

BANGLADESH

Statement by Ambassador Muhammad A. Muhith
on Agenda Item 17: Personnel matters at the IDB#48, UNIDO, Vienna,
23-25 November 2020

Mr. President,

The Government of Bangladesh regards UNIDO as a key partner for inclusive and sustainable industrial development as evidenced by the recent extension of its Country Programme (CP 2020-2021) and my country's excellent record of full and timely payment of its assessed contributions.

Taking note of the Policy on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (DGB/2019/16) and the Strategy for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, 2020–2023 (GC.18/15), Bangladesh appreciates UNIDO's continued efforts to improve gender balance in implementing the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit's review of management and administration in UNIDO (IDB.45/14/Add.1).

We encourage UNIDO to prioritize and judiciously utilize its financial resources it to reach the targets set out in the UNIDO Gender Parity Action Plan (2018–2023), in particular, with regard to qualified female candidates, bearing in mind the importance of geographical distribution.

In this context, Bangladesh regrettably notes that there is no representation in UNIDO from our country, in spite of presenting highly qualified female candidature for years. Bangladesh would like to request UNIDO to take this matter into consideration, noting that UNIDO's constitution, staff regulations and staff rules underscore the importance of recruiting staff based foremost on efficiency, competence and integrity, with due regard given to equitable geographic coverage and gender equality.

Bangladesh is also pleased to be the alternate member of UNIDO Staff Pension Committee and is committed to pursue the best interest of the staff of UNIDO.

With these comments, Bangladesh takes note of the report by the Director General contained in IDB.48/26.

Thank you Mr. President.