board adopted the following agenda:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Annual report of the Director-General for 2005 on the activities of the Organization.
4. Financial situation of UNIDO.
5. Implementation of the Cooperation Agreement with the United Nations Development Programme.
6. Implementation of the medium-term programme framework, 2006-2009, including South-South cooperation.
7. Regional programme for Latin America and the Caribbean.
8. Activities of the Evaluation Group.
9. Activities of the Joint Inspection Unit.
10. Personnel matters.
11. Matters related to intergovernmental, non-governmental, governmental and other organizations.
12. Provisional agenda and date of the thirty-second session.
13. Adoption of the report.

13. The Board adopted a proposal by the President to ensure the maximum utilization of available conference-servicing resources (see annex I, decision IDB.31/Dec.1, IDB.31/SR.1, paras. 62 and 63).

14. The Board decided to set up informal, in-session consultations with the aim of facilitating the drafting of decisions and entrusted Vice-President Mr. M. Skoknic Tapia (Chile) to chair those consultations (see IDB.31/SR.2, paras. 1 and 2).

II. Annual Report of the Director-General for 2005 on the activities of the Organization (item 3); Implementation of the medium-term programme framework, 2006-2009, including South-South cooperation (item 6); Regional programme for Latin America and the Caribbean (item 7)

15. The Board decided to discuss simultaneously items 3, 6 and 7. The debate on the items is reflected in summary records IDB.31/SR.2, paras. 3 to 118 and IDB.31/SR.3, paras. 1 to 53.

A. Annual Report of the Director-General for 2005 on the activities of the Organization

16. Under item 3, the Board had before it the *Annual Report of UNIDO 2005*, including the programme performance report (IDB.31/2) and the list of technical cooperation activities (IDB.31/2/Add.1), and a note by the Secretariat on UNIDO's involvement in United Nations system-wide events (IDB.31/CRP.8). The Board considered two draft decisions submitted by the President (IDB.31/L.8 and IDB.31/L.9) and adopted decisions IDB.31/Dec.2 and IDB.31/Dec.3 (see annex I).

B. Implementation of the medium-term programme framework, 2006-2009, including South-South cooperation

17. Under item 6, the Board had before it a report by the Director-General on the implementation of the medium-term programme framework, 2006-2009 (IDB.31/6) and three notes by the Secretariat on the medium-term programme framework, 2006-2009, including South-South cooperation (IDB.31/CRP.2); on the Global Environment Facility resources for UNIDO activities (IDB.31/CRP.7); and on field reform policy (IDB.31/CRP.6) respectively. The Board considered a draft decision submitted by the President (IDB.31/L.5) and adopted decision IDB.31/Dec.4 (see annex I).

C. Regional programme for Latin America and the Caribbean

18. Under item 7, the Board had before it a report by the Director-General on the regional programme for Latin America and the Caribbean (IDB.31/5). The Board considered a draft decision submitted by the President (IDB.31/L.10) and adopted decision IDB.31/Dec.5 (see annex I).

III. Financial situation of UNIDO (item 4)

19. Under item 4, the Board had before it a report by the Director-General on the financial situation of UNIDO (IDB.31/9) and a note by the Secretariat with updated information on the financial situation of UNIDO (IDB.31/CRP.5). The debate on the item is reflected in summary record IDB.31/SR.3, paras. 54 to 72. The Board

considered a draft decision submitted by the President (IDB.31/L.2) and adopted decision IDB.31/Dec.6 (see annex I).

IV. Implementation of the Cooperation Agreement with the United Nations Development Programme (item 5)

20. Under item 5, the Board had before it a progress report by the Director-General on the implementation of the Cooperation Agreement with the United Nations Development Programme (IDB.31/8 and Corr.1). The debate on the item is reflected in summary record IDB.31/SR.3, paras. 73 to 113. At the proposal of the President, the Board took note of the documentation provided (IDB.31/SR.4, paras. 70 and 71).

