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Item 3 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

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 seventeenth session, or, in her absence, the head of the delegation from which the President of that session was elected (Belarus), will open the eighteenth 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.

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, when the General Conference has been hosted outside of Headquarters in Vienna, the practice has been to elect a representative of the host country as President of the Conference. This practice was also followed for the fifteenth session of the Conference, which took place in Lima in 2013. On this occasion, the members of the lists of States reached an agreement that the President of the fifteenth session would be elected from States in List C of Annex I to the Constitution, while the President of the sixteenth session would be elected from States in List B. The agreement on the shift of the rotation cycle was circulated to Member States in working paper No. 5 on 18 October 2013. As per this agreement, the President of the eighteenth session should be elected from African

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.35/15/Rev.1](#). 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) three Member States (Antigua and Barbuda, Kiribati, and Micronesia) are to be included.

For reasons of economy, this document has not been printed. Delegates are kindly requested to bring their copies of documents to meetings.



States in List A of Annex I to the Constitution. However, discussions are currently ongoing between the members of the lists of States, to consider electing the President of the eighteenth session from the Asian States in List A, in line with the above-mentioned past practice. Once an agreement has been reached between the lists of States, it will be circulated in a working paper.

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-seventh session adopted the provisional agenda for the eighteenth session of the General Conference, as reflected in decision IDB.47/Dec.11. The provisional agenda to be submitted to the Conference for approval is contained in document [GC.18/1](#).

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.47/Dec.11, 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.47/Dec.11, paragraph (e), the President of the forty-seventh session of the Industrial Development Board will conduct informal consultations for the preparation of the eighteenth session of the Conference. The outcome of these consultations will be brought to the attention of the Conference.

In accordance with decision IDB.47/Dec.11, paragraph (f), Member States are urged to submit to the informal consultations any proposed draft decisions or resolutions by 14 October 2019.

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, 2018-2019, provides only for a total of five working days, comprising plenary, General Committee, Credentials Committee, Main Committee and geographical group meetings. Moreover, in its decision on preparations for the General Conference (IDB.47/Dec.11) the Board agreed to hold a forum on industrial development issues within the framework of the Conference (item 9 of the provisional agenda), including a special event on the economic empowerment of women. The draft tentative schedule for the eighteenth session of the Conference is shown in the annex to the present document.

The Conference will have before it:

- Lists of States included in Annex I to the Constitution of UNIDO ([PBC.35/15/Rev.1](#))
- Report on the results of the informal consultations of Permanent Missions in Vienna for the preparation of the General Conference. Submitted by the

President of the forty-seventh session of the Industrial Development Board,
H.E. Mr. Senén Florensa Palau (Spain) (GC.18/CRP.1)

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 seventy-fourth session. A working paper on the credentials of representatives, including the composition of the Committee, will be circulated by the Secretariat. 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 organs²

(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 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 fifty-two States: Algeria,^{**} Angola,^{*} Argentina,^{**} Austria,^{**} Bangladesh,^{**} Belarus,^{*} Burkina Faso,^{**} China,^{*} Costa Rica,^{**} Côte d'Ivoire,^{**} Croatia,^{*} Cuba,^{**} Cyprus,^{*} Ecuador,^{*} Egypt,^{*} Ethiopia,^{**} Finland,^{*} Germany,^{*} Hungary,^{**} India,^{**} Iran (Islamic Republic of),^{**} Ireland,^{**} Italy,^{**} Japan,^{*} Kenya,^{*} Kuwait,^{*} Lebanon,^{*} Luxembourg,^{**} Malta,^{**} Mexico,^{*} Morocco,^{**} Nigeria,^{*} Norway,^{*} Pakistan,^{**} Panama,^{*} Peru,^{**} Philippines,^{**} Poland,^{*} Republic of Korea,^{*} Russian Federation,^{**} Saudi Arabia,^{**} South Africa,^{*} Spain,^{**} Sudan,^{*} Sweden,^{*} Switzerland,^{**} Thailand,^{*} Tunisia,^{**} Turkey,^{**} Uruguay,^{*} Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)^{**} and Zambia.^{**} Vacant (List B).^{*}

² See footnote 1.

^{*} Twenty-six States whose term of office expires at the end of the eighteenth regular session of the General Conference in 2019 (decision GC.16/Dec.9 of 3 December 2015).

^{**} Twenty-seven States whose term of office expires at the end of the nineteenth regular session of the General Conference in 2021 (decision GC.17/Dec.11 of 30 November 2017).

