

General Conference

Twentieth session

Vienna, 27 November–1 December 2023

Item 19 (a) of the provisional agenda

UNIDO climate strategy and its action plan

Update on the development of the action plan for the implementation of the UNIDO Climate Change Strategy

Report by the Director General

As per decision IDB.51/Dec.8, through which the fifty-first session of the Industrial Development Board endorsed the UNIDO Climate Change Strategy, the present report by the Director General provides an update on the progress made in developing an action plan to implement the strategy.

I. Introduction

1. Through resolution GC.19/Res.2, the General Conference requested the Director General to develop a draft strategy in response to climate change in consultation with Member States, for consideration by the Industrial Development Board at its fiftieth session.
2. Further to a consultation process consisting of two Development Dialogue sessions and bilateral meetings held in 2022, a draft strategy was submitted to the fiftieth session of the Board for consideration (document IDB.50/16). Through decision IDB.50/Dec.5, the Board requested the Director General to continue consultations with Member States on the development of the draft strategy, based on document IDB.50/16. The decision further requested the development of an action plan to implement the strategy, following the formulation of the latter.
3. The process of consultation with Member States continued in 2023 with the holding of six further sessions of the Development Dialogue, facilitated by His Excellency Mr. Mohamed Hamdy El-Molla, Permanent Representative of Egypt to UNIDO, and bilateral meetings following which iterative versions of the strategy were circulated to Member States for review. Subsequent to this extensive consultation process which enabled Member States to provide inputs and guidance, the Board at its fifty-first session endorsed the UNIDO Climate Change Strategy (IDB.51/Dec.8).

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4. In its decision IDB.51/Dec.8, the Board requested the Director General to continue consultations with Member States to develop an action plan to implement the strategy within the mandate and available resources of UNIDO. The Board further requested the Director General to report on the progress of the action plan at the twentieth session of the General Conference.

II. Development progress

5. Following endorsement of the UNIDO Climate Change Strategy by the Board on 6 July 2023, the Secretariat initiated a process of internal, cross-directorate consultations for the development of the five-year action plan for the effective implementation of the strategy.

6. The Secretariat will integrate into the planning process the results and relevant direction from the Secretary-General's Climate Ambition Summit held on 20 September 2023, UNIDO's International Vienna Energy and Climate Forum, that will take place on 2 and 3 November 2023, and the Organization's participation in the twenty-eighth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, from 30 November to 12 December 2023.

7. Consultations with Member States on the further development of the action plan are foreseen to take place in 2024, pending the confirmation of the schedule of Development Dialogues early in the year. This will include a presentation of UNIDO's climate-related activities.

8. Key elements of the action plan will likely include implementation milestones under the strategy's areas of work, alignment with organizational priorities, including the applicable programme and budgets and medium-term programme frameworks, key indicators and targets, funding partner engagement and resource mobilization, as well as a timeline for implementation.

III. Action required of the Conference

9. The Conference may wish to take note of the information contained in this document and provide additional guidance on the development process of the action plan.
