



General Conference

Twenty-first session

Riyadh, 23–27 November 2025

Report of the Industrial Development Board on the work of its fifty-second session

(25–27 November 2024)

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Introduction

1. The report of the Industrial Development Board on the work of its fifty-second session is presented to the General Conference in accordance with Article 9.4 (c) of the Constitution. As per decision of the Board IDB.46/Dec.3 (e), the Secretariat continues replacing written summary records of the Industrial Development Board and the General Conference with digital records. These are available through the UNIDO Extranet.

2. The following decisions of the Board, reproduced in annex I, are related to the work of the General Conference at its twenty-first session:

| | |
|---------------|--|
| IDB.52/Dec.2 | Governance of UNIDO |
| IDB.52/Dec.4 | Budget implementation flexibility |
| IDB.52/Dec.7 | Inclusive and sustainable development in middle-income countries |
| IDB.52/Dec.10 | Selection process for the post of Director General |

I. Organizational and procedural matters

3. The fifty-second session of the Board was held at UNIDO headquarters, Vienna International Centre, from 25 to 27 November 2024 (six plenary meetings). The session took place in person, with the proceedings of the plenary also being available in all six languages of UNIDO through the United Nations' official streaming platform, UN Web TV.

Participation

4. The following 50 of the 52 members of the Board¹ were represented at the session: Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Brazil, Burkina Faso, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Egypt, Finland, Germany, Ghana, Hungary, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, Türkiye, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

5. The following 48 Member States of UNIDO also participated in the session: Afghanistan, Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Chile, Croatia, Cuba, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Montenegro, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Oman, Paraguay, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sri Lanka, State of Palestine, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam and Yemen.

6. The Holy See and the Sovereign Order of Malta participated as observers.

7. The following United Nations bodies were represented: the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the United Nations International Computing Centre (UNICC).

¹ As per Article 9.1 of the UNIDO Constitution, the Board shall consist of 53 members of the Organization elected by the Conference. One seat from List A remains vacant. Currently the Board consists of 52 members.

8. The following United Nations related organization was represented: the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

9. The following other intergovernmental organizations were represented: the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI), the Asian Forest Cooperation Organization (AFoCO), the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization (AALCO), the European Union (EU), the League of Arab States (LAS), the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM) and the Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC).

10. The following non-governmental organizations were represented: the Center for Global Dialogue and Cooperation (CGDC), the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT), the European Business Council for Africa and the Mediterranean (EBCAM), the ISEKI-Food Association (IFA) and the World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO).

Opening of the session

11. The fifty-second session of the Board was declared open by the President of the fifty-first session, H.E. Mr. Magdi Ahmed Mofadal Elnour (Sudan).

Officers of the session

12. In accordance with rule 23 of its rules of procedure, the Board elected by acclamation H.E. Ms. Gabriela Sellner (Austria) as President, H.E. Ms. Evangelina Lourdes Bernas (Philippines), Mr. Jorge Luis Hidalgo Castellanos (Mexico) and Mr. Michał Andrukonis (Poland) as Vice-Presidents, and Mr. Khaled Boudhane (Algeria) as Rapporteur.

Agenda of the session

13. The Board adopted the agenda, as presented below, and the schedule of work, as considered by the Enlarged Bureau on 31 October 2024:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Annual report of the Director General for 2023:
 - (a) Managing for results: Update on the implementation of the medium-term programme framework, 2022–2025.
4. Report of the Programme and Budget Committee:
 - (a) Report of the External Auditor for 2023;
 - (b) Financial situation of UNIDO, including unutilized balances of appropriations;
 - (c) Budget implementation flexibility;
 - (d) Report by the informal working group on Programme and Budget Committee-related issues;
 - (e) Mobilization of financial resources;
 - (f) General risk management;
 - (g) Updated medium-term investment proposals.
5. UNIDO and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
6. United Nations development system reform.

7. Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA III).
8. Climate neutral industry and circular economy:
 - (a) UNIDO activities related to circular economy;
 - (b) UNIDO Climate Change Strategy and its action plan.
9. Inclusive and sustainable development in middle-income countries.
10. UNIDO activities in support of the least developed countries.
11. Strengthening capacities in developing productive, resilient and sustainable supply chains.
12. Activities of the Joint Inspection Unit.
13. UNIDO Independent Oversight Advisory Committee.
14. Evaluation and internal oversight activities.
15. Personnel matters.
16. Preparations for the selection process for the post of the Director General.
17. Matters related to intergovernmental, non-governmental, governmental and other organizations.
18. Preparations for the twenty-first session of the General Conference.
19. Provisional agenda and date of the fifty-third session.
20. Adoption of the report.

14. The Board adopted a proposal by the President to ensure the maximum utilization of available conference-servicing resources (see annex I, decision IDB.52/Dec.1), waiving its twenty-four hour notice period for the suspension of rules.