(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 seventeenth session, the Conference elected the following States to hold office until the close of the eighteenth regular session of the Conference in 2019: Algeria, Austria, China, Colombia, Cuba, Cyprus, Finland, Germany, Hungary, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Russian Federation, Spain, Sudan, Switzerland, Tunisia, Turkey, and Vacant (List C).

Item 7. Annual reports of the Director General on the activities of the Organization for 2017 and 2018

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 annual reports of UNIDO for 2017 and 2018, which were submitted to the Board at its forty-sixth and forty-seventh sessions respectively:

- *Annual Report of UNIDO 2017* (IDB.46/2)
- *Annual Report of UNIDO 2018* (IDB.47/2)

Item 8. Reports of the Industrial Development Board on the work of its forty-sixth and forty-seventh 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 seventeenth 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:

- Report of the Industrial Development Board on the work of its forty-sixth session, 26–28 November 2018 (GC.18/2)
- Report of the Industrial Development Board on the work of its forty-seventh session, 1–3 July 2019 (GC.18/3)
- Addendum on the resumed forty-seventh session (GC.18/3/Add.1)

Item 9. Forum on industrial development issues

At its forty-seventh session, the Board adopted decision IDB.47/Dec.11 on preparations for the eighteenth session of the General Conference. In paragraph (c) of that decision, the Board agreed to hold a forum on industrial development issues within the framework of the Conference, including a special event on the economic empowerment of women. The forum will include, among other events, UNIDO’s Forum on Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development, and the official launch of the Industrial Development Report 2020 titled “The future of industrialization”. 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.18/4)

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 on the scale of assessments, 2020–2021, to be adopted by the resumed forty-seventh session
- Scale of assessments for the fiscal period 2020–2021. Revised note by the Secretariat ([IDB.47/6/Rev.1](#))

(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 2017 and 2018 and in document [IDB.47/4](#) on the financial situation of UNIDO.

The Conference will have before it:

- Financial situation of UNIDO. Report by the Director General (GC.18/5)
- Status of assessed contributions. Note by the Secretariat (GC.18/CRP.2)
- Status of unutilized balances of appropriations. Note by the Secretariat (GC.18/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 seventeenth session, the Conference in its decision GC.17/Dec.16 decided that for the 2018–2019 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, paragraph (b)).

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 2020–2021, based on consideration of document [IDB.47/7](#). Thus, the Conference will have before it:

- Board decision [IDB.47/Dec.4](#) on the Working Capital Fund, 2020–2021
- Working Capital Fund for the biennium 2020–2021. Proposals of the Director General ([IDB.47/7](#))

In decision IDB.46/Dec.8, the Board called on all Member States to reach an agreement on the proposals to address the issue of unutilized balances of appropriations through the informal working group on Programme and Budget Committee-related issues, and for the working group to present the agreed proposal to be considered by the thirty-fifth session of the Programme and Budget Committee and ultimate adoption by the forty-seventh session of the Industrial Development Board and by the eighteenth session of the General Conference.

At its forty-seventh session, the Board considered a report by the Co-chairs of the informal working group providing a proposal regarding the unutilized balances of appropriations and one on the Working Capital Fund (IDB.47/9). Subsequently the Board adopted decision IDB.47/Dec.5 on activating the use of the Working Capital Fund to significantly reduce the problem of unutilized balances of appropriations. Thus, the Conference will have before it:

- Board decision IDB.47/Dec.5 on activating the use of the Working Capital Fund to significantly reduce the problem of unutilized balances of appropriations
- Proposal by the informal working group on Programme and Budget Committee-related issues providing a proposal regarding the unutilized balances of appropriations (IDB.47/9)

(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.17/Dec.17 the Conference decided to appoint the Auditor General of the Philippines as the External Auditor of UNIDO for a period of two years, from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2020.

The Conference will have to take action on the question of the appointment of an External Auditor for the period from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2022, as contained in:

- Candidates for the appointment of an External Auditor. Report by the Director General (IDB.47/11)
- Candidates for the appointment of an External Auditor. Note by the Secretariat (PBC.35/CRP.5)

Item 11. Programme and budgets, 2020–2021

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. As no consensus was found on this item, the forty-seventh session of the Board was adjourned in accordance with rule 9. At the resumed forty-seventh session, the Board will adopt the programme and budgets for the biennium 2020–2021 and a corresponding decision.

