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## **Industrial Development Board**

### **Fifty-first session**

Vienna, 3–6 July 2023

Item 10 (b) of the provisional agenda

**UNIDO strategy in response to climate change**

## **UNIDO Strategy in response to climate change**

### **Report by the Director General**

This document provides updates on the preparation process of the UNIDO Climate Change Strategy. In line with General Conference resolution GC.19/Res.2 and Industrial Development Board decision IDB.50/Dec.5, the strategy is being developed in consultation with UNIDO Member States.

## **I. Introduction**

1. In resolution GC.19/Res.2, the General Conference requested the Director General to develop a draft strategy in consultation with Member States, for consideration by the Industrial Development Board at its fiftieth session, that will enhance the efficiency, effectiveness and coordination of UNIDO's activities in support of Member State ISID-related climate priorities and to implement climate-related best practices across its operations. It further requested the Director General to report to the fiftieth session of the Board on the developments regarding the implementation of this resolution.
2. In 2022, the Secretariat therefore convened two development dialogue sessions, invited inputs and guidance from Member States through a survey and bilateral meetings, and circulated two draft versions of the Strategy for review by Permanent Missions.
3. The draft UNIDO Climate Change Strategy resulting from this consultative process was submitted for consideration to the Board at its fiftieth session (IDB.50/16).
4. The Board, in its decision IDB.50/Dec.5, requested the Director General to continue consultations with Member States on the development of the draft strategy based on document IDB.50/16, to ensure its objective as identified in resolution GC.19/Res.2. It further requested the Director General to develop, in consultation with Member States, an action plan to implement the strategy, within the mandate and available resources of UNIDO, after the above strategy is formulated. The Board

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“recommended that the strategy and the action plan shall take into account UNIDO’s potential role in the implementation of the outcomes and initiatives of COP27 relevant to the mandate of UNIDO, explore the prospects of utilizing climate finance funds in implementing the strategy as well as give due consideration to the special needs of the most vulnerable developing countries to climate change, noting the importance for some of the concept of ‘climate justice’”.

5. The Board decided to further consider the UNIDO Climate Change Strategy and its action plan at its fifty-first session.

## **II. Activities in 2023**

6. In response to the requests of the Board, the Secretariat convened five development dialogue sessions from 16 February to 2 May 2023, to further consider the draft strategy. As the result of these sessions, the Secretariat circulated four versions of the draft strategy, as well as the compilation of comments received from Member States for review by Permanent Missions and their respective capitals.

7. The Secretariat also briefed Member States on the key outcomes of the Sharm el-Sheikh Climate Change Conference of relevance to UNIDO activities on 16 February 2023, and on the main findings of the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change on 27 March 2023.

8. The process of developing the UNIDO Climate Change Strategy is being facilitated by His Excellency Mr. Mohamed Hamdy El-Molla, Permanent Representative of Egypt to UNIDO.

9. The draft strategy consists of eight sections: (1) background; (2) mandate; (3) vision 2050; (4) mission statement; (5) scope; (6) operational principles; (7) areas of work; and (8) implementation of the strategy.

10. The UNIDO Climate Change Strategy will be operationalized through an action plan to be developed in consultation with Member States once the strategy is finalized.

## **III. Action required from the Board**

11. The Board may wish to provide further guidance to the Secretariat on the development of the UNIDO Climate Change Strategy and its action plan with a view to the adoption of these documents by the General Conference at its twentieth session.

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