

**CHECK AGAINST  
DELIVERY**

**Statement of Norway on the occasion of the  
UNIDO Industrial Development Board  
Vienna, 23-25 June 2015**

**Thank you, Mr. Chairperson, I congratulate the president and bureau on their appointment.**

**Norway aligns itself with the statement made by the EU. In addition, we would also like to highlight some topics of importance both to the development agenda and to the future work of UNIDO.**

**As one of the major contributors to the UN in general and to its development agenda Norway is committed to UNIDO's work. We have been one of the main donors to the organization and assure you of our continued support. It is important that UNIDO delivers on the new sustainable development goals to be adopted. We will work towards building a post-2015 agenda that is realistic as well as ambitious. An agenda that will make a real and positive difference for people.**

**In the years to come, new generations of youth will enter the labour market. The economies of the developing world must grow to secure sustainable employment while at the same time ensuring the sustainable use of resources.**

**A robust private sector and foreign direct investments are crucial for developing economies. Eradication of poverty cannot be achieved without enhancing production and economic output in an inclusive manner.**

**When we look ahead, UNIDO should also give priority to innovative branches and those with high impact for fighting poverty, environmentally sound processes and product management in industries, energy efficiency and industry related renewable energy.**

To be able to deliver on projects of the highest quality, we encourage UNIDO to continue to strengthen cooperation with other UN agencies and other stakeholders. We appreciate the Director General's commitment to integrated action.

UNIDO has an important role to play in assisting countries in achieving inclusive economic and industrial development, and building decent jobs and a robust private sector. The fundament for this has to be good governance, rule of law, transparency, accountability and stability for business development.

We encourage UNIDO to use the new medium term programme framework (MTPF) as a strategic management instrument, including the reporting of results. We welcome that the principles of efficiency gains and cost-saving are included in the new MTPF.

We commend the Director General for his leadership in dealing with the financial restraints of UNIDO. In this situation, efficiency and transparency are key. As donors, we need regular updates on funding, implementation and results. We encourage the ongoing work to put in place a system that allows member states to find this information online. We appreciate the dedication and the efforts by the Director General and the secretariat to this effect. We look forward to the announced update on a new results frameworks.

We value the work done by the Office for Independent Evaluation. We underline the importance of having an experienced and independent evaluator of the organization pertaining to its programmes and projects. The independence of this position and function is crucial for maintaining the credibility of and trust in the organization.

Norway believes that the gender perspective needs to be an integrated part of all of UNIDO's work. A high proportion of women in the labour market leads to greater economic and inclusive

**growth. Women make an important contribution to society, and should have the opportunity to influence how resources are distributed.**

**The African Union's summit earlier this month was held under the theme "Women's Empowerment and Development Towards Agenda 2063". The declaration from the summit contains commitments on enhancing women's contribution and benefits from formal agriculture and agribusiness value chains, pushing forward women's economic empowerment, enhancing women's participation in governance and enhancing women and girls' access to education, science and technology.**

**Along the same lines, at the G7-summit in Germany two weeks ago the leaders of the world's leading industrialized nations highlighted women's empowerment as a top priority. They committed to reducing the gender gap in workforce participation in their countries by 25 per cent by 2025, and called on companies to implement the UN 'Women's Empowerment Principles'. This sends an important message to UNIDO too. We believe there is room to strengthen the gender aspect in UNIDO's public private partnerships. Good examples already exist of the important role that UNIDO's partners can play in ensuring concrete results with regards to gender equality. This is an area where UNIDO can be proactive in their cooperation with private companies.**

**We encourage further efforts to mainstream a gender perspective into all organisational policies, practices, programmes and technical cooperation projects, the programmes for country partnership and the strategic frameworks. This should be done in a manner that allows for reporting to the member states on the progress made.**

**In this regard, we look forward to the development of the strategy on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women. We encourage strengthening of UNIDO's organizational architecture**

**and capacity in the field of gender equality, and to ensure adequate resources and authority for the important work to be done.**

**2015 is a milestone year for global cooperation and the UN with the upcoming meetings in Addis Abeba, New York and Paris. The new global framework emerging will be decisive for the work of UNIDO in the years to come. Norway will be a friend of UNIDO on this journey.**

**Thank you, Chair**