

 **Permanent
Mission
of Austria**

to the United
Nations in Vienna

**Video message of the Secretary General for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Austria,
Amb. Peter Launsky-Tieffenthal, to congratulate Mr. Gerd Müller
on his appointment as Director General of UNIDO**

Mr. President,
Director General Li,
appointed Director General Müller,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen!

Dear Director General LI Yong, let me once more on behalf of the Republic of Austria thank you for all that you have achieved for UNIDO during your eight and a half years tenure. Under your able leadership, you have sharpened UNIDO's global profile and strengthened its voice.

Please allow me to extend our warmest congratulations to Minister Gerd Müller, on his appointment as Director General of UNIDO.

Mr. Müller, during your campaign we had ample opportunity to hear in detail about your vision for UNIDO's future.

We are convinced that based on

- your experience,
- your full commitment and
- your strategic approach,

You will skilfully guide this important organization through current and future challenges.

We regard UNIDO and its mandate as a crucial pillar of an effective multilateralism, Austria is grateful and proud to host the organization since 1985.

During the COVID19 pandemic, UNIDO supported people in more than 120 countries:

- by focusing its projects on collaboration with small enterprises,
- by encouraging the production of personal protection equipment, and
- by saving many jobs, particularly in small companies.

UNIDO's mandate is crucial in international cooperation. "Building a better future" is not only the topic of this General Conference but also one specific target of the sustainable development goals of the Agenda 2030.

As a committed Member State of UNIDO and as host country of the organisation, Austria will fully support you!

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, I wish all of us a successful and fruitful conference!