15. The Board decided to set up informal in-session consultations with the aim of facilitating the drafting of decisions and entrusted Vice-Presidents Mr. Jorge Luis Hidalgo Castellanos (Mexico) and Mr. Michał Andrukoniś (Poland) to chair those consultations. The Board furthermore set the deadline for the receipt of draft decisions at 5.15 p.m. on 25 November 2024, and decided to close the list of speakers at 3.30 p.m. on 26 November 2024.

II. Annual Report of the Director General for 2023 (item 3)

16. Under item 3, the Board had before it the *Annual Report of UNIDO 2023* and its appendices (IDB.52/2 and IDB.52/2/Add.1). Statements were delivered under this item, including sub-item (a).

17. The Board considered a draft decision submitted by the President on the governance of UNIDO (IDB.52/L.11) and adopted decision IDB.52/Dec.2 (see annex I).

A. Managing for results: Update on the implementation of the medium-term programme framework, 2022–2025 (item 3 (a))

18. Under sub-item 3 (a), the Board had before it a report by the Director General providing an update on the implementation of the medium-term programme framework, 2022–2025 (IDB.52/3).

19. At the proposal of the President, the Board took note of the documentation provided.

III. Report of the Programme and Budget Committee (items 4 (a) to (g))

20. Under item 4, including sub-items (a) to (g), the Board had before it the report of the Programme and Budget Committee on the work of its fortieth session ([IDB.52/13](#)). Statements were delivered under this item.

A. Report of the External Auditor for 2023 (item 4 (a))

21. Under sub-item 4 (a), the Board had before it the report of the External Auditor on the accounts of UNIDO for the financial year 1 January to 31 December 2023 ([IDB.52/4](#)); a document prepared by the Secretariat containing the annexes to the report of the External Auditor on the accounts of UNIDO for the financial year 1 January to 31 December 2023 (unaudited) (PBC.40/CRP.2); and a note by the UNIDO Independent Oversight Advisory Committee providing comments on the report of the External Auditor (PBC.40/CRP.3).

22. At the proposal of the President, the Board took note of the documentation provided.²

B. Financial situation of UNIDO, including unutilized balances of appropriations (item 4 (b))

23. Under sub-item 4 (b), the Board had before it a report by the Director General on the financial situation of UNIDO and an update thereto, as prepared by the Secretariat ([IDB.52/5](#) and [IDB.52/CRP.3](#)), as well as a note by the Secretariat on the status of assessed contributions ([IDB.52/CRP.2](#)).

24. The Board considered a draft decision submitted by the President on the financial situation of UNIDO ([IDB.52/L.2](#)) and adopted decision [IDB.52/Dec.3](#) (see annex I).

C. Budget implementation flexibility (item 4 (c))

25. Under sub-item 4 (c), the Board had before it conclusion 2024/2 of the Programme and Budget Committee, a note by the Secretariat on budget implementation flexibility ([IDB.52/6](#)) and a report by the Director General on the application of budget implementation flexibility ([IDB.52/32](#)).

26. The Board considered a draft decision submitted by the President on budget implementation flexibility ([IDB.52/L.12](#)) and adopted decision [IDB.52/Dec.4](#) (see annex I).

D. Report by the informal working group on Programme and Budget Committee-related issues (item 4 (d))

27. Under sub-item 4 (d), the Board had before it a report by the Co-Chairs of the informal working group on Programme and Budget Committee-related issues ([IDB.52/7](#)) and their updates on the working group's deliberations (PBC.40/CRP.5 and [IDB.52/CRP.4](#)).

28. At the proposal of the President, the Board took note of the documentation provided.

² The delegation of Austria clarified its position on this matter.

E. Mobilization of financial resources (item 4 (e))

29. Under sub-item 4 (e), the Board had before it conclusion 2024/3 of the Programme and Budget Committee, a report by the Director General on the mobilization of financial resources (IDB.52/8), a section on funding and financial contributions in chapter 6 of the *Annual Report of UNIDO 2023* (IDB.52/2), a note by the Secretariat on projects approved under the Industrial Development Fund, thematic and individual trust funds, and other voluntary contributions in 2023 (PBC.40/CRP.6), as well as a report by the Director General providing an update on the development of the draft strategic guidelines on partnerships and resource mobilization (IDB.52/14) and a note by the Secretariat containing the draft strategic guidelines (IDB.52/CRP.5).

30. The Board considered a draft decision submitted by the President on the mobilization of financial resources (IDB.52/L.3) and adopted decision IDB.52/Dec.5 (see annex I).

F. General risk management (item 4 (f))

31. Under sub-item 4 (f), the Board had before it a report by the Director General on general risk management and an update thereto (IDB.52/9 and IDB.52/33), and a note by the Secretariat on UNIDO's cybersecurity framework (IDB.52/CRP.14).

32. At the proposal of the President, the Board took note of the documentation provided.

G. Updated medium-term investment proposals (item 4 (g))

33. Under sub-item 4 (g), the Board had before it a report by the Director General on the updated medium-term investment proposals, 2024–2025 (IDB.52/10).

