## DG Closing Remarks at Extended Session of 39th PBC, 23 May 2023 (9:00 am)

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, Dear Colleagues,

- It is very encouraging to see the progress you made today in reaching an **agreeable compromise**.
- I received much positive feedback from you on UNIDO's work throughout these negotiations, including on our reform and our technical cooperation.
- As I said to you last week, I am very aware that you yourselves are facing financial challenges in your own countries.
- However, I also heard from many of you here and over the past year: there is great demand for MORE of UNIDO's work.

- This is why I have made the the case for a **stronger**, **better-equipped** UNIDO to fulfill **your** expectations.
- The consensus you have come to after these negotiations is the **zero real growth** scenario.
- This means a nominal regular budget growth of 11.2 percent.
- The path was maybe more difficult than some of us wanted, but we have an agreement! I am very glad for it.
- And I am optimistic for UNIDO's future!
- This budget is the **basis** for our efforts going forward, for what we can achieve **together**.

## Excellencies,

• I have learned a lot during this process about your priorities for the future.

- Through the Programme and Budgets 2024-2025, we will make sure they are reflected in our future work.
- I look forward to continuing our exchanges during the **implementation**.
- Let me at this point especially thank His Excellency, Ambassador **Rhokher**, Chair of this PBC.
- Ambassador, I and we are very grateful for your excellent leadership, guiding and leading all this to a very successful conclusion!
- I am grateful to the whole UNIDO team from Finance, Policy Making Organs, Strategy Unit and beyond, for all their great support!
- And to you all, Ladies and Gentlemen, thank you for your patience and your dedication.
- UNIDO is here to serve the needs of our Member States.
- Let's keep our dialogue open, in the spirit of **cooperation** and **solidarity**.
- I look forward to continue working with you all!