V. Activities of the Evaluation Group (item 8); Activities of the Joint Inspection Unit (item 9)

21. The Board decided to discuss simultaneously items 8 and 9. The debate on the items is reflected in summary record IDB.31/SR.4, paras. 1 to 41.

A. Activities of the Evaluation Group

22. Under item 8, the Board had before it a report by the Director-General on evaluation activities of UNIDO (IDB.31/3 and IDB.31/3/Add.1). The Board considered a draft decision submitted by the President (IDB.31/L.3) and adopted decision IDB.31/Dec.7 (see annex I).

B. Activities of the Joint Inspection Unit

23. Under item 9, the Board had before it a report by the Director-General on activities of the Joint Inspection Unit (IDB.31/4). At the proposal of the President, the Board took note of the documentation provided (IDB.31/SR.4, paras. 78 and 79).

VI. Personnel matters (item 10)

24. Under item 10, the Board considered the information contained in the *Annual Report of UNIDO 2005* on personnel matters (IDB.31/2, appendices L and M), a report by the Director-General on personnel matters (IDB.31/7), and a conference room paper entitled "List of UNIDO staff" (IDB.31/CRP.4). The debate on the item is reflected in summary record IDB.31/SR.4, paras. 42 to 53. The Board considered a draft decision submitted by the President (IDB.31/L.4) and adopted decision IDB.31/Dec.8 (see annex I).

VII. Matters related to intergovernmental, non-governmental, governmental and other organizations (item 11)

25. Under item 11, the Board had before it a note by the Director-General on intergovernmental organizations not in the United Nations system (IDB.31/10). The debate on the item is reflected in summary record IDB.31/SR.4, paras. 54 to 57. The

Board considered a draft decision submitted by the President (IDB.31/L.7) and adopted decision IDB.31/Dec.9 (see annex I).

VIII. Provisional agenda and date of the thirty-second session (item 12)

26. Under item 12, the Board had before it a note by the Director-General on the provisional agenda and date of the thirty-second session (IDB.31/CRP.3). The debate on this item is reflected in summary record IDB.31/SR.4, paras. 58 and 59. The Board considered a draft decision submitted by the President (IDB.31/L.6) and adopted decision IDB.31/Dec.10 (see annex I).

IX. Adoption of the report (item 13)

27. Under item 13, the Board considered the draft report (IDB.31/L.1) and adopted it as a whole with the understanding that the Rapporteur would be entrusted with the task of finalizing the report (see summary record IDB.31/SR.4, paras. 86 to 90).

X. Closure of the session

28. On 7 June 2006, at 6.45 p.m., the Board closed its thirty-first session (see IDB.31/SR.4, paras. 91 to 96).

Annex I**Decisions adopted by the Board at its thirty-first session**

Decision No.	Title	Page
IDB.31/Dec.1	Utilization of available conference-servicing resources (IDB.31/SR.1, paras. 62 and 63)	9
IDB.31/Dec.2	Enhancing the visibility of UNIDO (IDB.31/SR.4, paras. 64 and 65)	9
IDB.31/Dec.3	Role of UNIDO in the United Nations reform (IDB.31/SR.4, paras. 66 and 67)	9
IDB.31/Dec.4	Global Environment Facility (IDB.31/SR.4, paras. 72 and 73)	10
IDB.31/Dec.5	Regional programme for Latin America and the Caribbean (IDB.31/SR.4, paras. 74 and 75)	11
IDB.31/Dec.6	Financial situation of UNIDO (IDB.31/SR.4, paras. 68 and 69)	12
IDB.31/Dec.7	Evaluation activities of UNIDO (IDB.31/SR.4, paras. 76 and 77)	12
IDB.31/Dec.8	Personnel matters (IDB.31/SR.4, paras. 80 and 81)	12
IDB.31/Dec.9	Information on intergovernmental organizations not in the United Nations system (IDB.31/SR.4, paras. 82 and 83)	13
IDB.31/Dec.10	Provisional agenda and date of the thirty-second session (IDB.31/SR.4, paras. 84 and 85)	13

IDB.31/Dec.1 Utilization of available conference-servicing resources

The Industrial Development Board, with the aim of utilizing the available conference-servicing resources to the maximum extent possible, decided to suspend with immediate effect rule 32 of its rules of procedure relating to the quorum, for the meetings of its thirty-first session only, provided no substantive decisions were taken at those meetings.