34. At the proposal of the President, the Board took note of the documentation provided.

IV. UNIDO and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (item 5)

35. Under item 5, the Board had before it a report by the Director General on UNIDO and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (IDB.52/15) and a note by the Secretariat providing an update on the World Without Hunger Conference (IDB.52/CRP.13). Statements were delivered under this item.

36. The Board considered a draft decision submitted by the President on strengthening UNIDO's role in agro-industrialization and food security (IDB.52/L.13) and adopted decision IDB.52/Dec.6 (see annex I).³

V. United Nations development system reform (item 6)

37. Under item 6, the Board had before it a report by the Director General on the United Nations development system reform (IDB.52/12).

38. At the proposal of the President, the Board took note of the documentation provided.

³ The delegation of Argentina clarified its position on this matter.

VI. Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA III) (item 7)

39. Under item 7, the Board had before it a report by the Director General on the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA III) ([IDB.52/11](#)). Statements were delivered under this item.

40. At the proposal of the President, the Board took note of the documentation provided.

VII. Climate neutral industry and circular economy (item 8)

41. Under item 8, the Board considered the following two sub-items. Statements were delivered under this item.

A. UNIDO activities related to circular economy (item 8 (a))

42. Under sub-item 8 (a), the Board had before it a report by the Director General on UNIDO activities related to circular economy ([IDB.52/16](#)).

43. At the proposal of the President, the Board took note of the documentation provided.

B. UNIDO Climate Change Strategy and its action plan (item 8 (b))

44. Under sub-item 8 (b), the Board had before it a report by the Director General providing an update on the development of the action plan for the implementation of the UNIDO Climate Change Strategy ([IDB.52/17](#)) and a note by the Secretariat containing the draft action plan ([IDB.52/CRP.6](#)).

45. At the proposal of the President, the Board took note of the documentation provided.

VIII. Inclusive and sustainable development in middle-income countries (item 9)

46. Under item 9, the Board had before it a report by the Director General on inclusive and sustainable industrial development in middle-income countries ([IDB.52/18](#)). Statements were delivered under this item.

47. The Board considered a draft decision submitted by the President on inclusive and sustainable development in middle-income countries ([IDB.52/L.10](#)) and adopted decision [IDB.52/Dec.7](#) (see annex I).

IX. UNIDO activities in support of the least developed countries (item 10)

48. Under item 10, the Board had before it a report by the Director General on UNIDO activities in support of the least developed countries ([IDB.52/19](#)). Statements were delivered under this item.

49. At the proposal of the President, the Board took note of the documentation provided.

X. Strengthening capacities in developing productive, resilient and sustainable supply chains (item 11)

50. Under item 11, the Board had before it a report by the Director General on strengthening capacities in developing productive, resilient and sustainable supply chains (IDB.52/20). Statements were delivered under this item.

51. At the proposal of the President, the Board took note of the documentation provided.

XI. Activities of the Joint Inspection Unit (item 12)

52. Under item 12, the Board had before it a report by the Director General on the activities of the Joint Inspection Unit (IDB.52/21), together with a note by the Director General on the same topic (IDB.52/CRP.7).

53. At the proposal of the President, the Board took note of the documentation provided.

XII. UNIDO Independent Oversight Advisory Committee (item 13)

54. Under item 13, the Board had before it a report by the Chair of the UNIDO Independent Oversight Advisory Committee (IDB.52/22) and UNIDO management's response thereto (IDB.52/22/Add.1), as well as two notes by the Secretariat on the membership of the UNIDO Independent Oversight Advisory Committee (IDB.52/23 and IDB.52/CRP.18). Statements were delivered under this item.⁴

55. The Board considered a draft decision submitted by the President on the membership of the Independent Oversight Advisory Committee (IDB.52/L.4) and adopted decision IDB.52/Dec.8 (see annex I).

XIII. Evaluation and internal oversight activities (item 14)

56. Under item 14, the Board had before it a report by the Director of the Office of Evaluation and Internal Oversight on internal oversight activities (IDB.52/24) and its annex containing summaries of internal audits (IDB.52/CRP.9), as well as a report by the Director of the Office of Evaluation and Internal Oversight on evaluation activities (IDB.52/25) and its annex containing summaries of independent evaluations (IDB.52/CRP.10). Statements were delivered under this item.

57. The Board considered a draft decision submitted by the President on evaluation and internal oversight activities (IDB.52/L.9) and adopted decision IDB.52/Dec.9 (see annex I).

XIV. Personnel matters (item 15)

58. Under item 15, the Board had before it a report by the Director General on personnel matters (IDB.52/26) and a list of UNIDO staff, submitted by the Secretariat (IDB.52/CRP.11). Statements were delivered under this item.

59. At the proposal of the President, the Board took note of the documentation provided.

⁴ The delegation of Italy clarified its position on this matter.

XV. Preparations for the selection process for the post of the Director General (item 16)

60. Under item 16, the Board had before it a note by the Secretariat on the selection process for the post of Director General ([IDB.52/27](#)). Statements were delivered under this item.

61. The Board considered a draft decision submitted by the President on the selection process for the post of Director General ([IDB.52/L.5](#)) and adopted decision IDB.52/Dec.10 (see annex I).