The Conference will thus have before it:

- Board decision on the programme and budgets, 2020–2021
- Programme and budgets, 2020–2021. Proposals of the Director General (IDB.47/5)
- Programme and budgets, 2020–2021. Adjustments to the proposals of the Director General (IDB.47/5/Add.1)
- Programme and budgets, 2020–2021. Additional adjustments to the proposals of the Director General (IDB.47/5/Add.2)
- UNIDO in the United Nations Resident Coordinator system. Note by the Secretariat (IDB.47/CRP.13)

Item 12. Midterm review of the medium-term programme framework, 2018–2021

In paragraphs (e) and (f) of decision GC.15/Dec.17, the Conference requested a medium-term programme framework (MTPF) for four years. In addition, the Board, in its decision IDB.44/Dec.10, requested an updated MTPF for the period 2018–2021. A detailed proposal, including programmatic refinements following the adoption of General Assembly resolution [71/243](#) on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system on 21 December 2016, were presented to the Board at its forty-fifth session. In line with the four-year horizon established in line with IDB.44/Dec.10, a mid-term review of the MTPF was presented to the thirty-fifth session of the Programme and Budget Committee and the forty-seventh session of the Board.

Thus, the Conference will have before it:

- Mid-term review of the Medium-Term Programme Framework (MTPF), 2018–2021 ([IDB.47/10](#))
- Integrated Results and Performance Framework: Updated indicators and definitions (GC.18/CRP.4)

Item 13. UNIDO and the United Nations development system reform, including the new Resident Coordinator System and the field network

On 21 December 2016, the United Nations General Assembly adopted resolution [71/243](#) on the Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system. In June 2017, the United Nations Secretary-General launched his first report on repositioning the United Nations development system (UNDS), and a second report was issued in December 2017. On 31 May 2018, the General Assembly adopted resolution [72/279](#) on the repositioning of UNDS.

At its forty-sixth session, the Board was provided with a report by the Director General on UNIDO's engagement with and positioning within the UNDS reform ([IDB.46/11](#)).

In its decision IDB.46/Dec.12, the Board requested the Director General to report on UNIDO's role, including its field network, within the United Nations Country Teams and UNDAF, as well as its involvement in the revamped regional mechanisms of the United Nations development system and UNSDG in light of the United Nations development system reform, with the aim to strengthen the Organization's delivery of its mandate to Member States. It also requested the Director General to report on the services provided by the Resident Coordinator System to UNIDO and periodical assess the benefits of those services for UNIDO, without prejudice to UNIDO's obligations in General Assembly resolution [72/279](#). Furthermore, the Board requested the Director General to report follow-up actions to the recommendations provided by the Industrial Development Board to the high-level political forum on sustainable development (HLPF) under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council.

IDB.46/Dec.12 requested the Director General to report regularly on the above to the Programme and Budget Committee, the Industrial Development Board and the General Conference of UNIDO.

At its forty-seventh session, the Board was provided with a report by the Director General updating on recent developments concerning the UNDS reform, as well as on funding-related aspects.

The Conference will have before it:

- UNIDO and the United Nations development system reform, including the new Resident Coordinator System and the field network. Report by the Director General (GC.18/6)

Item 14. UNIDO, gender equality and the empowerment of women

In its resolution GC.16/Res.3, the sixteenth session of the General Conference welcomed the UNIDO Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women Strategy, 2016–2019 (GC.16/8) and requested the Director General, inter alia, to implement the actions outlined in the strategy and align UNIDO’s programmes and projects with the goals and targets regarding gender equality and empowerment of all women and girls as spelled out in the 2030 Agenda.

At its seventeenth session, the General Conference inter alia called for the implementation of gender mainstreaming to be scaled up in all thematic areas; the promotion of women’s economic empowerment, entrepreneurship and leadership; and for strengthened efforts to achieve gender parity and an enabling environment within the Organization (resolution GC.17/Res.3). The Conference requested the Director General to submit to the General Conference at its eighteenth session a report on the implementation of resolution GC.17/Res.3 and to present an updated Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women Strategy to be implemented starting in 2020.

At its forty-seventh session, the Board considered a report by the Director General providing information on the progress in implementing programmes, projects and organizational actions to advance gender equality and the empowerment of women (IDB.47/25). The report also proposed a systematic approach for the Secretariat to report to Member States on gender-related results, in line with the requirements of the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women 2.0 (UN-SWAP 2.0).

