Annotated provisional agenda

Item 1. Opening of the session

In accordance with rule 34 of the rules of procedure of the General Conference, the President of the fifteenth session, or, in her absence, the head of the delegation from which the President of that session was elected (Peru), will open the sixteenth session of the General Conference.

Item 2. Election of officers¹

At each regular session the Conference shall, with due regard for equitable geographical representation, elect, from among the representatives of Members, the following officers: a President and nine Vice-Presidents, as well as a Chairman for each Main Committee (rule 35). The officers elected shall constitute the General Committee.

¹ To ensure equitable geographical distribution in the election of officers and the elections to organs, account has to be taken of the latest lists of States to be included in Annex I to the Constitution. The list, as of the date of preparation of the present document, is the same as that included in document PBC.31/11. Before proceeding to the elections, as explained in paragraph 2 of that document, the General Conference will have to decide in which of the lists of States (A, B, C or D) one Member State is to be included.

For reasons of economy, this document has been printed in a limited number. Delegates are kindly requested to bring their copies of documents to meetings.
Election of the President

The election of the President of the General Conference is governed by rule 35 and appendix A of the rules of procedure. However, following an agreement reached among the members of the Lists of States in 2013, when the fifteenth session of the Conference took place in Lima, Peru, the President of the sixteenth session should be elected from States in List B of Annex I to the Constitution. The agreement on the shift of the rotation cycle was circulated in working paper no. 5 on 18 October 2013.

Election of other officers

The nine Vice-Presidents shall be elected so as to ensure the representative character of the General Committee (rule 35.3). Should the Conference decide to establish Main Committees (see item 4 below), the Conference shall also elect a Chairperson for each Main Committee.

Item 3. Adoption of the agenda

In accordance with Article 9.4 (g) of the Constitution, the Industrial Development Board at its forty-third session adopted the provisional agenda for the sixteenth session of the General Conference, as reflected in decision IDB.43/Dec.9. The provisional agenda to be submitted to the Conference for approval is contained in document GC.16/1/Rev.1.

Item 4. Organization of work

In accordance with rule 40, the officers elected shall constitute the General Committee. The General Committee shall propose to the Conference the establishment of Main Committees and of any other sessional bodies of the Conference. It shall propose to the Conference the allocation of items between the plenary, the Main Committees and any other sessional bodies (rule 42). In the past, at each regular session the Conference established a Main Committee to which all the substantive items of the agenda were referred for a more focused debate aimed at the preparation of consensus draft decisions and resolutions for submission to the plenary. The Industrial Development Board, in decision IDB.43/Dec.9, paragraph (d), recommended to the Conference that substantive items of the provisional agenda be allocated to a Main Committee.

Furthermore, in accordance with decision IDB.43/Dec.9, paragraph (e), the President of the forty-third session of the Industrial Development Board will conduct informal consultations for the preparation of the sixteenth session of the Conference. The outcome of these consultations will be brought to the attention of the Conference.

In accordance with decision IDB.43/Dec.9, Member States are urged to submit to the informal consultations any proposed draft decisions or resolutions by 6 November 2015.

When considering the organization of work, it should be kept in mind that the budget for the Conference in the programme and budgets of UNIDO, 2014-2015, provides only for a total of five working days, comprising plenary, Main Committee and geographical group meetings. Moreover, in its decision on preparations for the
General Conference (IDB.43/Dec.9) the Board agreed to hold a forum on industrial development issues within the framework of the Conference (item 9 of the provisional agenda). The draft tentative schedule for the sixteenth session of the Conference is shown in the annex to the present document.

The Conference will have before it:

- List of States included in Annex I to the Constitution of UNIDO (PBC.31/11)
- Report on the results of the informal consultations of Permanent Missions in Vienna for the preparation of the General Conference. Submitted by the Acting President of the forty-third session of the Industrial Development Board, H.E. Mr. SONG Young-wan (Republic of Korea) (GC.16/CRP.2)

**Item 5. Credentials of representatives to the Conference**

As stipulated in Article 8.1 of the Constitution of UNIDO, the Conference shall consist of representatives of all Members of the Organization. Membership in the Organization is defined in Article 3 of the Constitution. In accordance with rule 27 of the rules of procedure of the Conference, the credentials of representatives and the names and titles of the other persons constituting the Member’s delegation shall be submitted to the Director General if possible not less than one week before the opening of the session which the delegation will attend. Any later change in the composition of the delegation shall also be submitted to the Director General. The credentials of representatives shall be issued either by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Member concerned. A Permanent Representative to the Organization does not require special credentials if his/her letter of accreditation to the Organization specifies that he/she is authorized to represent his/her Government at sessions of the Conference, it being understood that this does not preclude that Government from accrediting another person as its representative by means of special credentials.

