

Statement of the Deputy to the Director General and Managing Director

Mr. Hiroshi Kuniyoshi during the handover ceremony of the Group of 77 on Friday, 9 March 2018

Conference Room C-2, 7th floor at 3:00 p.m.

Mr. Chairman,
Excellencies,
Colleagues,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my great pleasure and honour to be here today on behalf of Director General LI Yong, who is on duty travel outside the country and cannot attend this important event. I wish to convey his best wishes to the Group.

First of all, allow me to congratulate His Excellency **Ambassador JÁTIVA NARANJO** from Ecuador on his election as the Chairman of the Group for the year 2018.

I also wish to extend my thanks to His Excellency Ambassador **NAJAFI** from the Islamic Republic of Iran for his commendable leadership as Chair of the G-77 Vienna Chapter during 2017.

On behalf of the Director General, I am pleased to share with you a few reflections on UNIDO's key achievements in 2017 and the way forward for 2018.

Increased operations – despite resource constraints – net voluntary contributions have been on a stable increase of the past five years. TC delivery has reached a new extraordinary high level of over USD 200 million.

PCPs: in 2017, UNIDO expanded the PCP model to Cambodia for the Asia and Pacific region and the Kyrgyz Republic for Europe and Central Asia, as announced at our last 17th General Conference to cover all the regions where UNIDO operates. As an additional pilot country, Morocco will be introduced for the Arab region this year.

Management: the 17th General Conference approved the budget for 2018-2019 biennium, as well as the Medium-term programme framework (MTPF) for the period 2018-2021. The MTPF sets our strategy for the next four years. The measurement and reporting of our MTPF will be done using our Integrated Results and Performance Framework (IRPF), our strategic tool for result-based performance measurement and appraisal.

Reform of the UN development system was launched last year by the UN Secretary-General António Guterres. UNIDO supports and shall continue supporting the reform initiative and related efforts to feature the economic dimension more strongly.

UNIDO is actively involved both at the policy level as well as the operational level in the implementation of the QCPR which gives clear guidance to the UN development system in supporting the achievement of the SDGs through the new generation of United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAFs). UNIDO, as a specialized agency, and often with a non-resident status, is engaged in the UN system wide coherence and delivering as one approach to preserve and build on its comparative advantage to support our member states in achieving the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development. We have enhanced our involvement in the UN Resident Coordinator programmatic activities, engaged in a number of Common Country Assessments (CCA) and UNDAFs, and ensured alignment with our ISID mandate and SDG9 while partnering with UN sister agencies.

I wish to quickly recall the Director General's briefing to Member States on 27 February, where he outlined the main objectives and the three **focus areas of 2018**:

UNIDO's Management objectives: integration and scaling up in a global context. This means to more effectively measure, monitor and demonstrate UNIDO's contribution to the advancement of the 2030 Agenda, in particular SDG 9 and industry-related goals and targets. This provides effective integration of UNIDO's four core functions, enhances the normative and convening functions, and ensures UNIDO's leadership beyond the technical component. By doing this, we hope to take concrete steps to make use of opportunities and position UNIDO in emerging issues such as Industry 4.0 and the circular economy.

Improvements towards effective implementation and innovation: UNIDO will continuously strive to improve its processes and services by enhancing its programming monitoring, quality assurance and improving reporting on clear results in all its areas of work. As a learning organization, we will aim to improve our knowledge management and sharing, as well as enhance our internal coordination and communication to deliver both in terms of quality and quantity.

Strengthening partnerships: This is an important means for UNIDO to scale up our development results and impact. As much as UNIDO has been a partnership organization for decades, in order to achieve higher impact, whether in the form of the PCPs or our traditional TC activities, we have to acknowledge that UNIDO is unable to do it alone. This management objective requires us to work in partnership for the benefit of our member states.

Excellencies, Colleagues and Friends,

In closing, I wish to highlight that 2018 will mark the **20th anniversary** of the inauguration of the G-77 Vienna Chapter under the aegis of UNIDO. It was the then Director General Mr. Carlos Magariños, together with Her Excellency Ambassador Nozipho Mxakato-Diseko, Permanent Representative of South Africa, who formally established the G-77 Vienna Chapter on 19th May 1998. Ever since, UNIDO has financed this Office, which is servicing **all** the Vienna-based UN Organizations. I was told that during all

those years a total number of **2524** meetings were held at the Ambassadorial and expert level, this is an average of **126 per year**, around **2-3** weekly meetings. This is just to give an idea of the importance UNIDO attaches to the Group and the efforts deployed to ensure optimal support.

In the course of these 20 years, UNIDO has also hosted the meeting of all G-77 Chapters twice and has always had an excellent relation with the Group and its members, appreciating their continuous support. Once more, I wish to express our gratitude to the **Group of 77 and China for its continuous long-lasting support and confidence in UNIDO**, its strengthened and rewarding cooperation, its promotion of ISID, and particularly, its support in advocating UNIDO's current and relevant role in industrial development. Finally, let me reiterate my most sincere congratulations on the assumption of the Chairmanship, Ambassador JÁTIVA NARANJO. I wish you every success for your tenure.