Industrial Development Board
Thirty-eighth session
Vienna, 24-26 November 2010
Item 10 of the provisional agenda
Matters related to intergovernmental, non-governmental, governmental and other organizations

Application from a non-governmental organization for consultative status

Note by the Director-General

The present document provides information on Verein Südwind Entwicklungspolitik, a non-governmental organization applying for consultative status with UNIDO.

1. In accordance with Article 19.1 (b) of the Constitution of UNIDO and the Guidelines for the Relationship of UNIDO with intergovernmental, governmental, non-governmental and other organizations (decision GC.1/Dec.41), in particular paragraph 17 of the annex thereto, information on Verein Südwind Entwicklungspolitik, a non-governmental organization (NGO) seeking consultative status with UNIDO, is circulated to the members of the Board in the annex to the present document. More detailed information on the NGO is available with the Secretariat.

2. Paragraph 17 of the annex to the Guidelines stipulates that the Board shall establish appropriate procedures for reviewing applications from NGOs for consultative status. To facilitate and accelerate its work, the Board may wish to follow the practice established at previous sessions and request the Bureau of the Board to review the application of, and information on, the NGO referred to in the annex to the present document and to submit its recommendations to the Board for consideration at its current session.
Annex

Verein Südwind Entwicklungs politik

Historical background

Founded in 1979 in Vienna, Austria, Verein Südwind Entwicklungs politik (Südwind — Association for Development Policy) started as an NGO focused on teaching and advocacy in the field of development policy and cooperation. It played a key role in establishing the “climate alliance” in Austria, a nationwide group of urban and rural communities committed to environmentally friendly and sustainable development. In the 1990s it created “Transfer”, a fair trade entity that introduced its own certification process for goods from developing countries. A research institute was recently established to complement the conceptual work. The operational arm of Südwind was renamed Südwind Agentur (agency) and has been responsible for the management of projects in and outside Austria. A series of regional offices were established to provide a network at the local level to facilitate the implementation of the agency and the association’s activities, primarily in the field of education.

Statutes

Available

Structure of governing bodies and administration

- General Meeting
- Board
- Executive Management
- Auditors and tribunal
- Eight regional offices in Austria

Activities related to the work of UNIDO

Südwind is an association committed to raising public awareness about issues of developmental policy and technical cooperation, focusing in particular on learning activities; public sector relations involving regular publications; issue-specific campaigns and developmental research through its recently established institute. Südwind is also an active organizer in campaigns devoted to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and has participated in fair trade initiatives in Austria.

The association is developing activities related to the manufacturing of sports equipment and toys with a focus on green industry, in particular with due consideration of issues related to waste disposal and environmentally friendly production of electricity. A large number of its projects funded by the European Union also relate to corporate social responsibility.
Relations with the United Nations and other IGOs

Consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC).

Relations with NGOs

Member of “Globale Verantwortung” an umbrella organization of some 40 Austrian NGOs active in the field of development cooperation, development policy advocacy, humanitarian aid and sustainable, global economic, social and ecological development.

Membership

Any physical and legal persons, entities and organizations that declare in writing their agreement to the aims and objectives and the fundamental development related principles of the association and their readiness to work with the same. Mainly Austrian nationals who gained international experience as aid workers in the field, including a number of academics and former politicians.

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