



Statement by LI Yong, UNIDO Director General
at the 7th Virtual Meeting of International Organisations – Improving the
Role of International Organisations Through More Transparent, Inclusive
and Evidence-Based International Rulemaking
High-Level Webinar: International Organisations and their Members Facing
the Global Crisis Together

Excellencies
Fellow Heads of International Organisations
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am pleased that the IO Partnership has brought us together to consider the role of international organisations and the importance of rulemaking, particularly at this time where COVID-19 has shown that quality and standards play an important role in mitigating the negative effects of the pandemic. It also comes at a time where we, the international community is looking to accelerate the realization of the Decade of Action and Delivery for sustainable development to meet the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

UNIDO is a specialized agency of the UN mandated to promote inclusive and sustainable industrial development. This mandate is central to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goal 9: “Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation”, which is interlinked with the achievement of the other sustainable development goals.

During these unprecedented times of COVID, and as we recover from the crisis, inclusive and sustainable industrial development is anticipated to continue playing a central role as the economy’s engine of growth. The UNIDO response to COVID prioritizes the rescuing of existing firms and industrial ecosystems because they drive the value creation of countries and generate employment and incomes for households. Further, innovative manufacturing in a circular economy, and during an era of the Fourth Industrial Revolution are important for a resilient, clean and green manufacturing industry post-COVID-19.

Agreed international standards can help us to be certain that technologies used are safe, and have the potential to address pressing global challenges such as biodiversity loss, food security, environmental degradation and climate change.

The enhancement of our cooperation within the IO Partnership will be necessary so that we can leverage on the synergies of our individual organizations, continue the exchange of knowledge and dissemination of best practices to overcome this crisis.

UNIDO therefore also welcomes the Joint Statement showing the joint commitment of our organisations to continue enhancing the effectiveness of international rulemaking.

Thank you.