XVI. Matters related to intergovernmental, non-governmental, governmental and other organizations (item 17)

62. Under item 17, the Board had before it notes by the Director General on applications for consultative status from non-governmental organizations ([IDB.52/28](#) and [IDB.52/28/Add.1](#)) and on information on an intergovernmental organization ([IDB.52/29](#)), as well as a report by the Secretariat on a review of the consultative status of non-governmental organizations ([IDB.52/30](#)).

63. The Board considered two draft decisions submitted by the President with regard to a relationship agreement with one intergovernmental organization ([IDB.52/L.7](#)) and a review of the consultative status of non-governmental organizations ([IDB.52/L.6](#)), and adopted decisions IDB.52/Dec.11 and IDB.52/Dec.12 (see annex I).

XVII. Preparations for the twenty-first session of the General Conference (item 18)

64. Under item 18, the Board had before it a report by the Director General providing an update on the preparations for the twenty-first session of the General Conference ([IDB.52/31/Rev.1](#)). A statement was delivered under this item.

65. At the proposal of the President, the Board took note of the documentation provided.

XVIII. Provisional agenda and date of the fifty-third session (item 19)

66. Under item 19, the Board had before it a note by the Director General on the provisional agenda and date of the fifty-third session ([IDB.52/CRP.12](#)).

67. The Board considered a draft decision submitted by the President on the provisional agenda and date of the fifty-third session ([IDB.52/L.8](#)) and adopted decision IDB.52/Dec.13 (see annex I).

XIX. Adoption of the report (item 20) and closure of the fifty-second session

68. On 27 November 2024, the Board adopted the English language report on the work of its fifty-second session ([IDB.52/L.1](#)) on the understanding that the Rapporteur would be entrusted with the task of finalizing the language versions of the report in consultation with the designated representatives. Statements were delivered under this item.

69. The Board closed its fifty-second session in the afternoon of 27 November 2024.

Annex I

Decisions adopted by the Board at its fifty-second session

| <i>Decision No.</i> | <i>Title</i> |
|---------------------|--|
| 1 | Utilization of available conference-servicing resources |
| 2 | Governance of UNIDO |
| 3 | Financial situation of UNIDO |
| 4 | Budget implementation flexibility |
| 5 | Mobilization of financial resources |
| 6 | Strengthening UNIDO's role in agro-industrialization and food security |
| 7 | Inclusive and sustainable development in middle-income countries |
| 8 | Membership of the Independent Oversight Advisory Committee |
| 9 | Evaluation and internal oversight activities |
| 10 | Selection process for the post of Director General |
| 11 | Relationship agreement with an intergovernmental organization |
| 12 | Review of the consultative status of non-governmental organizations |
| 13 | Provisional agenda and date of the fifty-third session |

Decision IDB.52/Dec.1 Utilization of available conference-servicing resources

The Industrial Development Board, with the aim of utilizing the available conference-servicing resources to the maximum extent possible, decided to suspend with immediate effect rule 32 of its rules of procedure relating to the quorum, for the meetings of its fifty-second session only, provided no substantive decisions were taken at those meetings.

*1st plenary meeting
25 November 2024*

Decision IDB.52/Dec.2 Governance of UNIDO

The Industrial Development Board:

- (a) Took note of the Annual Report of UNIDO 2023 ([IDB.52/2-PBC.40/2](#));
- (b) Requested the Director General to:
 - (i) Hold consultations with Member States, within the informal working group on Programme and Budget Committee-related issues, regarding UNIDO's organizational vision and strategy, and the new medium-term programme framework;
 - (ii) Improve the current UNIDO Open Data Platform to ensure that appropriate outcome indicators are published and updated on a regular basis to measure the impact achieved in the Organization's projects, programmes and activities, including global and regional programmes, in line with UNIDO's mandate;
 - (iii) Report to the next session of the Industrial Development Board and the General Conference of actions taken to pursue the present decision.

*6th plenary meeting
27 November 2024*

Decision IDB.52/Dec.3 Financial situation of UNIDO

The Industrial Development Board:

- (a) Took note of the information contained in document [IDB.52/5-PBC.40/5](#);
- (b) Urged those Member States that have not yet paid their assessed contributions, including advances to the Working Capital Fund and prior years' arrears, to do so without delay and requested the Director General to continue to accord priority to his efforts to contact Member States in this regard;
- (c) Also requested the Secretariat to continue assisting those Member States who are facing economic, financial and other challenges in meeting their financial obligations with payment plans and other available options;
- (d) Further requested the Director General to redouble his efforts for collection of arrears from former Member States and in this regard provide a comprehensive report on his efforts at the fifty-third session of the Industrial Development Board.

*6th plenary meeting
27 November 2024*

Decision IDB.52/Dec.4 Budget implementation flexibility

The Industrial Development Board:

- (a) Took note of decision GC.20/Dec.14;
- (b) Requested Member States to continue negotiating through the forty-first session of the Programme and Budget Committee and the fifty-third session of the Industrial Development Board, to allow the Director General, on a time-bound basis for a period to be agreed upon, to make, within the amounts approved by the General Conference for the regular budget, transfers between the major objects of expenditure within result areas up to 10 per cent of the initially appropriated regular budget amounts from which the transfers are made.

