

Statement by H.E. Ambassador Mohamed El Molla

Permanent Representative of the Arab Republic Egypt

to the United Nations Organizations in Vienna

Agenda Item 4 Report of the Programme and Budget Committee

4.2 Appointment of the External Auditor

Thank you Mr. President,

1. Egypt aligns itself with the statements of the Group of 77 & China and the African Group on the Report of the Programme and Budget Committee, and would like and would like to add the following remarks in its national capacity.
2. Egypt supports the proposed Program and Budgets 2024-2025, and would like to seize this opportunity to commend the efforts of the Chair of the 39<sup>th</sup> Session of the Programme and Budget Committee of UNIDO His Excellency Ambassador Aftab Ahmad Khokher, Permanent Representative of Pakistan, as well as his bureau, for a sterling work done at the Session.

Mr. President,

3. Egypt would like to deliver the following remarks pertaining to Agenda item 4(h) on the Appointment of the External Auditor.
4. Egypt acknowledges and thanks the External Auditor, Mr. Alexei Kudrin, and the Accounts Chamber of the Russian Federation for conducting the audit of UNIDO for 2022.
5. The Arab Republic of Egypt has the honor to present the candidacy of the Undersecretary of the Egyptian Accountability State Authority for the appointment as the External Auditor for UNIDO for a period of two years, beginning on 1 July 2024.
6. The Egyptian Accountability State Authority is an independent organization, established in 1942 with the aim of achieving effective monitoring over the state's revenues and expenditures and the funds of other public institutions.

7. With total 7800 employees, including 5100 professional staff, the Accountability State Authority has the experience to conduct all kinds of audits, including financial audit, performance audit, compliance audit, human resources audit, IT audit and legal audit of financial irregularities.
8. Therefore, the Accountability State Authority has the competence to meet the requirements of a professional, rapid and flexible audit of UNIDO's financial statements and IT Audit of UNIDO, in accordance with the International Standards on Auditing and the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions' Framework for Professional Pronouncements.
9. The Accountability State Authority is a permanent member of the African Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions Governing Board. Besides, it is the Head of Arab Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions Professional and Regulatory Standards Committee. The President of the Accountability State Authority is the First Vice-President of the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions.
10. The Accountability State Authority has led in 2017 the audit of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) Secretariat and all its affiliated institutions.
11. It is a permanent member of the Board of External Auditors of the African Union. Consequently, it participates in the audit of the African Union Commission's accounts as well as other AU organs and institutions, including the African Union Development Agency, AUDA-NEPAD, and the African Continental Free Trade Agreement AfCFTA.
12. Currently, the Accountability State Authority chairs the Board of External Auditors of the African Union for the fiscal years 2022-2023.

Mr. President,

13. Egypt is confident that the appointment of the Accountability State Authority, as the External Auditor for UNIDO for a period of two years, beginning on the 1<sup>st</sup> of July 2024, will meet the aspirations of UNIDO's Member States towards a credible, transparent and professional Audit that meets the international audit standards applied in other UN organizations.

I thank you.