

UNIDO Industrial Development Board

Vienna 22 – 24 June 2011

Intervention by Norway

Agenda Item 3: Annual report of the Director General for 2010.

Thank you Mr Chair

Allow me first of all to welcome you as Chairman of this thirty-ninth session of the Industrial Development Board of UNIDO. Norway is confident that your work during these next three days will be successful.

Let me assure you, the members of the Bureau and the Secretariat, of the full support of Norway for a successful meeting.

Let me also thank the Secretariat for the high quality documents prepared for this meeting.

We also want to thank Dr. Yumkella for his/your leadership of UNIDO. Under his/your leadership UNIDO has developed into an effective organization with clear goals and priorities - as outlined in the medium-term-framework (MTPF). This strategy provides for a transition towards a fully results-based approach in UNIDO by linking the Organization's programme components, within the three thematic priorities of Poverty Reduction through Productive Activities, Trade Capacity building, and Environment and Energy to expected country-level outcomes and expected impact of the overall development objective.

We are very pleased with the publication of the Annual Report. UNIDO has developed its strategic response capacity and support services to Member States through technical cooperation and capacity-building, and at the same time fosters action-oriented partnerships within the UN, with the broader

international community, the private sector, civil society, academia and other stakeholders.

We also note with satisfaction the central references to UNIDO's gender policies and women's economic empowerment in the Annual Report. We agree that this is a cross-cutting issue, yet we nonetheless miss a specific reference to rural and women's entrepreneurship in the report, which we consider requires special attention. There can be no development or poverty reduction if half of the population of a country does not have access to, or is enabled to participate in productive activities, including industrial production. Engaging the female half of the population is of the utmost importance in order to stimulate social and economic development.

Norway strongly supports the change management initiative, particularly the implementation of a new enterprise resource planning system. This is expected to lead to a fully transparent end-to-end process of project formulation, implementation and results reporting within the context of the programmatic framework. We encourage other Member States to provide UNIDO with the necessary support and resources to effectively implement this important initiative for change.

Norway encourages UNIDO to continue the strengthening of a result-oriented culture in the organization. It is of great importance for the relevance of UNIDO's activities that the organisation continues to increase the focus on measurable results and development impact on the ground. We value the efforts of UNIDO to apply results based management (RBM) and encourage the organization to further its implementation of the RBM action plan.

Norway has noted with satisfaction that all staff working on technical cooperation projects and programmes have received training in results-based management and are required to use RBM principles in design, monitoring and reporting and that results orientation and accountability is one of the key cross-functional competencies on which staff performance is appraised.

We see evaluation as an important tool in enhancing the performance of UNIDO, and welcome the important work of the Evaluation Group. Findings and recommendations from evaluations should generally contribute to organizational learning and lead to improvements in UNIDO's development services and strategies. A good example is the thematic evaluation on cleaner production, which led to the development of a new programme strategy in this area.

We support fully the focus on improving the operational efficiency and effectiveness of UNIDO's field representation, and welcome that all UNIDO regional and country offices now have been assigned a UNIDO Representative. We furthermore continue to encourage increased staff mobility between headquarter and the field as well as improved career development opportunities for staff in the field.

Let me thank the Director-General for your/his continued chairmanship of UN-Energy and also for your/his leadership of the Secretary General's Advisory Group on Energy and Climate Change. These positions provide excellent platforms for contributing to improve inter-agency coordination in this important sector, and as such contributing to important aspects of UN reform.

We have noted that more than half of the volume of UNIDO's technical cooperation implementation is carried out in the context of assisting Member States to comply with multilateral environmental agreements that require quantitative reporting of the results achieved at both country and global level. UNIDO's achievements in this field have been widely acknowledged, as indicated by the fact that it has been deemed the most effective implementing agency under the Montreal Protocol for ^{wght}seven of the past ^{ten} ~~nine~~ years. We encourage the continuation of the close cooperation with UNEP and other relevant bodies to ensure the effective and efficient implementation of the various agreements.

The rapid growth and economic development in many regions around the world over the last decade - not least in the Asia and Pacific region - has on the one hand lifted millions out of poverty, but it has also led to an increased consumption and demand for energy and water and a depletion of natural resources and environmental degradation and greenhouse emissions. Development comes at a cost, and UNIDO plays an important role in trying to promote development whilst at the same time trying to mitigate the costs to the environment.

Like UNIDO, Norway considers that the direct link between poverty reduction and access to energy and new technologies is an issue that must be addressed as a matter of priority. The promotion of awareness of cleaner and more resource efficient renewable sources of energy is of great importance in our common efforts to fight and adapt to the effects of climate change and to address central development challenges.

Norway has given high priority to the development of carbon capture storage (CCS) technology for the industry. We therefore strongly support the development of a CCS road map for the period up to 2050, which will provide stakeholders with a vision of the future of industrial CCS and inform policymakers and investors about the benefit of CCS technology. The CCS road map is funded among others by The Norwegian Ministry of Petroleum and Energy.

UNIDO is working within the same spheres as several other organizations. As a provider of specialized qualifications and services, it is important that the organization continues its efforts to avoid unnecessary duplication. We are very satisfied with UNIDO's commitment to actively pursue "One UN" reform initiatives, thereby contributing to better system-wide coherence and the goal of "Delivering as One" at country-level. Strategic partnerships both within the UN family and with public and private institutions in fields of common interest must be strengthened further.

Norway's support for the work of UNIDO is reflected in our voluntary contributions to the organization. In particular, I would like to point to the special relationship within Trade Capacity Building that has been developed between UNIDO and the Norwegian Development Agency, Norad, over the past ten years.

UNIDO seeks to enable the poor to earn a living through productive activities, thus to find a path out of poverty. In order for this to materialize, they need the capacity to produce, market, and distribute tradable products. Norway has taken due note also of UNIDO's increased focus on working with the least developed countries. This is in line with the strong commitment of my country

to support efforts aimed at increasing the opportunities of LDCs to reap the positive benefits of globalization through an increased participation in international trade.

In closing, let me assure you, Mr.Chairman that we will continue to following the efforts of UNIDO in our common aim and global responsibility to combat poverty through inclusive globalization and environmental sustainability.

Thank you.