

**STATEMENT BY THE AFRICAN GROUP
DELIVERED BY THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF
ANGOLA, H.E. AMBASSADOR MARIA DE JESUS DOS REIS FERREIRA, AT THE
SEVENTENTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF UNIDO FROM
27th NOVEMBER TO 1st DECEMBER 2017**

Agenda item 6: Appointment of the Director General

Madam President,

1. I would like to express, on behalf of the African Group, our sincere congratulations to Mr. Li Yong, for the renewal of his appointment as the Director General of UNIDO;
2. The Group is particularly pleased that the Director General has been able to lead this organization with transparency and professionalism and to address the challenges that it has faced, which has allowed him to gain the confidence of its member states;
3. Mr. Yong, has also been able to interact promptly with Member states when it comes to giving update to any situation and was able to show great sense of leadership in the most difficult situations;
4. The dynamism and pertinent background of Mr. Yong made UNIDO a reference when it comes to development and industrialization issues; now UNIDO is present in different fora and attained more and more responsibilities, at the international level, this could not have been achieved without the skills and guidance of Mr. Li Yong;
5. The African Group remains convinced that Mr. Li Yong will continue to work to implement the 2030 development agenda provisions particularly its goal 9 about industrialization and innovation and would like to reiterate our full support to the fulfillment of his mission for another term at the helm of this Organization.