

**Statement by Poland on the occasion of  
the 48th session of Industrial Development Board of UNIDO  
Vienna, 23-25 November 2020  
Agenda Item 3**

**Mr. President,**

I would like to begin by congratulating you on your election as the President of the 48<sup>th</sup> session of the IDB, along with your bureau members. Let me assure you and the other members of the Bureau of Poland's full cooperation.

I also thank the Secretariat for the documentation prepared for this session of the IDB and preparing this meeting.

Poland associates itself with the statement delivered by the distinguished representative of the European Union. However I would like to add some additional remarks from our national perspective.

First in connection with the suggestion expressed during last GC in Abu Dhabi Poland made a decision to renounce voluntary part of the UBs accruing to our country at the beginning of 2020 in order to cover partially the gap in regular budget gross expenditures for biennium 2020-2021. In this way the gap coming from the increased UNIDO contributions to the Resident Coordinator System, within United Nations Sustainable Development Group was partially financed by Poland, although our country do not have a proper representation in the newly established Resident Coordinator System. We hope that the other countries with the positive balance of UBs in their favor have taken the same approach.

In connection to the above said we can proudly state that within last three years from 2017 to 2019 the Polish voluntary contribution to the Industrial Development Fund amounted to almost 490,000 Euro.

In this respect it is to emphasize that Poland considers itself to be a committed and responsible Member of UNIDO. We always pay our Assessed Contributions in full amount and within the indicated deadlines. Furthermore, Poland continuously follows the policy to voluntarily renounce our share of UBs and earmark it as a special purpose contributions to the Industrial Development Fund.

We see and value the efforts made by the management of UNIDO to find the best possibilities for the organization's activities during the difficult times of COVID-19 both in terms of the counteractions taken to minimize the losses in economies of the countries most hit by that pandemic but also in envisaging ways to recover once the crisis will be over.

To this end we would like to encourage UNIDO secretariat to push forward with the projects elaborated in cooperation with donors including initiative of Poland to support the project "Strategies for transition of Georgian regions and communities towards sustainable energy future". We are looking forward to being involved in the second phase of that project.

We are eager to participate at the just launched project „Reinvigorating a Business Model of Strategic Engagement with Emerging Donors: Building the Capacities of National Counterpart Institutions and Raising Awareness about the Benefits of Cooperation with UNIDO”. We hope it will give a very positive new impulses for strengthening a working partnership between Poland and UNIDO.

We are closely monitoring all important initiatives of UNIDO such as: Vienna Energy Forum, Global Manufacturing and Industrialization Summit, Bridge for Cities, Consultations on Circular Economy, envisaged series of Expert Group Meetings of the future of the hydrogen societies. We shall be ready to take an active part at the most of the forthcoming events associated with these interesting ideas and we are carefully selecting the areas where we can add the most valuable input.

As every other national delegation in this room, Poland notes with satisfaction the key facts of the UNIDO performance in 2019. As it is expected that this will not be repeated in 2020 because of the COVID-19 caused problems and we shall be very cautious to make plans for 2021.

With a big attention Poland shall observe the results of the recently adopted initiatives in the field of the internal management. These are a new Integrated Results and Performance Framework, Full Cost Recovery, a new strategy for Resource Optimization for Technical Cooperation. Also a bold move to reshape the activities of the Audit Advisory Committee by enlargement its scope of the responsibility and renaming it to the Independent Oversight Advisory Committee will need to be properly analysed.

Poland aligns itself with UNIDO’s mandate to push forward the Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development We look forward to cooperating with all interested parties in implementation of the successful TC projects in the areas of renewable energy, job creation, and food security.

Thank you Mr. President!