



Agenda Item 18: Preparations for the selection process for the post of the Director General

Mr. President,

1. The Group of 77 and China attaches high importance to the role of UNIDO as a main agency to respond to developing countries' needs for inclusive and sustainable industrial development. Accordingly, the Group considers that the role of the Director General is very significant, considering that he has the overall responsibility and authority to direct the work of the Organization.

2. The Group would like to express its deep appreciation for Mr. LI Yong, the current Director General, for his outstanding work, dedication, commitment and contributions in achieving inclusive and sustainable industrial development in the developing countries.4. As the primary objective of UNIDO is the promotion and acceleration of industrial development in the developing countries as stipulated in its constitution, therefore, the Group considers that the developing countries are in best position to define their needs, priorities, challenges and obstacles, as well as to formulate solutions in the field of industrial development.

3. The Group looks forward to the holding of the candidates' forum for the selection of the Director General of UNIDO for enhancing the transparency and inclusiveness of the selection process, as well as for interaction between the running candidates and the Member States.

Thank you, Mr. President.