Industrial Development Board
38th Session, 24-26 November
Statement by the European Union

Item 2 (c): Unutilized balances of appropriations: Programme for Change and Organizational Renewal (change management initiative) and technical cooperation activities

Thank you, Mr Chairperson,

1. I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union.

2. The EU has continuously commended UNIDO for initiating the Change Management Project - now known as the Programme for Change and Organizational Renewal - with the full involvement of internal staff and the stakeholders. The EU has a great interest in changes that improve the results and increase the efficiency of UNIDO's operations. Improvements in this direction are not only important for the financial accountability and administrative capacity of the organization. More important are the expected improvements in the ability to deliver relevant and qualitative technical assistance on the ground. We also see the programme as an important step enabling the fulfilling the ambitions of One UN.

3. Therefore the EU welcomes the importance that UNIDO places in the implementation of Programme for Change and Organisational Renewal and the thorough selection process that UNIDO has carried out to find the best implementing partner in this programme, within the current budgetary constraints of the organisation.

4. We take note of the information provided by the Secretariat in the document IDB.39/9/add.2, with details of the total cost of the PCOR and the proposed action required of the Board.

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1. I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union. The Candidate Countries Turkey, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Iceland, the Countries of the Stabilization and Association Process and potential candidates Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia, the EFTA country Norway as well as Ukraine, Armenia and the Republic of Moldova associate themselves with this statement.

2. The EU welcomes the strengthened UNIDO field presence, largely facilitated through the UNDP-UNIDO Cooperation Agreement. Thanks to this agreement UNIDO was able to expand its country presence in a considerable manner.

3. The EU would like to reiterate that any further development of UNIDO's field presence should be commensurate with the technical, human and financial capacities of UNIDO headquarters so as to be able to provide the necessary support and to respond effectively to increased demand for technical assistance. In this regard the EU values the different operational initiatives and alignment exercises, aimed at ensuring and improving the coherence and coordination between Headquarters and the field network activities. We note in particular the mainstreaming of results based management to all field offices work plans and encourage UNIDO to make these work plans automatically available to MS inline with its efforts towards improving information sharing and transparency. Field activities should flow from the programmes of activities under the Medium Term Programme Framework and we look forward to the impact of field activities being assessed with this in mind in future reporting.

4. The EU welcomes the establishment of a methodology on the basis of clear and transparent criteria to guide the organisation's decision-making process for any new field location in the future. Such a methodology should ensure an increased transparency of these decisions. The EU reiterates the importance of paying specific attention to the long term financial implications of any expansion.

5. The EU encourages UNIDO to analyse regularly its entire field network, and if appropriate, make the necessary adjustments. In this regard, the EU takes note with satisfaction of the announcement of the UNIDO Evaluation Group to launch "country evaluations", assessing UNIDO's activities - in a given country - in a consolidated manner. We look forward to receiving from the Secretariat more information on the

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methodology that is under development for evaluating the performance of the field offices.

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2. The EU welcomes tireless efforts of Director-General of UNIDO to place the Sustainable Energy Access and Green Economy high up on the agenda of the international community and appreciates UNIDO's involvement in the field of energy and environment. Those areas of emphasis are important part of EU policy focusing on resource efficiency, including energy and sustainable economic growth, with a special emphasis on green industry, as reflected for instance in the EU-Africa Energy Partnership.

3. Taking note of the Report IDB 38/16/ on the UNIDO's activities carried out in the field of energy and environment in compliance with the Resolution 8 of 13th Session of the General Conference (GC13/Res.8), the EU appreciates the major effort of the Secretariat in creating awareness and promoting global forum activities in all thematic areas connected with energy and environment, especially in the field of green industry, including cleaner production, as well as in the framework of UN Energy and the Advisory Group on Energy and Climate Change (AGECC). In this context, the EU requests the Director-General to inform Member States on the activities of UNIDO planned for the year 2011, in its function as a Global Forum Facilitator, and to update Member States on the progress achieved so far by UN Energy and AGECC.

4. The EU believes that UNIDO should continue assisting beneficiary countries in providing training activities and capacity development for cleaner, resource efficient and low carbon systems of production and in order to foster the use of renewable energy sources as well as sustainable and clean industrial technologies, especially in resource intensive manufacturing SMEs.

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5. In this perspective, the EU recognizes the need to accelerate the implementation phase of the initiatives co-funded by GEF and encourages UNIDO to continue to exploit other funding opportunities. The EU expects that the strong political commitment of the Secretariat in the promotion of Sustainable Energy Access and Green Industry will be followed soon by the implementation of high quality and sustainable initiatives of Technical Assistance, which will pave the way for the future work of the Organisation in partnerships with other UN Agencies and donors, including the private sector (PPP).

6. The EU would like to congratulate UNIDO for being, for the second year, the best implementing Agency of the Montreal Protocol in 2009, according to the Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the same Protocol. We also encourage UNIDO to contribute further to climate change policy objectives by fostering the climate benefits within the whole portfolio of UNIDO programs and activities and by exploiting the increasing funding opportunities available, for the global fight to climate change. We appreciate in this context the UNIDO collaboration with the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and we look forward to receiving information on UNIDO's involvement in the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP16), taking place in Mexico on December 2010.

7. The EU also strongly encourages UNIDO to continue developing the linkages between resource productivity, climate change, energy and sound management of chemicals, as captured under the Green Industry Initiative and hopes that those linkages will allow synergies among different programmes and initiatives both at Headquarters and at field level, as well as become a part of national strategies of countries. We therefore welcome the International Professional Development Event organized by UNIDO in October 2010 focusing on linking chemicals, climate change, carbon markets and energy management issues and aiming on increasing the overall efficiency of the UNIDO technical cooperation programmes in these areas. The EU strongly supports the involvement of all Member States in this kind of thematic initiatives.

8. The EU would like to encourage UNIDO to further develop its partnerships with other Organizations, within UN Energy and with other international organizations in the field of energy and environment, [such as the International Energy Agency (IEA), the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) the International Partnership for Energy Efficiency Cooperation (IPEEC), the Global Bio-energy Partnership (GBEP), the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership (REEEP), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the International Financial Institutions (IFI's)] creating appropriate cooperation mechanisms, in particular Agreements or Joint Working programmes in the implementation of projects and initiatives, in order to encourage synergies and in order to avoid duplications, according to the Resolution GC13/Res.8. The EU notes with satisfaction the cooperation between UNIDO and UNEP in the framework of the joint Programme on Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production (RECP), which shows a good example of the constructive and efficient inter-agency collaboration.
9. The EU would also like UNIDO to continue making full use of the Investment and Technology Promotion Offices (ITPOs), the National Cleaner Production Centres (NCPCs) and the global RECP network, the International Centre for Science and High Technology (ICS) and other field offices, in the implementation of TC, in particular with a view of scaling up and mainstreaming environment and energy initiatives and facilitating the knowledge sharing and the access of beneficiary countries to the appropriate advanced technologies.

10. Taking into account the need to prioritize the implementation of quality Technical Cooperation projects of the present portfolio in all areas interested by the GEF, the Montreal Protocol, the Stockholm Convention and all other multilateral agreements, as well as the need for an efficient use of all the existing human and financial resources available for the Secretariat, the EU would like to support the UN Energy and AGECC proposal of designating 2012 as “International Year of Sustainable Energy for All”.

Thank you, Mr Chairperson.