



United Nations Industrial Development Organization

Distr.: General
31 May 2013

Original: English

Industrial Development Board

Forty-first session

Vienna, 24-27 June 2013

Item 4 (b) of the provisional agenda

Financial situation of UNIDO

Request from Costa Rica for restoration of voting rights based on a payment plan

Note by the Director General

The present note draws the attention of the Board to a request from Costa Rica for restoration of voting rights based on a payment plan agreement.

Introduction

1. A letter dated 24 May 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Costa Rica requesting a decision by the Industrial Development Board on the restoration of voting rights is shown in the annex to the present document. The letter was also circulated to Permanent Missions with an information note on 29 May 2013.

I. Payment plan

2. In accordance with General Conference decision GC.14/Dec.8, a payment plan was signed with Costa Rica on 30 November 2011 of five years' duration, to cover the arrears of €280,742, including the commitment to meet future years' assessments. Up to date, three payments were made by the Government, totalling €142,895. This amount covers the first and second instalment requirements in full and the third instalment requirement partially. The agreement is in accordance with the terms for payment plan outlined in the report of the open-ended discussion

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group on timely payments of assessed contributions (IDB.19/12 and Corr.1), adopted by the Industrial Development Board in decision IDB.19/Dec.5.

II. Voting rights

3. Article 5.2 of the Constitution stipulates that any organ may permit a Member in arrears to vote in that organ if it is satisfied that the failure to pay is due to conditions beyond the control of the Member. Voting rights are governed by the respective rules of procedure of the governing bodies (rule 91 of the General Conference, rule 50 of the Industrial Development Board and rule 42 of the Programme and Budget Committee). In its report to the Board, the open-ended discussion group on timely payment of assessed contributions states: “When considering applications for the restoration of voting rights, the competent body should regularly take into account the state of payments made under an agreed payment plan” (IDB.19/12 and Corr.1, para. 14).

III. Action required of the Board

4. The Board may wish to consider the adoption of the following draft decision:

“The Industrial Development Board:

“(a) Takes note of the information provided in document IDB.41/26;

(b) Also takes note of the regular payment of instalments in line with the conditions of the payment plan as approved by the General Conference in decision GC.14/Dec.8, and encourages Costa Rica to continue paying regularly its instalments;

(c) At the request of Costa Rica, decides to restore its voting rights at the Industrial Development Board in accordance with Article 5.2 of the UNIDO Constitution;

(d) Recommends to the General Conference to consider positively the restoration of voting rights of Costa Rica in accordance with Article 5.2 of the Constitution.”

Annex**Embassy of Costa Rica in Austria
Permanent Mission to the International Organizations in Vienna**

Wagramer Strasse 23/1/1/2-3, A-1220 Vienna

Tel.: +43 /1/263 38 24; Fax: +43/1/263 38 24 5

E-mail: embajadaaustria_costa.rica@chello.at, misionaustria_costa.rica@chello.at

Ref.: MP.C1/091-13/WJC-C

Vienna, 24 May 2013

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to the agreement between the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the Government of Costa Rica regarding settlement of outstanding assessed contributions under a payment plan, signed by you and Ms. Mayi Antillón Guerrero, Minister for Economy, Industry and Trade, in December 2011.

In that regard, I should like to draw to your attention the fact that the Government of Costa Rica has deposited the funds necessary to settle its arrears and, in that connection, on behalf of the Government of Costa Rica, I would kindly request you to initiate the necessary procedures for restoration of the voting rights of Costa Rica in all policymaking organs of UNIDO.

In order to proceed as necessary, I would ask that this request be communicated to the Industrial Development Board at its forty-first session for due consideration, in order that a decision be taken on the matter.

Lastly, I should like to reiterate the commitment of Costa Rica to UNIDO and its desire to continue working with the Organization to achieve national and global industrial development objectives.

Accept, Sir, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

[Signed]

Herbert Espinoza Solano

Chargé d'affaires a.i.

[Stamp of Permanent Mission]

Mr. Kandeh Yumkella
Director General
United Nations Industrial Development Organization
Vienna