A Credentials Committee of nine members shall be appointed at the beginning of the Conference on the proposal of the President. Its composition shall be based on that of the Credentials Committee of the United Nations General Assembly at its seventieth session, which is as follows: Argentina, Austria, Barbados, China, Côte d’Ivoire, Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation, South Africa and the United States of America. The Committee shall examine the credentials of representatives and report without delay to the Conference, which shall decide any question arising (rule 28).

**Item 6. Elections to organs**

(a) **Industrial Development Board**

In accordance with Article 9.1 of the Constitution, the Industrial Development Board shall consist of 53 Members of the Organization elected by the Conference, which shall give due regard to the principle of equitable geographical distribution. In electing the members of the Board, the Conference shall observe the following distribution of seats: 33 members of the Board shall be elected from the States listed

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2 See footnote 1.
in Lists A and C, 15 from the States listed in List B, and 5 from the States listed in List D of Annex I to the Constitution.

In accordance with Article 9.2 of the Constitution, “members of the Board shall hold office from the close of the regular session of the Conference at which they were elected until the close of the regular session of the Conference four years thereafter. Members of the Board may be re-elected.”

At present the Board is composed of the following States: Algeria,** Argentina,** Austria,** Belgium,* Brazil,* Burkina Faso,** Cameroon,** China,* Costa Rica,* Côte d’Ivoire,** Cuba,** Czech Republic,* Ecuador,* Egypt,* Finland,* Germany,* Ghana,* Greece,** Guatemala,** Hungary,* India,** Iran (Islamic Republic of),** Ireland,** Italy,* Japan,* Jordan,** Kuwait,* Lesotho,* Mexico,* Namibia,** Nigeria,* Norway,* Pakistan,** Peru,** Philippines,** Poland,* Republic of Korea,* Romania,** Russian Federation,** South Africa,* Spain,** Sri Lanka,* Sudan,* Sweden,* Switzerland,** Syrian Arab Republic,** Thailand,* Tunisia,** Turkey,** Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of),** Zimbabwe,** Vacant (List B),* Vacant (List B).**

(b) Programme and Budget Committee

In accordance with Article 10.1 of the Constitution, the Programme and Budget Committee shall consist of 27 Members of the Organization elected by the Conference, which shall give due regard to the principle of equitable geographical distribution. In electing the members of the Committee, the Conference shall observe the following distribution of seats: 15 members of the Committee shall be elected from the States listed in Lists A and C, 9 from the States listed in List B and 3 from the States listed in List D of Annex I to the Constitution.

In accordance with Article 10.2, “members of the Committee shall hold office from the close of the regular session of the Conference at which they were elected until the close of the regular session of the Conference two years thereafter. Members of the Committee may be re-elected.”

At its fifteenth session, the Conference elected the following States to hold office until the close of the sixteenth regular session of the Conference in December 2015: Austria, Brazil, Cameroon, China, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Cuba, Finland, Germany, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Poland, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, Spain, Switzerland, Togo, Turkey, Ukraine.

Item 7. Annual reports of the Director General on the activities of the Organization for 2013 and 2014

In accordance with rule 13.1 (b), the provisional agenda for each regular session of the Conference shall include the annual reports of the Director General on the activities of the Organization. The Conference will thus have before it the

* Twenty-six States whose term of office expires at the end of the sixteenth regular session of the General Conference in 2015 (decision GC.14/Dec.10 of 2 December 2011).
** Twenty-seven States whose term of office expires at the end of the seventeenth regular session of the General Conference in 2017 (decision GC. 15/Dec.9 of 6 December 2013).
annual reports of UNIDO for 2013 and 2014, which were submitted to the Board at its forty-second and forty-third sessions respectively:

- Annual Report of UNIDO 2013 (including programme performance report) (IDB.42/2)
- Annual Report of UNIDO 2014 (including programme performance report) (IDB.43/2)

