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STATEMENT BY TURKEY

UNIDO INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD / 40TH SESSION

(AGENDA ITEM 4: FINANCIAL SITUATION OF UNIDO)

Thank you Mr. Chairman,

At the outset, I would like to join other speakers in congratulating on your election as the Chair of the Board. I also congratulate the members of the Bureau. We are confident that under your able leadership the Board will achieve a successful conclusion. I assure you of my delegation's full support.

I would like to briefly underline certain points which have special importance for Turkey.

Mr. Chairman,

Taking the opportunity this occasion presents, I would like to reiterate our fundamental approach regarding UNIDO's programme and budget for 2012-2013. The current difficult period due to the ongoing global economic and financial crisis, had negative impacts on UNIDO's work as well. On the one hand, the withdrawal of some states with significant contribution forced the Organization to reconsider the budgetary requirements, whereas the necessity of the technical knowledge and the future of UNIDO have become core of discussions on the other.

Despite these difficulties UNIDO is facing, the exceptional period we are going through proved us that the most important goal of the international community remains

sustainable industrial development that falls in the advisory and technical competence of UNIDO. The complexity of the impediments we are striving to deal with increases, while the demand for developmental assistance of UNIDO continues to grow. We believe that UNIDO will continue to play its pivotal role and will be able to overcome these difficulties, in order to realize a world where the sustainable industrial development goals are achieved.

Therefore, we need to find the delicate balance between our priorities and the necessity to address the fundamental developmental problems of the countries in need. We should also not lose sight of the fact that UNIDO is trying to take steps on the way to reform itself. In this context, we commend the progress made in the encouraging initiatives aiming at designing the future of our Organization, namely PCOR and the informal working group set up to this end. We attach importance to the *Workshop in the context of the Informal Working Group on the future, including programmes and resources of UNIDO*, which will be organized on 31 January 2013. Furthermore, in addition to these positive developments, we believe that we should take the increasing volume of the technical cooperation delivery capacity of the organization into consideration, when contemplation on the future programmes and activities to be realized.

Mr Chairman,

Our delegation believes that the last PBC session, in its entirety reflects the balance that I cited earlier. It was the result of a compromise to support the Organization and my delegation has been supportive of the idea that, while adapting to the new circumstances, we should also ensure that the adverse impacts of this process are kept at the lowest level possible and the momentum that the Organization has achieved in recent years, is retained. This requires efforts both from the Secretariat, as well as, responsible and well evaluated guidance from our side, as the Member States. The Member States have shown their support to the Organization during the last GC and PBC, in the framework of the decision taken during the GC (GC.14/dec.14) entitled *Unutilized balances of appropriations to strengthen the UNIDO programmes* and since then 27 Member States voluntarily agreed to the utilization of their shares.

Mr. Chairman,

The programmes on “Support to Least Developed Countries” and “Energy and environment” and are two items that we attach particular importance.

As regards the LDC’s, which are the most vulnerable segment of the international community, we believe that we should continue to keep focus on these countries, in particular through activities in the field of agro-industry. We welcome in this regard the LDC Ministerial Conference held in 24-25 November 2011 in Vienna. In this framework, my delegation supports the Ministerial Declaration on Structural transformation of LDCs and UNIDO’s support for the implementation of the Istanbul programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020, decided at the abovementioned conference. Let me also remind that The IPoA was an outcome of the UN-LDC IV Turkey hosted in May of 2011 in İstanbul.

We also support UNIDO’s activities in the field of environment and energy, in particular green industry and energy initiative. We believe this could represent a strategic path for UNIDO for its future programmatic orientation. This field has so far also helped raise the profile of the Organization in the international arena.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, we have listened to the various delegations which have expressed support to UNIDO’s activities and overall performance. We add our voice to these delegations. We believe that despite the current challenges the Organization face, its mandate is relevant and its services are needed more than ever.

I thank you Mr. Chairman.