

**DRAFT- BARBADOS Statement at the 19<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Conference  
of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization**

Agenda Item 6. Appointment of the Director General Congratulatory statements, 30  
November, 2021- 3rd Plenary Meeting

Delivered by H.E. Chad Blackman, Permanent Representative, Barbados

Mr. President, at the outset, given that this is the first time Barbados is taking the floor, we wish to take the opportunity to congratulate you on your appointment as President of this 19<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Conference.

We wish to join others at this time in congratulating Mr. Gerd Müller as the New Director General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation, and in this regard, we also take the opportunity to thank Mr. LI Yong for his former stewardship of the Organisation.

Mr. President we fully associate ourselves with the statement of the Group of 77 and China. Barbados recognises that the Organisation is facing many challenges in this period of economic turmoil and disruptions, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The global climate challenges also emphasise that the contribution of UNIDO, to achieving Sustainable Industrial Development, is more relevant now more than ever.

We are fully confident that the new Director General will build on the work of his predecessors and ensure that the work of the organisation is relevant, to current and future issues and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Mr. President, in closing, Barbados wishes to assure the Director General of our full and continued support and wish him every success in fulfilling the tasks ahead.

Thank you.