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## **Statement of Hungary at the 16th General Conference of UNIDO**

**Vienna 2nd December 2015.**

Mr. President,

Let me congratulate you and assure you of the full support of my delegation. I would also like to fully align ourselves with the statement of the EU.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentleman,

Hungary welcomes the 2030 Agenda endorsed at the UN Summit on 25 September 2015 in New York. We believe that the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals requires holistic, forward-looking policies created both nationally and internationally and it should be built on a true Global Partnership. In our opinion the UN system has a very important role to play in providing guidance and essential tools for contributing to policy design and implementation in the fields covered by the SDGs. The task ahead is complex, but the mission should be clear: ensure that our common development becomes sustainable. The Agenda 2030 represents a real chance to build a people and planet centered future without poverty and hunger, where people respect planetary boundaries while prosperity is ensured for everyone. Hungary believes that UNIDO has a role to play in this mission.

UNIDO has a defined task within the SDGs. We believe that Sustainable Development Goal 9 clearly underpins UNIDO's core mandate to promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization, with the more specific target to double industry's share of employment and gross domestic product in least developed countries, by 2030. Cooperation between international organizations is also vital so that synergies can be created and duplication of work can be avoided.

Mr. President,

Re-industrialization is a priority for my government, as we are working to create competitive conditions in the production sector for national and international companies to contribute to higher employment rates which could also lead to growth in our foreign trade volumes. UNIDO's strategic direction is in line with Hungarian and EU development priorities for re-industrialization and the goal of raising the contribution of industry to 20 per cent of the GDP by 2020. Industry in Hungary already contributes 23 per cent to GDP.

Hungary supports UNIDO's activities and its mandate. Hungary's support for UNIDO has been manifested by years of joint cooperation and commitments. Director General LI Yong visited Budapest in September this year and met with high level officials including the Foreign Minister.

The discussions focused on the implementation of the SDGs, strengthening cooperation in the areas of science, industry and technology parks; social and economic inclusion of disadvantaged groups; water management; vocational training for industrial competitiveness; and on building partnerships with counterpart institutions such as chambers of commerce and industry. The DG gave a keynote speech at the National Bank of Hungary where he highlighted that UNIDO can facilitate small and medium-sized enterprises' access to credit lines from banks, and broker linkages with key industry players.

Mr. President,

The issue of preventing social exclusion is on the policy agenda in many countries in Europe and Central Asia. This is in response to growing inequalities, unemployment, poverty, and environmental degradation, arising as negative consequence from globalization and the economic crisis.

Hungary will fund a UNIDO project worth 178,000 Euros which aims to foster social and economic inclusion of disadvantaged population and marginalized groups, including ethnic minorities, in Central, South East and Eastern Europe. The project document was signed between Hungary and UNIDO in November.

The project will establish a regional knowledge sourcing platform drawing on the expertise and experiences of a diverse group of stakeholders working to address social exclusion. These include representatives from the government, the private sector, academia, civil society, social enterprises and international organizations.

We hope to start working soon on the implementation of the project with UNIDO and organize an international conference on this topic in Budapest.

Thank you.