

Statement by AUSTRIA

at the Industrial Development Board
23-25 November 2020

Agenda item 3: Annual report of the Director General for 2019

Mr. President, Amb. Darmansja Djumala, we congratulate you and the other newly elected members of the bureau while thanking the last bureau for its valuable work specifically Ambassador Senen Florensa of Spain and Ambassador Maria Cleofe Natividad from the Phillipines. We stand ready to work closely with you.

Austria fully aligns herself with the EU statement and I add the additional comments in a national capacity.

Mr. President, we thank DG LI Yong for the annual report and its presentation. Director General we congratulate you on your leadership specifically through the current COVID crises. We were pleased to see and hear you reconfirm it that UNIDO's work in fulfilling her mandate did not stop. UNIDO's response to the crisis has been effective and efficient in our opinion. This crisis shows how necessary an effective multilateralism and well functioning international organisations playing their important role in it are. We share the UN call to recover better and see UNIDO's role amongst other in combatting climate change through its technical cooperation project and the focus on green industry.

We stress our appreciation for the results based budget and we look forward to receive more information, also on the performance framework as mentioned by the Director General.

It was mentioned that UNIDO outperformed on 13 of 17 UN indicators for gender parity. We look forward to the further implementation of the UNIDO Strategy for Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women and the UNIDO Gender Parity Action Plan specifically at senior level.

Austria works closely with UNIDO and in this context I would like to draw your attention to the next Vienna Energy Forum.

As representative of the host country I would like to underline that UNIDO also played a successful role in the VIC here in Vienna: Building Management services secured the measures in the VIC itself and for us it was also very positive that the VIC-organizations organized themselves and communicated together to the staff, the diplomatic community and Austria in these matters.

With these remarks Austria takes note of the Director General's report for 2019 I underline once more Austria's full commitment to UNIDO.