The Conference will have before it:

- UNIDO, gender equality and the empowerment of women. Report by the Director General (GC.18/7)
- Strategy for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, 2020–2023. Report by the Director General (GC.18/15)

Item 15. UNIDO and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

At its sixteenth session, the General Conference requested the Director General to report to Member States on UNIDO’s contribution to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda, taking into consideration the report of the United Nations Secretary-General, and the Global Indicator Framework (GC.16/Res.2). In the same resolution, the General Conference also requested the Director General to continue to actively contribute and pursue a leading role for UNIDO in the ongoing discussions with other international organizations and stakeholders on the follow-up and review mechanism for the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 9 and other relevant and interlinked goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda. At its forty-fourth session, the Board reiterated the commitment of UNIDO and its Member States to the realization of the 2030 Agenda (decision IDB.44/Dec.9). Reports on UNIDO’s contribution to the 2030 Agenda were provided regularly to the Board and the General Conference. A further progress report building on previous documents will be presented to the Conference.

In 2014, the United Nations General Assembly adopted resolution 69/15 on Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway. In November 2018, a mid-term review of the SAMOA Pathway was conducted reaffirming that the SAMOA Pathway is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda and its related SDGs, as well as the standalone overarching framework for guiding global, regional and national development efforts to achieve the

sustainable development aspirations of SIDS. As part of the United Nations system Implementation Matrix for the SAMOA Pathway, UNIDO has committed to assist SIDS in a number of priority areas. UNIDO is also a member of the Inter-Agency Consultative Group on SIDS (IACG), established pursuant to General Assembly resolution [59/311](#). Furthermore, the Joint Inspection Unit report ([JIU/REP/2016/7](#)) on the review of the United Nations System support for SIDS recommended to the United Nations agencies, inter alia, the mainstreaming of the SAMOA Pathway in strategic plans, planning SIDS activities in line with national and regional priorities, and the allocation of multi-year funding to facilitate the effective implementation of programmatic activities in support of SIDS. Under this item, the Conference will consider UNIDO's SIDS strategy, 2019–2025.

The Conference will have before it:

- UNIDO and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Report by the Director General (GC.18/8)
- UNIDO's Small Island Developing States Strategy, 2019–2025. Report by the Director General (GC.18/9)
- Small Island Developing States Strategy, 2019–2025 (GC.18/CRP.5)

Item 16. Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA III)

United Nations General Assembly resolution [70/293](#) on the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (2016–2025) mandated UNIDO as the lead Organization to develop, operationalize and spearhead the implementation of IDDA III, as well as enhance technical assistance and efforts towards resource mobilization for African countries specifically for this purpose.

In its decision IDB.46/Dec.13, the Board requested the Director General to regularly report on the progress made on IDDA III in the annual reports of the Director General to the Programme and Budget Committee, the Industrial Development Board and the General Conference, and to the informal working group on PBC-related matters, on a quarterly basis. A report was considered by the forty-seventh session of the Board ([IDB.47/12](#)) in conjunction with the information on IDDA III contained in Chapter 7 of the *Annual Report of UNIDO 2018*.

The Conference will have before it:

- Update on the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA III). Report by the Director General (GC.18/10)

Item 17. UNIDO activities related to energy and the environment

Through resolution GC.17/Res.4, the Conference requested the Director General to strengthen the implementation and efficiency of UNIDO programmes co-financed by the Global Environment Facility, the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol, bilateral donors and multi-donor initiatives in industry-related energy and environment fields, with a results-based approach, giving particular attention to the developmental impact of these programmes in the field, including the capacity-building and technology transfer, on mutually agreed terms, required to create conditions for more sustainable patterns of production. It also requested the Director General to report on these projects and programmes to the Industrial Development Board for them to serve as a model for future projects and programmes. The Board considered such reports at its forty-sixth and forty-seventh sessions. The Conference will be provided with an update on UNIDO's activities related to energy and the environment.

The Conference will have before it:

- UNIDO activities related to energy and the environment. Report by the Director General (GC.18/11)

Item 18. UNIDO activities related to agribusiness, trade capacity-building and job creation

In both the *Annual Report of UNIDO 2017* (IDB.46/2) and the *Annual Report of UNIDO 2018* (IDB.47/2), 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.18/12)

Item 19. UNIDO activities related to the Vienna Ministerial Declaration for the Least Developed Countries

In resolution GC.17/Res.5, the seventeenth session of the General Conference took note of the Vienna Ministerial Declaration for the Least Developed Countries. Furthermore, the Conference requested the Director General to report to the eighteenth session of the Conference on related UNIDO activities.

The Conference will have before it:

- UNIDO activities in support of least developed countries. Report by the Director General (GC.18/13)

Item 20. UNIDO activities related to cooperation with middle-income countries taking into account the San José Declaration

In its resolution GC.17/Res.6, the seventeenth session of the General Conference requested the Director General to identify and discuss with Member States a strategic framework for collaboration of UNIDO, within its mandate and resources, with middle-income countries. This strategic framework should aim at facilitating inclusive and sustainable industrial development in this group of countries. The Conference also requested the Director General to submit proposals on such a strategy to the forty-sixth session of the Industrial Development Board.

