



**European Union**

**EU Statement at the  
Tribute Ceremony for Mr. Li Yong**

**19<sup>th</sup> session of the General Conference  
United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)**

**Vienna, 3 December 2021**

Mr President,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union and its Member States. The following countries align themselves with this statement: Turkey<sup>§</sup>, the Republic of North Macedonia\*, Montenegro\*, Serbia\*, Albania\*, Bosnia and Herzegovina\*, Norway<sup>†</sup>, Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Armenia.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Director General Li Yong for his leadership in promoting inclusive and sustainable industrial development at the helm of UNIDO. Over the past years, UNIDO has positioned itself as an important player to advance the implementation of the global development agenda and its mandate is fully recognised under Sustainable Development Goal 9.

We greatly value UNIDO's work in fostering partnerships and integrating poverty eradication and climate action into its technical cooperation activities in a gender responsive way, to ensure that no one is left behind. In particular, we appreciate the UNIDO Programme for Country Partnership (PCP), which has proven to be a valuable contribution to the enhanced implementation of the UN development system reform at a country level which the EU strongly supports, as well as to mobilization of resources to achieve a larger development impact.

We wish Director General Li Yong all the best in his future endeavours.

Thank you, Mr President.

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<sup>§</sup> Candidate Country

\* Candidate Countries the Republic of North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Albania as well as potential Candidate Country Bosnia and Herzegovina continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

<sup>†</sup> Norway is a member of the EFTA and of the European Economic Area.