



European Union

**EU Statement on
Agenda item 6: Appointment of the Director General
(Congratulatory Statement)**

**19th session of the General Conference
United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)**

Vienna, 30 November 2021

Mr. President,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union and its Member States. The following countries align themselves with this statement: Turkey[§], the Republic of North Macedonia*, Montenegro*, Serbia*, Albania*, Bosnia and Herzegovina*, Norway[†], Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Armenia.

I would like to extend our warmest congratulations to Dr. Gerd Müller on his appointment as the Director General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO), elected with the support of the European Union and its Member States.

Dr. Gerd Müller takes up this post at an important time for the Organisation and for the global development agenda in this Decade of Action. His leadership will be crucial to advance UNIDO's mandate and to support its Member States in their post COVID-19 recovery and for building back better, greener and smarter, leaving no one behind. We reaffirm our support to UNIDO and we look forward to deepening our co-operation under the leadership of Dr. Müller who can act as a unifying force for the whole membership and attract potential new members and donors.

Let me also thank the outgoing Director General, Mr. Li Yong, for his leadership and dedication in promoting inclusive and sustainable industrial development at the helm of UNIDO.

Thank you, Mr. President.

[§] Candidate Country

* Candidate Countries the Republic of North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Albania as well as potential Candidate Country Bosnia and Herzegovina continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

[†] Norway is a member of the EFTA and of the European Economic Area.