*1st plenary meeting
6 June 2006*

IDB.31/Dec.2 Enhancing the visibility of UNIDO

The Industrial Development Board:

(a) Recognized the invaluable contribution of industrial development to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration;

(b) Noted that UNIDO had undertaken reforms making it a more focused, effective and efficient Organization;

(c) Recalled the Strategic Guidelines and the importance of making the invaluable work of the Organization better known to decision-makers, the development community, the United Nations system and the public at large;

(d) Also recalled the Strategic Long-term Vision Statement (GC.11/Res.4 and annex), which identified, *inter alia*, the need to strengthen the advocacy function of UNIDO and to enhance its visibility;

(e) Underscored the need for a sustained and coordinated campaign by both the Secretariat of UNIDO and Member States to enhance the Organization's visibility;

(f) Requested the Director-General, within existing resources, to intensify his efforts to raise awareness of UNIDO activities through:

(i) Active engagement in and analytical contribution to the work of various intergovernmental bodies, particularly the United Nations General Assembly, ECOSOC and its subsidiary bodies, as well as inter-agency bodies;

(ii) Promotion of partnerships and joint activities with development partners both within and outside the United Nations system;

(iii) Provision of increased information and advocacy in major international events involving UNIDO and through Goodwill Ambassadors;

(g) Encouraged Member States to support the Secretariat in improving the understanding of the work of UNIDO.

*4th plenary meeting
7 June 2006*

IDB.31/Dec.3 Role of UNIDO in the United Nations reform

The Industrial Development Board:

(a) Recalled the adoption of the Millennium Declaration by the 2000 United Nations Millennium Summit and the decision of global leaders at the 2005 World

Summit to “strengthen and update the programme of work of the United Nations so that it responds to the contemporary requirements of Member States”;

(b) Took note of the formation of a High-level Panel on United Nations System-wide Coherence in the Areas of Development, Humanitarian Assistance and the Environment by the United Nations Secretary-General in response to the invitation in the 2005 World Summit Outcome document;

(c) Acknowledged the important contribution of UNIDO towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals through effective implementation of its Business Plan and the Strategic Guidelines “Towards improved UNIDO programme delivery”, as well as the Strategic Long-term Vision Statement;

(d) Further acknowledged the need to address supply-side constraints in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, through the promotion of competitive micro-, small- and medium-scale enterprises as a powerful means for job creation, poverty alleviation and integration into the global economy;

(e) Encouraged UNIDO in the spirit of resolution GC.10/Res.5 to develop and strengthen its partnerships and cooperation with the United Nations and other international organizations according to its mandate and programmes in order to improve coordination so as to avoid duplication of activities and make more efficient use of resources and achieving greater synergies;

(f) Urged the Director-General in accordance with decision IDB.25/Dec.8 to intensify his efforts to enhance UNIDO’s profile and to ensure that UNIDO is recognized by the international development community as having an important role to play in helping developing countries, particularly least developed countries, as well as countries with economies in transition, to overcome supply-side constraints and take advantage of improved market access for their products;

(g) Requested the Director-General to continue to participate actively in the framework of the United Nations Chief Executives Board for Coordination and the United Nations Development Group and to contribute, as appropriate, to the work of the Secretary-General’s High-level Panel on United Nations System-wide Coherence on the basis of UNIDO’s own reform experience and by emphasizing the importance of sustainable industrial development and UNIDO’s vital role in that field as the main player.