At its forty-sixth session, the Board considered a report by the Director General containing a strategic framework for the partnering of UNIDO, within its mandate and resources, with middle-income countries (IDB.46/13). Through decision IDB.46/Dec.10, the Board requested the Director General to organize consultations with Member States for the finalization of the draft strategic framework, to present it for consideration to the Board at its forty-seventh session.

At its forty-seventh session, the Board took note of the draft UNIDO strategic framework for partnering with middle-income countries (IDB.47/26) and recommended its adoption to the General Conference (decision IDB.47/Dec.7).

The Conference will have before it:

- Board decision IDB.47/Dec.7 on strategic framework for partnering with middle-income countries
- Strategic framework for partnering with middle-income countries. Report by the Director General (IDB.47/26)

Item 21. Personnel matters, including the UNIDO Staff Pension Committee

The Conference will have to act upon the recommendations of the forty-seventh session of the Board to the General Conference to take action concerning candidates for election to the UNIDO Staff Pension Committee for the years 2020 and 2021, as well as any developments that have occurred since the adoption of Board decision IDB.47/Dec.9. 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 nineteenth session.

The Conference will thus have before it:

- Board decision IDB.47/Dec.9 on the nominations to the Staff Pension Committee

Item 22. 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.18/14)

Item 23. Date and place of the nineteenth 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 2020–2021, provisions have been made to hold the nineteenth session of the General Conference for the duration of five working days. The dates of 29 November to 3 December 2021 have been scheduled tentatively for the nineteenth session of the Conference in Vienna.

Item 24. Closure of the session.

Annex

Proposed tentative schedule of work of the General Conference, eighteenth session, 3–7 November 2019

Overarching theme: “Industry 2030 – Innovate. Connect. Transform our Future”

<i>Sunday, 3 November</i>	<i>Monday, 4 November</i>	<i>Tuesday, 5 November</i> <i>[thematic breakfast]</i>	<i>Wednesday, 6 November</i> <i>[thematic breakfast]</i>	<i>Thursday, 7 November</i> <i>[thematic breakfast]</i>
1st plenary meeting <u>10 a.m.–1 p.m.</u>	3rd plenary meeting <u>9:30–11:30 a.m.</u>	8:30–10 a.m.	8:30–10 a.m.	8:30–10 a.m.
Opening of the session	General debate	Credentials Committee (tentative) <u>9:30–10.15 a.m.</u>	7th plenary meeting <u>10 a.m.–12 noon</u>	9th plenary meeting <u>10 a.m.–1 p.m.</u>
Statements by Heads of State and Government	<i>[thematic event]</i> <u>11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.</u>	5th plenary meeting <u>10 a.m.–1 p.m.</u>	General debate	Consideration and adoption of decisions and resolutions
General Debate		General debate	Credentials of representatives to the Conference	
	Main Committee – 1st meeting <u>10 a.m.–1 p.m.</u>	Main Committee – 3rd meeting <u>10:30 a.m.–1 p.m.</u>	Main Committee – 5th meeting <u>10 a.m.–1 p.m.</u>	
General Committee <u>2.30–3 p.m.</u>	<i>[thematic event]</i> <u>1.30–3 p.m.</u>	<i>[thematic event]</i> <u>1.30–3 p.m.</u>	<i>[thematic event]</i> <u>1.30–3 p.m.</u>	
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2nd plenary meeting <u>3–6 p.m.</u>	4th plenary meeting <u>3.30–6 p.m.</u>	6th plenary meeting <u>3.30–4.30 p.m.</u>	8th plenary meeting <u>3.30–6 p.m.</u>	
UNIDO Forum on Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development	General debate	Launch of the Industrial Development Report	General debate (if required)	
		General debate <u>4.30–6 p.m.</u>		
	Main Committee – 2nd meeting <u>2–4 p.m.</u>	Main Committee – 4th meeting <u>3–6 p.m.</u>	Main Committee – 6th meeting <u>3.30–6 p.m.</u> (if required)	
Reception <i>[hosted by Director General and the UAE]</i> <u>6.30–8 p.m.</u>	<i>[host country event]</i> <u>6.30–9 p.m.</u>	<i>[host country event]</i> <u>6.30–9 p.m.</u>	<i>[host country event]</i> <u>6.30–9 p.m.</u>	