*6th plenary meeting
27 November 2024*

Decision IDB.52/Dec.5 Mobilization of financial resources

The Industrial Development Board:

- (a) Took note of the information contained in document [IDB.52/8-PBC.40/8](#);
- (b) Decided to delegate to the Director General the authority to approve in an equitable and transparent manner projects for financing, previously prepared and agreed by the UNIDO Secretariat and the concerned parties and donors, under the Industrial Development Fund in 2024 and 2025 in accordance with the priorities defined in the medium-term programme framework 2022–2025 ([IDB.49/8-PBC.37/8](#));
- (c) Encouraged Member States and other funding partners to increase their voluntary contributions to UNIDO, including for the Partnership Trust Fund as well as the UNIDO Innovation and Transformation Fund (ITF) and the Major Capital Investment Fund (MCIF);
- (d) Also encouraged all funding partners to consider contributing programmable funds, specifically to enable UNIDO to respond rapidly to requests for assistance and develop and implement its programmatic activities in a prompt and coordinated manner;
- (e) Requested Member States to consider contributing to UNIDO to enable the Organization to work with funding sources requiring co-funding, either through contributing to the dedicated trust funds or by special purpose funding at the country or global level;

(f) Encouraged Governments of recipient countries to play an active role in sharing with UNIDO the responsibility for mobilizing funds for jointly agreed priority activities, and specifically to take the lead in identifying and accessing funds available at the country level, including local cost-sharing opportunities, and funds from bilateral funding partners, multi-donor trust funds, the World Bank as well as other development finance institutions;

(g) Strongly recommended that Member States cooperate with and support the Organization in its efforts to develop and promote its programmes and initiatives in the international development context, and especially through international conferences and other forms of dialogue, in order to ensure that these initiatives are well known, their relevance for international development targets are recognized, and resources are made available.

*6th plenary meeting
27 November 2024*

Decision IDB.52/Dec.6 Strengthening UNIDO’s role in agro-industrialization and food security

The Industrial Development Board:

(a) Reaffirmed that the eradication of hunger and poverty are overarching goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and emphasized the need for urgent and sustained attention to these crucial issues;

(b) Recognized that achieving these goals requires targeted interventions that enhance value addition in agribusiness, facilitate food systems transformation and promote sustainable and inclusive agro-industrialization, in alignment with UNIDO’s mandate;

(c) Welcomed UNIDO’s engagement in the Global Alliance against Hunger and Poverty on 18 November 2024, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, of which UNIDO is a founding member;

(d) Took note of the efforts aimed at highlighting the food security agenda in the Vienna-based International Organizations, such as the establishment of the Group of Friends of Food Security in Vienna, as an informal mechanism to support the efforts of Vienna-based Organizations and their Member States in this key area, which is deemed crucial for advancing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular SDG 2 “Zero hunger”;

(e) Took note of the outcomes of the World Without Hunger Conference, held in Addis Ababa from 5 to 7 November 2024, and co-organized by UNIDO, the African Union Commission, the Government of Ethiopia, with technical assistance from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

(f) Took note of the Global Call 2024, which was held under the theme of “Foodtech Innovation and ISID” in Seoul on 21 November 2024, hosted by the UNIDO Investment and Technology Promotion Office Korea;

(g) Requested the Secretariat to hold consultations with Member States for the implementation of the outcomes of the World Without Hunger Conference, as appropriate, in cooperation with other relevant United Nations organizations, including by further developing and promoting the public-private sector cooperation initiative titled “A World Without Hunger is Possible!”, and to report back on these developments to the fifty-third session of the Board.

*6th plenary meeting
27 November 2024*

Decision IDB.52/Dec.7 Inclusive and sustainable development in middle-income countries

The Industrial Development Board:

- (a) Took note of the report of the Director General (documents [IDB.52/2](#) and [IDB.52/2/Add.1](#));
- (b) Also took note of document [IDB.52/18](#) on inclusive and sustainable development in middle-income countries;
- (c) Recalled resolution GC.18/Res.9 on “UNIDO’s Strategic Framework for Partnering with Middle-Income Countries” and decision IDB.50/Dec.6 on inclusive and sustainable industrial development in middle-income countries;
- (d) Reiterated its request to the Director General to undertake further efforts to improve results-based management of the Organization’s projects, programmes and activities in middle-income countries and to hold consultations with the Member States on the implementation of the UNIDO workplan for partnering with middle-income countries;
- (e) Underlined the need for UNIDO, based on experience gained in the formulation and implementation of technical cooperation programmes in the various middle-income countries, including those of Latin America and the Caribbean, to meet the challenges and opportunities affecting sustainable industrial development;
- (f) Acknowledged the global and regional donor community’s activities in Latin America and the Caribbean and appreciated the activities of Latin American and Caribbean countries in sharing their knowledge and experience within the region;
- (g) Recalled resolution GC.11/Res.1 that established the “Regional Programme for Latin America and the Caribbean” in 2005, the UNIDO Regional Approach for Latin America and the Caribbean 2020–2021, and the six priority thematic areas and their workplan, identified and agreed to in the framework of the regional conferences convened by UNIDO and held in Panama City and Bogota in 2022 and 2023, respectively;
- (h) Requested the Secretariat of UNIDO to update the regional programme for Latin America and the Caribbean and to resume activities to identify and mobilize financial resources, without affecting the resources assigned to other regions;
- (i) Further requested the Director General to inform Member States periodically on the implementation of this decision.