*4th plenary meeting
7 June 2006*

IDB.31/Dec.4 Global Environment Facility

The Industrial Development Board:

(a) Recalled General Conference resolutions GC.8/Res.1 on funding for technical cooperation activities and GC.8/Res.2 on the Global Environment Facility and technical cooperation activities;

(b) Also recalled that UNIDO had been granted direct access to the Global Environment Facility in the focal area of persistent organic pollutants, as reported in documents IDB.23/1/Add.1 and IDB.23/11, and the significant contribution made by UNIDO in that area as a result;

(c) Took note of the information provided on the potential for mobilizing additional resources from the Global Environment Facility contained in documents IDB.31/6, paragraph 9, and IDB.31/CRP.7;

(d) Recognized the initiative of the Director-General to seek direct access to the Global Environment Facility in the other focal areas relevant to the UNIDO work programme: climate change, international waters and land degradation;

(e) Invited the Director-General to keep Member States informed as to progress in that regard.

*4th plenary meeting
7 June 2006*

IDB.31/Dec.5 Regional programme for Latin America and the Caribbean

The Industrial Development Board:

(a) Took note of the report on action taken by the Secretariat (IDB.31/5) with the aim of adopting the necessary measures to implement resolution GC.11/Res.1 with a view to implementing within UNIDO's medium-term programme framework, 2006-2007, a regional programme for Latin America and the Caribbean;

(b) Recognized the efforts made by UNIDO to develop an operational mechanism of periodical consultations with the countries of the region in order to facilitate the identification of priority areas for the formulation of programmes and projects of interest that would contribute towards sustainable development, poverty reduction and employment generation in line with the Millennium Development Goals;

(c) Expressed satisfaction with UNIDO's reaction to the request of the countries of the region to develop, in accordance with resolution GC.11/Res.1, an agreed sustainable mechanism to strengthen regional cooperation between the countries of the Latin American and Caribbean Group and improve interaction with other Members of the Organization, including mobilization of resources and funds on a voluntary basis as needed for effective activities in the region;

(d) Took note of the Memorandum of Understanding between the General Secretariat of the Ibero-American Summit and UNIDO, signed in Madrid on 6 April 2006, creating a cooperation framework between the two organizations;

(e) Supported the Director-General's initiative to convene a high-level ministerial conference on renewable energy for productive uses to take place in Montevideo, Uruguay, on 26 and 27 September 2006;

(f) Requested the Director-General to report to the Industrial Development Board at its thirty-second session on progress made by the Secretariat on the above subject.

*4th plenary meeting
7 June 2006*

IDB.31/Dec.6 Financial situation of UNIDO

The Industrial Development Board:

(a) Took note of the information provided in document IDB.31/9;

(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 delay;

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

*4th plenary meeting
7 June 2006*

IDB.31/Dec. 7 Evaluation activities of UNIDO

The Industrial Development Board:

(a) Recalled its decision IDB.29/Dec.7;

(b) Took note of the information provided in documents IDB.31/3 and Add.1;

(c) Underlined that the primary objective of evaluation is to ensure accountability, provide recommendations to management, and drive organizational learning and innovation;

(d) Encouraged the use of findings and lessons drawn from evaluation for organizational learning and improvement;

(e) Welcomed the introduction by the Director-General of the new UNIDO evaluation policy, as included in Director-General's Bulletin UNIDO/DGB(M).98, and supports its implementation;

(f) Requested the Director-General to continue fostering an enabling environment for evaluation reflecting the principles agreed upon by the United Nations Evaluation Group and contained in the norms and standards for evaluation in the United Nations system.

*4th plenary meeting
7 June 2006*

IDB.31/Dec. 8 Personnel matters

The Industrial Development Board:

(a) Took note of the information contained in document IDB.31/7;

(b) Noted the amendments made in pursuance to staff regulation 13.3 to schedules I and III of the staff regulations in order to bring them into conformity with the decision of the United Nations General Assembly set out in resolution 60/248;

(c) Also noted the amendment to appendices A and C to the staff rules.