**Item 8. Reports of the Industrial Development Board on the work of its forty-second and forty-third regular sessions**

In accordance with Article 9.4 (c) of the Constitution, the Board shall report to the Conference at each regular session on the activities of the Board. Since the closure of the fifteenth session of the General Conference, the Board will have held two regular sessions. The Conference will have before it the following reports of those sessions:


**Item 9. Forum on industrial development issues**

At its forty-third session, the Board adopted decision IDB.43/Dec.9 on preparations for the sixteenth session of the General Conference. In paragraph (c) of that decision, the Board agreed to hold a forum within the framework of the Conference. Participants will be advised in due course on arrangements for the forum.

The Conference will have before it:

- Forum on industrial development issues. Issues paper by the Secretariat (GC.16/4)

**Item 10. Financial matters**

(a) **Scale of assessments of Member States**

In accordance with rule 13.1 (k) of the rules of procedure of the Conference, the provisional agenda for each regular session shall include recommendations of the Board for the establishment of the scale of assessments. Article 15 of the Constitution stipulates that regular budget expenditures shall be borne by the Members, as apportioned in accordance with a scale of assessments established by the Conference by a two-thirds majority of the Members present and voting, upon the recommendation of the Board.

The Conference will have before it:

- Board decision IDB.43/Dec.4 on the scale of assessments, 2016-2017
- Scale of assessments for the fiscal period 2016-2017. Note by the Secretariat (IDB.43/7)
(b) Financial situation of UNIDO

Rule 13.1 (l) states that the provisional agenda shall include financial matters requiring action by the Conference or that should be brought to its attention. Information brought to the attention of the Conference under this item will include the status of payment of assessed contributions.

Information on the activities of the Industrial Development Fund is included in the annual reports of the Organization for 2013 and 2014 and in document IDB.43/4* on the financial situation of UNIDO.

The Conference will have before it:
- Financial situation of UNIDO. Report by the Director General (GC.16/5)
- Status of assessed contributions. Note by the Secretariat (GC.16/CRP.1)
- Status of unutilized balances of appropriations. Note by the Secretariat (GC.16/CRP.3)

(c) Working Capital Fund

In accordance with financial regulation 5.4, upon recommendation of the Programme and Budget Committee and subsequently the Board, the Conference shall determine the amount and purposes of the Working Capital Fund. Financial regulation 5.5 (d) stipulates that advances to the Working Capital Fund shall be assessed and paid in euros.

At its fifteenth session, the Conference in its decision GC.15/Dec.14 decided that for the 2014-2015 biennium, the level of the Working Capital Fund and the authorized purposes of the Fund should remain the same as for the previous bienniums (see decision GC.2/Dec.27).

The Conference will have to take action on the recommendations of the Board concerning the level and purposes of the Working Capital Fund for the biennium 2016-2017, based on consideration of document IDB.43/8. Thus, the Conference will have before it:
- Board decision IDB.43/Dec.5 on the Working Capital Fund, 2016-2017

(d) Appointment of an External Auditor

In accordance with financial regulation 11.1, an External Auditor, who shall be Auditor-General (or an officer exercising an equivalent function) of a Member State, shall be appointed in the manner and for the period decided by the Conference. By decision GC.15/Dec.8 the Conference decided to appoint the Auditor General of Germany as the External Auditor of UNIDO for a period of two years, from 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2016.
The Conference will have to take action on the question of the appointment of an External Auditor for the period from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2018, as contained in:

- Candidatures for the appointment of an External Auditor. Report by the Director General (GC.16/15)

**Item 11. Programme and budgets, 2016-2017**

In accordance with Article 14.4 of the Constitution, the Conference shall consider and approve the programme of work and the corresponding regular budget and operational budget submitted to it by the Board, by a two-thirds majority of the Members present and voting. At its forty-third session, the Board adopted the programme and budgets for the biennium 2016-2017 (IDB.43/6 and IDB.43/6/Add.1) and adopted Board decision IDB.43/Dec.6.

