

STATEMENT

**by His Excellency Ambassador A.Sychov
Permanent Representative of the Republic
of Belarus to the international organizations
in Vienna**

Industrial Development Board
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Mr. President,

The delegation of the Republic of Belarus would like to congratulate you on election to the post of President of the 37th session of UNIDO Industrial Development Board and wish you and members of your bureau successful work. We would also like to express our high appreciation to UNIDO Director-General, Dr. Yumkella, for his presentation of the annual report on Organization's activities in 2009.

This document indeed provides a wide array of information on the matter.

The 13th session of the General Conference, held last December, was undoubtedly the key event of the year. During the Conference the Member States have reconfirmed an important role that UNIDO plays in the promotion of global development. The General Conference has adopted a number of decisions and resolutions that outlined UNIDO's future priorities and activities.

The interlinked area of energy and climate change is set to become one of such major priorities, which logically stems from the Conference's overall thematic thrust devoted to the "greening industries for economic recovery and growth", as well as from the resolution on UNIDO activities on energy and climate change adopted at the December event.

It is noteworthy that UNIDO has already been actively involved in addressing this set of issues over the recent past. Indeed, the Director-

General's Chairmanship of "UN-Energy", his leadership in the UN Secretary-General's Advisory Group on Energy and Climate Change, as well as UNIDO's initiatives to hold a number of energy-related international conferences testify to the high priority that the Organization attaches to energy and climate change – most acute contemporary challenges of development.

Our delegation welcomes the report by the abovementioned Advisory Group titled "Energy for a Sustainable Future", whose presentation took place in New York on 28 April this year. We support the report's two key findings on the need to increase access to energy in the world and to improve energy efficiency, as well as the recommendations to achieve these two objectives.

We believe that the international community needs to come in the area of energy to a sort of a "New Deal", whose essence is that the future belongs to the "green" technologies or as we often call them renewable sources of energy. The logic here is straightforward – fossil fuels are not only finite, but pose a vital threat to our lives. Therefore, security and sustainable development on the planet depend much on the extent to which the international community will put renewable energy at its service.

The primary objective in this regard is to assist in the transfer of "green technologies" from the industrially developed countries to the developing states and countries with economies in transition.

That is why we believe that there is the need to establish within the United Nations a mechanism that ensures equitable access to renewable sources of energy for all countries. We hope that UNIDO will be active in this process. In particular, we welcome that this issue has been taken under consideration by the UN system-wide working group on technology transfer set up by the UN Chief Executives Board for Coordination, with UNIDO and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the UN

Secretariat as the lead agencies. We hope that the working group's current survey of technology transfer activities within the United Nations system will produce recommendations on how to expedite and streamline the process.

Mr. President,

Coping with the global financial and economic crisis is a serious test not only for governments, but for international organizations as well. We are convinced that UNIOD has withstood such a test by continuing, in spite of the crisis, its effective work along its three major priorities - poverty reduction, trade capacity-building, energy and the environment.

In this regard we are glad to take notice of UNIDO's improved financial situation, its record high programme delivery of US\$ 139 million in 2009, as well as the diversification of its donor base. Hopefully, the trend will continue.

Our delegation welcomes the consistent efforts undertaken by UNIDO to strengthen partnerships with international organizations and agencies working in support of global development. In this context a significant event was the hosting by UNIDO last month of the meeting of the UN Chief Executives Board for Coordination.

Mr. President,

Finally, the delegation of Belarus would also like to commend UNIDO for its information and advocacy work. It is important to continue this effort by explaining to the global public both the essence of UNIDO mandate and its role in supporting global development.

Thank you for your kind attention.