

UNIDO – 51st Industrial Development Board
Statement by H. E. Mr. Götz Schmidt-Bremme,
Permanent Representative,
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
of the Federal Republic of Germany,
3 - 5 July, 2023

Agenda Item 3 – Annual Report

Thank you, Chair,

Excellencies, Director General, Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Germany fully supports the statement made by the European Union and its member states. In particular, we fully support the EU position on Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine.

Now, I would like to add the following comments in my national capacity:

Germany is looking forward to contributing to fruitful exchanges of views and to sustainable results of this IDB.

Since the last Programme and Budget Committee, barely two months ago, we have seen continuing progress in UNIDO:

1. A new **budget** for the next biennium was agreed on with the Member States,
2. Just recently, UNIDO also presented new **draft strategies** for its cooperation in **Africa**, and with **Middle Income Countries**.
3. UNIDO's new **Strategy** in response to **Climate Change** has been refined, discussed and finalized with the Member States. We are glad that this important milestone could be reached in a relatively short time! We sincerely hope and are willing to contribute to the

endorsement of a decision with regards to the strategy within the IDB 51. For now, we would like to thank the UNIDO Secretariat for keeping up the momentum, the Member States for their flexibility, and in particular Egypt for taking on the role of Facilitator and for building bridges that have led to robust results. Germany has been a strong supporter of UNIDO's Climate Change Strategy right from the beginning. And as active participants in the process, we are fully satisfied with the results. We are looking forward to the work on the Action Plan that will complete the Strategy. We would also recommend that UNIDO pursue its activities in the field of a circular economy, such as the global consultations, and mainstreaming the concept of a circular economy in its Technical Cooperation.

Our national priorities align perfectly with UNIDO's guiding principles. They also align well with the priorities presented by the Director General. Germany assures UNIDO of its continued support.

Currently the German Government is supporting several of UNIDO's projects and programmes, in a number of African countries and in Ukraine. And possible further engagements are being examined.

In the Annual Report on 2022, we were proud to see that Germany, with a funding volume of 5.3 million US dollars, is one of the highest-ranking voluntary national donors for UNIDO.

Chair,

Let me conclude by saying that, with the leadership of Director General Gerd Müller and with its entire staff, UNIDO is on a good path to fulfil its mission. It is also on a good path for reaching out to even more development partners than before. Germany is and will remain a strong partner for UNIDO.

Thank you, Chair.