WELCOME STATEMENT on the CONFIRMATION of DR. GERD MÜLLER As the New Director General of UNIDO 19th Session of the General Conference 29 November to 3 December 2021, Vienna, Austria

Mr. President,

- 1. On behalf of the delegation of the Republic of the Philippines, please allow me to extend our sincerest congratulations and warmest welcome to Dr. Gerd Müller as the new Director General of UNIDO.
- 2. The Philippines is confident that under the stewardship of DG Müller, UNIDO will be more efficient and effective in accomplishing its mandate, particularly in relation to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.
- 3. I also wish to reiterate our assurance that the Philippines is committed to working closely with UNIDO and DG Müller as a strong partner in the pursuit of inclusive and sustainable industrial development. Towards this end, we look forward to an early and substantive engagement with the Director General to discuss the development priorities of the country.
- 4. As we approach the conclusion of the first Country Programming Framework between the Philippines and UNIDO in 2023, our delegation is very keen on exploring ways to further enhance this collaboration, particularly in the face of the challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 5. Finally, the Philippines wishes Dr. Müller nothing but success in leading UNIDO onwards to the future.

Thank you, Mr. President.