

**Statement by Poland on the occasion of
the 50th session of Industrial Development Board of UNIDO
Vienna, 21-23 November 2022
Agenda Item 3**

Mr. President,

Let me begin with congratulating you, Mr. President on taking the job of presiding over the 50th session of the IDB. At the same time we are proud to state that the 49th session of the IDB functioning under the presidency of the Permanent Representative of Poland, Madam Ambassador Dominika Krois has been successfully completed. Among others it brought the nomination of the new DG of UNIDO for the 2022-2025 term and skillful management of the discussion on IDB input for HLPF meeting in 2022.

Mr. President,

Poland fully supports the statement delivered by the distinguished representative of the European Union. However I would like to add some additional remarks from our national perspective.

We closely followed the DG's call for deeper engagement at all possible levels of the UNIDO activities. To this end we stand ready for the efficient preparations of the next biennium budget, reflecting the precarious situation in the surrounding world. We believe that engagement as the co-chair of the Informal working Group on the issues of the Programme and Budget Committee will bring good results in this respect.

We are fully aware of the very dangerous and difficult global situation caused by the unprovoked, brutal aggression of Russia against Ukraine and we started to counteract the results of the tragedy from the very beginning. So far, according to initial estimates Poland spends 8,36 billion EUR in 2022 (approximately 1,5% of our GDP) on helping Ukraine and its citizens.

In terms of the direct support to Ukraine through UNIDO, Poland declares to transfer 80% of expected Unutilized Balances (UBs) to the resources pooled by UNIDO for the reconstruction of Ukraine, which is apparently going to be the new initiative of the organization as a response to the crisis caused by the brutal Russia aggression.

The minor part of the UBs allocated to Poland we intend to use for the purposes of modernization of UNIDO's IT system.

Another subject, we are particularly interested in, is the activity of UNIDO's Secretariat. We would appreciate to get acquainted with the analysis of the internal audits on the UNIDO's structures efficiency and on plans for the reconstruction and reorganization aiming to better effectiveness and simplification of the procedures.

Nine countries, which joined the European Union within the first 2 decades of the new millennium are eagerly working on broadening their impact on UNIDO activities and increase their donor position.

Poland willingly participated at the regional conference "Reinforcing partnerships for development cooperation in the European region" held on 6 and 7 October 2022 at UNIDO headquarters in Vienna. This conference was the first event focused especially on the impact of our region countries on the form and shape of the UNIDO activity. It was devoted also to the issue how to strengthen our role and influence. We very appreciate this valuable initiative of UNIDO giving us the opportunity to exchange information, thoughts and experiences among the emerging donors.

Polish contribution to the activity of UNIDO is growing. I shall briefly to mention three of our joint Polish-UNIDO projects that we are particularly proud of. They have been accomplished in Tajikistan with the concentration on the rehabilitation of the fruit and vegetable markets, in Moldova with the emphasis on the implementation of the techniques used for manufacturing of modern solar panels and currently developed in Georgia with the aim to soften the reliance on the traditional power sources.

Especially we are pleased that our joint Polish-UNIDO long harnessed project on renewable energy transformation in Georgia is coming finally into decisive phase. It should create and bring the opportunities and possibilities for using the photovoltaic sources of the renewable energy for the municipality buildings in Georgia. We hope that achieved effects could be scaled up and replicated among the other beneficiaries.

Mr. President,

Poland perceives the mandate of UNIDO as very relevant since only the sustainable and inclusive industrialization can bring the prosperity to the

societies in need, both in economic and social dimensions. So we are ready for the further fruitful cooperation with all partners interested in making good use of the industrialization for the benefit of the human kind.

Thank you Mr. President!