*4th plenary meeting
7 June 2006*

IDB.31/Dec. 9 Information on intergovernmental organizations not in the United Nations system

The Industrial Development Board:

(a) Took note of the information contained in document IDB.31/10 and its annex;

(b) Recalled its decision IDB.2/Dec.28, which authorized the Director-General to negotiate in the most appropriate way with, inter alia, the Organization of African Unity with a view to concluding an agreement that would establish an appropriate relationship;

(c) Authorized the Director-General to negotiate and conclude an appropriate relationship agreement between UNIDO and the African Union, replacing the existing agreement between UNIDO and the Organization of African Unity, in accordance with the guidelines contained in the annex to decision GC.1/Dec.41.

*4th plenary meeting
7 June 2006*

IDB.31/Dec. 10 Provisional agenda and date of the thirty-second session

The Industrial Development Board:

(a) Took note of the information contained in document IDB.31/CRP.3;

(b) Decided to approve the following provisional agenda for its thirty-second session:

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Report of the Programme and Budget Committee:
 - (a) Report of the External Auditor, financial performance report and programme performance report for the biennium 2004-2005;
 - (b) Financial situation of UNIDO;
 - (c) Financial regulations and financial rules;
 - (d) Mobilization of financial resources;
 - (e) Medium-term programme framework, 2008-2011.
3. Implementation of the Cooperation Agreement with the United Nations Development Programme.
4. Implementation of the medium-term programme framework, 2006-2009, including:
 - (a) South-South cooperation;
 - (b) Regional programme for Latin America and the Caribbean.
5. Personnel matters.
6. Provisional agenda and date of the thirty-third session.
7. Adoption of the report.

(c) Decided to hold its thirty-second session from 29 November to 1 December 2006.

*4th plenary meeting
7 June 2006*

Annex II

Documents submitted to the Board at its thirty-first session

Symbol	Agenda item	Title
IDB.31/1	2	Provisional agenda
IDB.31/1/Add.1	2	Annotated provisional agenda
IDB.31/2	3	<i>Annual Report of UNIDO 2005</i>
PBC.22/2		
IDB.31/2/Add.1	3	<i>Annual Report of UNIDO 2005</i> . List of technical cooperation activities
PBC.22/2/Add.1		
IDB.31/3	8	Evaluation activities of UNIDO. Report of the Director-General
IDB.31/3/Add.1	8	Evaluation activities of UNIDO. Report of the Director-General. Addendum
IDB.31/4	9	Activities of the Joint Inspection Unit. Report of the Director-General
IDB.31/5	7	Regional programme for Latin America and the Caribbean. Report by the Director-General
IDB.31/6	6	Implementation of the medium-term programme framework, 2006-2009. Note by the Secretariat
IDB.31/7	10	Personnel matters. Report by the Director-General
IDB.31/8	5	Implementation of the Cooperation Agreement with the United Nations Development Programme. Progress report by the Director-General
IDB.31/8/Corr.1	5	Implementation of the Cooperation Agreement with the United Nations Development Programme. Progress report by the Director-General. Corrigendum
IDB.31/9	4	Financial situation of UNIDO. Report by the Director-General
IDB.31/10	11	Information on intergovernmental organizations not in the United Nations system. Note by the Director-General
IDB.31/11	-	Lists of States included in Annex I to the Constitution of UNIDO. Note by the Secretariat
Conference room papers		
IDB.31/CRP.1	2	List of documents
IDB.31/CRP.2	6	Implementation of the medium-term programme framework, 2006-2009, including South-South cooperation. Note by the Secretariat
IDB.31/CRP.3	12	Provisional agenda and date of the thirty-second session. Note by the Director-General
IDB.31/CRP.4	10	List of staff of the UNIDO Secretariat. Submitted by the Secretariat
IDB.31/CRP.5	4	Financial situation of UNIDO. Note by the Director-General
IDB.31/CRP.6	6	UNIDO field reform. Note by the Secretariat
IDB.31/CRP.7	6	Global Environment Facility resources for UNIDO activities. Note by the Secretariat
IDB.31/CRP.8	3	UNIDO involvement in United Nations system-wide events. Note by the Secretariat
IDB.31/CRP.9	-	List of participants