

Agenda Item 14:
Evaluation and internal oversight activities

Madam President,

The Philippines aligns itself with the statement of the G-77 and China on the reports presented by the Director of the Office of Evaluation and Internal Oversight (EIO) outlining their activities in 2023, and will add the following in our national capacity.

The Philippines notes with concern the critical findings raised in the Assurance Review on UNIDO's Internal Governance Mechanisms, published on the 5th of November, and from the briefing for member states in September on EIO's findings on the subject. Such practices of transparency should be continued by UNIDO.

The Philippines also notes Management's responses to the findings of the EIO Assurance Review and looks forward to developments that effectively address the findings. These include the low implementation of long overdue Management Action Plans resulting from internal audits and "the low alignment of UNIDO's purpose, as approved by Member States, its internal governance mechanisms and operations, and the intentions of the Director General."

In the Assurance Review, the Philippines notes that "the direction and priorities of the Organization are to a large degree determined by funding mechanisms, including voluntary contributions." While we acknowledge UNIDO's engagements to consult member states on projects, the Philippines encourages UNIDO to revisit its strategic priorities and strengthen its technical cooperation mechanisms to ensure the achievement of its mandate for inclusive and sustainable industrial development.

UNIDO's resource mobilization efforts must take into account national conditions and ensure respect for national ownership, transparency, and accountability.

Thank you, Madam President.