*6th plenary meeting
27 November 2024*

Decision IDB.52/Dec.8 Membership of the Independent Oversight Advisory Committee

The Industrial Development Board:

- (a) Took note of document [IDB.52/23](#) on membership of the Independent Oversight Advisory Committee;
- (b) In line with paragraph 8 of the revised terms of reference of the committee, appointed the following member to the committee for a term of three years, from 27 November 2024 to 26 November 2027, or until the appointment (or reappointment) of a member at the fifty-fifth session of the Board, whichever is later:

Ms. Agnieszka Słomka-Gołębiowska (Poland) States in List D

- (c) Approved the following non-exhaustive roster of candidates from States in List D, to be considered in the given order, for future vacancies on the committee:

Ms. Elena Boytsova (Russian Federation) States in List D

Mr. Henryk Stanisław Czubek (Poland)

States in List D

*6th plenary meeting
27 November 2024*

Decision IDB.52/Dec.9 Evaluation and internal oversight activities

The Industrial Development Board:

(a) Took note of the information contained in documents [IDB.52/24](#) and [IDB.52/25](#), introduced by the Director of the Office of Evaluation and Internal Oversight (EIO) on the activities performed under the three oversight functions in UNIDO (evaluation, internal audit and investigation) as governed by the EIO Charter (Board decision IDB.48/Dec.10), and in line with the UNIDO Secretariat Structure 2024 (document DGB/2024/03);

(b) Reiterated its support for the evaluation and internal oversight functions as stated in Board decision IDB.51/Dec.10;

(c) Encouraged further outcome and impact-driven strategic evaluations and addressing its findings on performance and lessons learned, incorporating them into management actions and strategic planning processes;

(d) Requested the Secretariat to report on the status and progress of implementation of recommendations and management action plans from all oversight functions at the fifty-third session of the Industrial Development Board;

(e) Reiterated its request to the Secretariat to ensure, for the approved budget of the biennium 2026–2027, transparent, sustainable, and predictable funding for independent evaluations and internal oversight functions to further strengthen the operational independence of these functions, and requested in this regard the Secretariat to report accordingly to the Board.

*6th plenary meeting
27 November 2024*

Decision IDB.52/Dec.10 Selection process for the post of Director General

The Industrial Development Board:

(a) Took note of the information contained in document [IDB.52/27](#);

(b) In line with decision IDB.44/Dec.15, decided to hold a forum of candidates nominated for the post of Director General, should there be any nomination in addition to that of the current Director General;

(c) Also decided that this candidates' forum will be conducted in accordance with the modalities reproduced in the annex to document [IDB.52/27](#);

(d) Further decided to convene a candidates' forum on 12 May 2025, if required pursuant to paragraph (b) above.

*6th plenary meeting
27 November 2024*

Decision IDB.52/Dec.11 Relationship agreement with an intergovernmental organization

The Industrial Development Board:

(a) Took note of the information contained in document [IDB.52/29](#);

(b) Authorized the Director General, in accordance with Article 19.1 (a) of the Constitution and the Guidelines for the relationship of UNIDO with intergovernmental, governmental, non-governmental and other organizations (General Conference decision GC.1/Dec.41, annex, paragraph 9), and on the basis of the information contained in the annex to document [IDB.52/29](#), to conclude an

appropriate relationship agreement with the following intergovernmental organization:

Common Fund for Commodities (CFC)

*6th plenary meeting
27 November 2024*

Decision IDB.52/Dec.12 Review of the consultative status of non-governmental organizations

The Industrial Development Board:

- (a) Took note of the information contained in document [IDB.52/30](#);
- (b) Taking into consideration GC.1/Dec.41, annex B, paragraph 21, decided to discontinue the consultative status for those organizations listed in Annex I to document [IDB.52/30](#) that have not demonstrated sufficient interest in cooperating with UNIDO in the past four years.

