United Nations Industrial Development Organization

Industrial Development Board
Forty-first session
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Item 7 of the provisional agenda
Informal working group on the future, including programmes and resources, of UNIDO

Programme and Budget Committee
Twenty-ninth session
Vienna, 22-24 May 2013
Item 10 of the provisional agenda
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Third interim report of the Co-Chairs (H.E. Ms. A. T. Dengo Benavides, Costa Rica, and Mr. A. Groff, Switzerland)

The present report provides an update on the activities of the informal working group on the future, including programmes and resources, of UNIDO since November 2012, thereby complementing the first and second interim reports (documents IDB.40/10 and IDB.40/17).

Main developments

1. Following the fortieth session of the Industrial Development Board in November 2012, at which the Co-Chairs of the informal working group presented their second interim report, representatives of Permanent Missions were invited to a workshop on 31 January 2013 led by the Co-Chairs and facilitated by an external moderator. The purpose of the workshop was to continue the process leading to the elaboration of a strategic document for UNIDO. During the first stage of the work of the informal working group, an analysis of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) was carried out in order to capture the information needed for the development of strategic approaches for the Organization (documents IDB.40/10 and IDB.40/17). This approach resulted in summary proposals of the informal working group on strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats. The workshop embarked on a second stage by seeking to concentrate the information obtained through the SWOT analysis into a limited number of operational draft recommendations. It was attended by about 100 delegates and produced the
following outputs, as summarized in the report of the workshop circulated on 21 February 2013:

- A list of proposals to enhance the mandate and governance of UNIDO;
- A matrix detailing the most important strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats in the programmatic and organizational areas;
- A list of draft proposals detailing how UNIDO might draw on its main strengths to capitalize on its most important opportunities;
- A list of draft proposals on how UNIDO might reduce its vulnerability to its most serious threats.

2. At a meeting of the informal working group on 21 February 2013, the Co-Chairs provided a zero draft of a working document, which took into consideration the proposals developed at the workshop of the informal working group. Since then, the informal working group met on 26 March, 19 April and 7 May. Member States and regional groups have submitted written comments on the various versions of the working document. The fourth draft was discussed by the informal working group at its meeting on 7 May 2013. The Co-Chairs expressed the wish that the discussions on the document would be finalized in time for the forty-first session of the Industrial Development Board.

3. In 2012 the informal working group was given a series of briefings. It was continued with a Secretariat briefing on 22 January 2013 provided by Ms. S. Antonopoulou, Director of the Human Resource Management Branch, on human resource management matters.

4. The Board will be apprised of the most recent developments with an oral statement by the Co-Chairs, if required.

**Action required of the Board**

5. The Board may wish to take note of the information provided in the present document.