



Industrial Development Board

Fifty-second session

Vienna, 25–27 November 2024

Item 8 (b) of the provisional agenda

UNIDO Climate Change 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

The present report provides an update on the progress made in preparing the action plan for the implementation of the UNIDO Climate Change Strategy. It supplements the information contained in document [GC.20/12](#) on this matter. In line with Board decision [IDB.51/Dec.8](#), the action plan 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 States' climate priorities related to inclusive and sustainable industrial development, and to implement climate-related best practices across its operations.
2. In its decision IDB.51/Dec.8, the Board endorsed the UNIDO Climate Change Strategy and 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.

II. Progress in 2024

3. In alignment with decision IDB.51/Dec.8, a first session of a Development Dialogue on an action plan for the implementation of the UNIDO Climate Change Strategy was convened on 30 April 2024. The session served to brief Member States on recent developments in the global climate change process, including the outcomes

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of the United Nations Climate Change Conference held in December 2023 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, present the proposed approach and timeline for developing the action plan, and seek inputs and strategic guidance from Member States.

4. In response to the requests of Member States expressed during the session, the Secretariat circulated a draft annotated outline and a tentative timeline for developing the action plan to the Permanent Missions to UNIDO on 24 May 2024, through information note No. 16. Valuable feedback was received from Bangladesh, Germany, Guatemala, Japan, the Philippines and Sweden. This ongoing dialogue ensures that the action plan will be responsive to the diverse needs and priorities of Member States.

5. An inter-directorate and cross-disciplinary UNIDO-wide climate action plan task force was established to coordinate the development, implementation, review, monitoring, periodic updating and reporting of the action plan. The task force is co-chaired by the Deputy to the Director General and Managing Director of the Directorate of Technical Cooperation and Sustainable Industrial Development, and the Managing Director of the Directorate of SDG Innovation and Economic Transformation. The task force held its inaugural meeting on 25 July 2024 and will continue to meet monthly to drive progress.

6. As part of the action plan development process, the Secretariat is gathering data on ongoing and planned UNIDO activities of relevance to climate change mitigation and adaptation. This data will be instrumental in assessing the alignment of the current projects and initiatives with the UNIDO Climate Change Strategy and improving the programming of the future portfolio to better respond to the priorities of Member States and emerging trends.

7. A comprehensive assessment is also under way to identify gaps in climate change-related knowledge, expertise and skills of UNIDO personnel. This will inform targeted capacity-building efforts, ensuring that the Organization is well-positioned to support Member States in their climate action endeavours.

8. As requested by Member States, the Secretariat is actively engaging with partner organizations. Extensive consultations were held with the Global Environment Facility, the Green Climate Fund and the Adaptation Fund, on the occasion of relevant forums.

9. The second session of the Development Dialogue on an action plan for the implementation of the UNIDO Climate Change Strategy was convened on 6 September 2024. The session briefed Member States on the steps undertaken towards developing the action plan since the first session and presented a zero draft of the action plan.

10. In response to requests expressed by Member States during the first session of the Development Dialogue, the second session will be followed by a series of meetings with regional groups.

11. Following preliminary bilateral consultations with several United Nations entities during the Bonn Climate Change Conference in June 2024, the Secretariat is organizing an inter-agency meeting to improve synergies and coordination of activities on the intersection of industry and climate change.

12. The Secretariat is also organizing high-visibility events to promote the UNIDO Climate Change Strategy at the United Nations Climate Change Conference to be held in Baku from 11 to 22 November 2024. Further consultations on the action plan with partner organizations will be held in that framework.

III. Next steps

13. The draft action plan for the implementation of the UNIDO Climate Change Strategy will be presented to the fifty-second session of the Board through conference room paper IDB.52/CRP.6.

IV. Action required of the Board

14. The Board may wish to take note of the information contained in this document and provide further guidance on the development of the action plan.
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