



Statement during the UNIDO IDB 49th session, 12-15 July 2021, delivered by Mr. Fazull Mahmood Rahemee Pajwak, Chargé d’Affaires a.i. of Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan in Vienna

Agenda item 18: Recommendation of a candidate for the post of Director General

Madam President, [H.E. Madam Dominika Krois, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Poland]

We express our most sincere congratulations to Mr. [...] for his election as the new Director General of UNIDO and we assure him of our full support and cooperation. We are confident that under his able leadership UNIDO will be able to overcome the present challenges. With the dire consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic the role and expertise of UNIDO in promoting *inclusive and sustainable industrial development* has become crucial. We are confident that with his knowledge and experience the Organization will continue to be reinforced by exploring new opportunities and solutions for the global industrial development agenda.

I would also like to commend the other candidates who have conducted a highly professional campaign. The number of highly qualified candidates presented for the succession of Director General LI Yong is a clear proof that Member States remain very much committed to the promotion of UNIDO’s core mandate.

At this point, my Delegation wishes to express its gratitude to Dr. Li Yong for his strong leadership in restructuring UNIDO and for all his efforts in perfectly managing the Organization during his tenure as Director General. Dr. Yong tireless efforts in promoting inclusive and sustainable industrial development and his proactive engagement towards implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development are commendable. We wholeheartedly thank Dr. Li Yong for his work during the past 7 years and we wish him the best for his future endeavors.

I thank you, Madam President.