



G-77 and China statement during the UNIDO Industrial Development Board, 50th session, 21-23 November 2022, delivered by H.E. Ambassador Azzeddine Farhane, Permanent Representative of Morocco

Agenda item 17: Personnel matters

Mr. President,

1. The Group of 77 and China commends UNIDO for its continued efforts to improve personnel-related issues in UNIDO and encourages it to uphold the United Nations principles. In this regard, the Group reaffirms its strong position concerning the need to enhance the equitable geographical distribution in all positions of the Secretariat, including at senior levels.
2. The Group requests the Director General to brief Member States on the reform of the Secretariat structure and its impact on the financial situation and the work of the Organization, taking stock of the initial assessment of the Independent Oversight Advisory Committee (OAC) on the effect of these reforms on staff morale.
3. The Group takes note of the conclusion of the disciplinary process in respect of a confirmed allegation on sexual harassment and supports the full implementation of UNIDO's Gender Parity Action Plan (2018-2023), addressing sexual harassment and protection against sexual exploitation and abuse within the Organization. The Group welcomes Director General's zero-tolerance policy in this regard.
4. The Group welcomes the 2020 UNIDO Merit Awards exercise based on the achievements and contributions of UNIDO personnel to its mandate as well as its strategic and management objectives and priorities, in particular those who actively engaged in the Organization's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
5. The Group requests the Director General to continue proactively addressing UNIDO staff welfare, including conditions of service applicable to the professionals and after-service health insurance (ASHI) issues.

Thank you, Mr. President.