The Conference will thus have before it:

- Board decision IDB.43/Dec.6 on the programme and budgets, 2016-2017
- Programme and budgets, 2016-2017. Proposals of the Director General (IDB.43/6) and adjustments to the proposals of the Director General (IDB.43/6/Add.1)

**Item 12. Medium-term programme framework, 2016-2019**

At its fifteenth session the General Conference decided that the medium-term programme framework (MTPF) 2010-2013 (IDB.35/8/Add.1) remain in force until the end of 2015 (decision GC.15/Dec.17). The Conference furthermore requested the Director General to submit from 2015 onwards, on a quadrennial basis, to the Board in the second year of a biennium, through the Programme and Budget Committee, a draft medium-term programme framework for four years, taking into account the Lima Declaration: Towards inclusive and sustainable industrial development, the recommendations of the latest comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development and the recommendations of the outcome document of the informal working group on the future, including programmes and resources, of UNIDO, entitled “Strategic Guidance Document”. A provisional outline of the MTPF, 2016-2019, was presented to the forty-second session of the Board. At its forty-third session the Board considered the comprehensive proposal of the Director General for the MTPF, 2016-2019, as included in documents IDB.43/9 and IDB.43/9/Add.1 and recommended a draft resolution concerning the MTPF, 2016-2019, to the General Conference for adoption. Thus, the Conference will have before it:

- Board decision IDB.43/Dec.7 on the medium-term programme framework, 2016-2019

**Item 13. UNIDO field policy and network**

At its forty-third session, the Industrial Development Board took note of the proposal contained in document IDB.43/6 regarding the field structure adjustment and further requested the Director General, taking into consideration the recommendation contained in paragraph 12 of the “Strategic Guidance Document” (IDB.41/24), to present to the sixteenth session of the General Conference a
comprehensive action plan concerning the field policy, including associated capacities at UNIDO headquarters, and the field network with adjustments (decision IDB.43/Dec.6).

The Conference will thus have before it:

• UNIDO field policy and network. Action plan by the Director General (GC.16/6)

**Item 14. Implementation of the Lima Declaration: Towards inclusive and sustainable industrial development**

At its fifteenth session the General Conference adopted the Lima Declaration: Towards inclusive and sustainable industrial development (GC.15/Res.1) calling on UNIDO to enhance its support for the efforts of countries towards achieving inclusive and sustainable industrial development. In paragraph 13 of the Declaration, the Director General was requested to regularly report to the General Conference on UNIDO's assistance to Member States towards achieving enhanced levels of inclusive and sustainable industrial development and on its developmental impact. The documentation under this item will provide up-to-date information on UNIDO's strategic approach to partnerships in this context, as well as a progress report on UNIDO and the post-2015 development agenda, and include an action plan for supporting and monitoring progress towards achieving ISID, as a concrete follow-up to the industry-related development goals of the post-2015 development agenda in line with Board decision IDB.43/Dec.8(j).

The Conference will have before it:

• Implementation of the Lima Declaration: Towards inclusive and sustainable industrial development. Report by the Director General (GC.16/7*)

• High-level event “Operationalization of the 2030 Agenda for Africa’s industrialization” at the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit 2015. Note by the Secretariat (GC.16/CRP.4)

• Development and expansion of UNIDO’s partnership approach: the Programme for Country Partnership. Note by the Secretariat (GC.16/CRP.5)

**Item 15. UNIDO Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women Strategy**

The present item was proposed by the Director General with a view to presenting to the Conference the Organization’s four-year strategy for gender equality and empowerment of women. The strategy will be aligned with the medium-term programme framework, 2016-2019.

The Conference will have before it:

• UNIDO Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women Strategy, 2016-2019. Report by the Director General (GC.16/8)

**Item 16. UNIDO activities related to energy and the environment**

In its resolution GC.15/Res.4, the Conference provided a number of guiding recommendations regarding UNIDO activities in the intertwined areas of energy and environment. Progress reports were presented to the Board at its forty-second
session in documents IDB.42/12 and IDB.42/13, as well as in the Annual Report of UNIDO 2013 (IDB.42/2) and the Annual Report of UNIDO 2014 (IDB.43/2). This information will be further updated.