*6th plenary meeting
27 November 2024*

Decision IDB.52/Dec.13 Provisional agenda and date of the fifty-third session

The Industrial Development Board:

- (a) Took note of the information contained in document IDB.52/CRP.12;
- (b) Decided to approve the following provisional agenda for its fifty-third session:⁵
 1. Election of officers.
 2. Adoption of the agenda.
 3. Annual Report of the Director General for 2024.⁶
 4. Report of the Programme and Budget Committee:
 - (a) Report of the External Auditor for 2024;
 - (b) Financial situation of UNIDO, including unutilized balances of appropriations;
 - (c) Report by the informal working group on Programme and Budget Committee-related issues;
 - (d) Scale of assessments for apportionment of the regular budget expenses for the biennium 2026–2027;
 - (e) Working Capital Fund for the biennium 2026–2027;
 - (f) Mobilization of financial resources;
 - (g) General risk management;
 - (h) Appointment of the External Auditor;

⁵ To be updated to take account of mandates adopted by the Board at its fifty-second session and by the Programme and Budget Committee at its forty-first session.

⁶ The Annual Report presents the progress towards biennial targets at the aggregate UNIDO level. Priority is given to the reporting of targets established in the programme and budgets 2024–2025, where indicators are a subset of the integrated results and performance framework. The report also informs Member States of UNIDO's contribution to the realization of the 2030 Agenda and to the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system (QCPR) (General Assembly resolution [75/233](#)), as well as on the implementation of the Lima Declaration: Towards inclusive and sustainable industrial development (GC.15/Res.1) and the Abu Dhabi Declaration (GC.18/Res.1), and on the progress made on the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA III) (IDB.46/Dec.13 (i)).

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- (i) Updated medium-term investment proposals;
 - (j) Budget implementation flexibility (vertical and horizontal).
5. Programme and budgets, 2026–2027.
 6. Medium-term programme framework, 2026–2029.
 7. UNIDO and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
 8. United Nations development system reform.
 9. Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA III).
 10. Climate neutral industry and circular economy.
 11. Inclusive and sustainable development in middle-income countries.
 12. UNIDO activities in support of the least developed countries.
 13. Strengthening capacities in developing productive, resilient and sustainable supply chains.
 14. Activities of the Joint Inspection Unit.
 15. UNIDO Independent Oversight Advisory Committee.
 16. Evaluation and internal oversight activities.
 17. Personnel matters.
 18. Matters related to intergovernmental, non-governmental, governmental and other organizations.
 19. Recommendation of a candidate for the post of Director General.
 20. Preparations for the twenty-first session of the General Conference.
 21. Provisional agenda and date of the fifty-fourth session.
 22. Adoption of the report.
- (c) Decided to hold its fifty-third session from 30 June to 3 July 2025.

*6th plenary meeting
27 November 2024*

Annex II

Documents submitted to the Board at its fifty-second session

| <i>Agenda item</i> | <i>Symbol</i> | <i>Title</i> |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1 Election of officers | | |
| 2 Adoption of the agenda | IDB.52/1 | Provisional agenda |
| | IDB.52/1/Add.1/Rev.1 | Annotated provisional agenda |
| | IDB.52/CRP.1 | List of documents |
| 3 Annual report of the Director General for 2023 | IDB.52/2 | <i>Annual Report of UNIDO 2023</i> |
| | IDB.52/2/Add.1 | Appendices to the <i>Annual Report of UNIDO 2023</i> |
| 3 (a) Managing for results: Update on the implementation of the medium-term programme framework, 2022–2025 | IDB.52/3 | Managing for Results: Update on the implementation of the medium-term programme framework, 2022–2025. Report by the Director General |
| 4 Report of the Programme and Budget Committee | IDB.52/13 | Report of the Committee on the work of its fortieth session (10–11 June 2024) |
| 4 (a) Report of the External Auditor for 2023 | IDB.52/4 | Report of the External Auditor on the accounts of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization for the financial year 1 January to 31 December 2023 |
| | PBC.40/CRP.2 | Annexes to the report of the External Auditor on the accounts of UNIDO for the financial year 1 January to 31 December 2023 (unaudited) |
| | PBC.40/CRP.3 | Comments on the Report of the External Auditor. Note by the UNIDO Independent Oversight Advisory Committee |
| 4(b) Financial situation of UNIDO, including unutilized balances of appropriations | IDB.52/5 | Financial situation of UNIDO. Report by the Director General |
| | IDB.52/CRP.2 | Status of assessed contributions. Note by the Secretariat |
| | IDB.52/CRP.3 | Financial situation of UNIDO. Update by the Secretariat |
| 4(c) Budget implementation flexibility | IDB.52/6 | Budget implementation flexibility. Note by the Secretariat |
| | IDB.52/32 | Application of budget implementation flexibility. Report by the Director General |
| 4(d) Report by the informal working group on Programme and Budget Committee-related issues | IDB.52/7 | Report by the informal working group on Programme and Budget Committee-related issues. Report by the Co-Chairs |
| | PBC.40/CRP.5 | Update on the report by the informal working group on Programme and Budget Committee-related issues. Report by the Co-Chairs |

