

Agenda Item 7: UNIDO field policy and network

Madam President,

1. The Group of 77 and China takes note of document IDB.44/7-PBC.32/7 on the operationalization of the field policy action plan. The Group commends the Director General's efforts for maintaining UNIDO's presence in 47 countries and keeping all its staff members, albeit the financial constraints facing the Organization.

2. The Group considers that any adjustment to the UNIDO Field Policy Network should be applied in a way that does not affect the ongoing implementation of technical cooperation activities. The Group expects that the process will be implemented in a phased approach and encourages the Director General to continue consulting bilaterally with Member States affected by this reform to ensure a smooth transition and minimize the disruption of activities. The progress and modifications taking place in this process are expected to be monitored by and reported to all Member States to ensure that the goals will be achieved.

3. The Group requests the Director General to periodically evaluate, at practically feasible intervals, the field policy and network restructuring to assess the impact on UNIDO's technical assistance.

Thank you, Madam President.