The Conference will have before it:

• UNIDO activities related to energy. Report by the Director General (GC.16/9)
• UNIDO activities related to the environment. Report by the Director General (GC.16/10)

Item 17. UNIDO activities related to agribusiness, trade capacity-building and job creation

In both the Annual Report of UNIDO 2013 (IDB.42/2) and the Annual Report of UNIDO 2014 (IDB.43/2), Member States were informed of UNIDO activities related to agribusiness, trade capacity-building and job creation. The Conference will be provided with an update on these issues, as contained in:

• UNIDO activities related to agribusiness, trade capacity-building and job creation. Report by the Director General (GC.16/11)

Item 18. UNIDO activities related to the implementation of the Lima Ministerial Declaration for the Least Developed Countries

In resolution GC.15/Res.6 the General Conference at its fifteenth session took note of the Lima Ministerial Declaration for the Least Developed Countries. Furthermore, the Conference requested the Director General to report to the sixteenth session of the Conference on related UNIDO activities. Since then a number of important developments have taken place on which information has been provided in the Annual Reports of UNIDO 2013 and 2014. This information will be updated in a report by the Director General, as contained in:

• UNIDO activities in support of least developed countries. Report by the Director General (GC.16/12 and Corr.1)

Item 19. UNIDO activities related to cooperation with middle-income countries taking into account the San José Declaration

At its forty-first session, the Board took note of the declaration adopted by the High-Level Conference of Middle-Income Countries, hosted by the Government of Costa Rica and co-organized by UNIDO in San José, Costa Rica, from 12 to 14 June 2013 (decision IDB.41/Dec.4). Further to the decision reports on UNIDO activities related to cooperation with middle-income countries were contained in document GC.15/9 as well as in the Annual Reports of UNIDO 2013 and 2014. The Conference will have before it:

• UNIDO activities related to cooperation with middle-income countries. Report by the Director General (GC.16/13)

Item 20. Personnel matters, including the UNIDO Staff Pension Committee

The Conference will have to take action on the recommendation of the forty-third session of the Board (IDB.43/Dec.10) concerning candidates for election to the UNIDO Staff Pension Committee for the years 2016 and 2017 as well as any
developments that have occurred since the adoption of that decision. The Conference may also wish to authorize the Board to proceed with the election for any Committee posts that might become vacant before the Conference holds its seventeenth session.

The Conference will thus have before it:

• Board decision IDB.43/Dec.10 on personnel matters

**Item 21. Matters related to intergovernmental, non-governmental, governmental and other organizations**

In accordance with rule 13 of the rules of procedure of the Conference, the provisional agenda for each regular session shall include reports from specialized and related agencies and from other intergovernmental organizations with which UNIDO has concluded a relationship agreement pursuant to Article 19.1 (a) of the Constitution, and items proposed by them, where the agreement establishing the relationship with the organization concerned so provides.

In the guidelines for the relationship of UNIDO with intergovernmental, governmental, non-governmental and other organizations adopted by the General Conference at its first session (GC.1/Dec.41, annex), it is stipulated that the Director General shall report to the Conference at each regular session on any agreements with intergovernmental and governmental organizations entered into by him on behalf of the Organization since the preceding regular session as well as on any consultative relations established with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the same period.

Updated information on the status of relations with intergovernmental, non-governmental, governmental and other organizations will be provided to the Conference.

The Conference will thus have before it:

• Relations with intergovernmental, non-governmental, governmental and other organizations. Note by the Director General (GC.16/14)

**Item 22. Date and place of the seventeenth session**

Article 8.2 (a) of the Constitution stipulates that the Conference shall hold a regular session every two years, unless it decides otherwise. In the programme and budget proposals of the Director General for 2016-2017, provisions have been made to hold the seventeenth session of the General Conference for the duration of five working days. The dates of 27 November to 1 December 2017 have been scheduled tentatively for the seventeenth session of the Conference in Vienna.

**Item 23. Annual report on the activities of the Multilateral Diplomatic Committee**

The inclusion of this item was proposed by the Chair of the Multilateral Diplomatic Committee in accordance with rule 14 of the rules of procedure of the Conference. An explanatory statement was circulated to all Member States and considered at the third session of the informal consultations on the preparations for the sixteenth session of the General Conference on 19 November 2015.
The Conference will have before it:

- Annual report on the activities of the Multilateral Diplomatic Committee.
  Report by the Chair (GC.16/CRP.6)

**Item 24. Closure of the session**
## Annex

**Proposed tentative schedule of work of the General Conference, sixteenth session, 30 November-4 December 2015**

*Overarching theme: “Sustainable industrialization for shared prosperity”*

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