| <i>Agenda item</i> | <i>Symbol</i> | <i>Title</i> |
|--|---------------------|--|
| | IDB.52/CRP.4 | Update on the report by the informal working group on Programme and Budget Committee-related issues. Report by the Co-Chairs |
| 4(e) Mobilization of financial resources | IDB.52/8 | Mobilization of financial resources. Report by the Director General |
| | IDB.52/2, chapter 6 | Funding performance. <i>Annual Report of UNIDO 2023</i> |
| | PBC.40/CRP.6 | Projects approved under the Industrial Development Fund, thematic and individual trust funds, and other voluntary contributions in 2023 |
| | IDB.52/14 | Update on the development of the draft strategic guidelines on partnerships and resource mobilization. Report by the Director General |
| | IDB.52/CRP.5 | Draft strategic guidelines on partnerships and resource mobilization. Note by the Secretariat |
| 4(f) General risk management | IDB.52/9 | General risk management. Report by the Director General |
| | IDB.52/33 | Update on general risk management. Report by the Director General |
| | IDB.52/CRP.14 | UNIDO's cybersecurity framework. Note by the Secretariat |
| 4(g) Updated medium-term investment proposals | IDB.52/10 | Updated medium-term investment proposals, 2024–2025. Report by the Director General |
| 5 UNIDO and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development | IDB.52/15 | UNIDO and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Report by the Director General |
| | IDB.52/CRP.13 | Update on the World Without Hunger Conference. Note by the Secretariat |
| 6 United Nations development system reform | IDB.52/12 | United Nations development system reform. Report by the Director General |
| 7 Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA III) | IDB.52/11 | Report on the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA III). Report by the Director General |
| 8 Climate neutral industry and circular economy | | |
| 8(a) UNIDO activities related to circular economy | IDB.52/16 | UNIDO activities related to circular economy. Report by the Director General |
| 8(b) UNIDO Climate Change Strategy and its action plan | IDB.52/17 | Update on the development of the action plan for the implementation of the UNIDO Climate Change Strategy. Report by the Director General |
| | IDB.52/CRP.6 | Draft action plan for the implementation of the UNIDO Climate Change Strategy. Note by the Secretariat |
| 9 Inclusive and sustainable development in middle-income countries | IDB.52/18 | Inclusive and sustainable industrial development in middle-income countries. Report by the Director General |

| <i>Agenda item</i> | <i>Symbol</i> | <i>Title</i> |
|---|---------------------------------|--|
| 10 UNIDO activities in support of the least developed countries | IDB.52/19 | UNIDO activities in support of the least developed countries. Report by the Director General |
| 11 Strengthening capacities in developing productive, resilient and sustainable supply chains | IDB.52/20 | Strengthening capacities in developing productive, resilient and sustainable supply chains. Report by the Director General |
| 12 Activities of the Joint Inspection Unit | IDB.52/21 | Activities of the Joint Inspection Unit. Report by the Director General |
| | IDB.52/CRP.7 | Activities of the Joint Inspection Unit. Note by the Director General |
| 13 UNIDO Independent Oversight Advisory Committee | IDB.52/22 | Report of the Independent Oversight Advisory Committee. Report by the Chair |
| | IDB.52/22/Add.1 | Report of the Independent Oversight Advisory Committee. Management response |
| | IDB.52/23 | Membership of the Independent Oversight Advisory Committee. Note by the Secretariat |
| | IDB.52/CRP.8 | Membership of the Independent Oversight Advisory Committee. Note by the Secretariat |
| 14 Evaluation and internal oversight activities | IDB.52/24 | Internal oversight activities. Report by the Director of the Office of Evaluation and Internal Oversight |
| | IDB.52/CRP.9 | Summaries of internal audits. Annex to the report by the Director of the Office of Evaluation and Internal Oversight |
| | IDB.52/25 | Evaluation activities. Report by the Director of the Office of Evaluation and Internal Oversight |
| | IDB.52/CRP.10 | Summaries of independent evaluations. Annex to the report by the Director of the Office of Evaluation and Internal Oversight |
| 15 Personnel matters | IDB.52/26 | Personnel matters. Report by the Director General |
| | IDB.52/CRP.11 | List of UNIDO staff. Note by the Secretariat |
| 16 Preparations for the selection process for the post of the Director General | IDB.52/27 | Selection process for the post of Director General. Note by the Secretariat |
| 17 Matters related to intergovernmental, non-governmental, governmental and other organizations | IDB.52/28 | Applications from non-governmental organizations for consultative status. Note by the Director General |
| | IDB.52/28/Add.1 | Applications from non-governmental organizations for consultative status. Note by the Director General. Addendum |

| <i>Agenda item</i> | <i>Symbol</i> | <i>Title</i> |
|--|---------------------------------|---|
| | IDB.52/29 | Information on an intergovernmental organization. Note by the Director General |
| | IDB.52/30 | Review of the consultative status of non-governmental organizations. Report by the Secretariat |
| 18 Preparations for the twenty-first session of the General Conference | IDB.52/31/Rev.1 | Update on the preparations for the twenty-first session of the General Conference. Report by the Director General |
| 19 Provisional agenda and date of the fifty-third session | IDB.52/CRP.12 | Provisional agenda and date of the fifty-third session. Note by the Director General |
| 20 Adoption of the report | - | - |
| | IDB.52/34 | Lists of States included in Annex I to the Constitution of UNIDO. Note by the Secretariat |