

Host Agency Statement at the 19th meeting of the Advisory Board to the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN)

**Speaker: Mr. Stephan Sicars, Managing Director, Environment and Energy Directorate,
UNITED Nations Industrial Development Organisation**

29th March 2022

Thank you, Steven, and thank you Chair for offering me the floor here this afternoon in Copenhagen on the occasion of the **nineteenth meeting of the CTCN Advisory Board**.

CTCN advisory board members, representatives of the Government of Denmark and of the US Embassy to Denmark, our colleagues from the UN, observers, ladies, and gentlemen:

1. Let me begin by picking up on some of the details hinted at by Steven, namely **UNEPs and UNIDOs partnership in co-managing the CTCN**. I use this term deliberately, as both partners find it more pragmatic and less prone to misunderstanding than co-hosting seems to have become of late. Steven mentioned already our joined work on the collaborative arrangements between our two agencies, which will include institutional issues, the necessary visibility of the partners, and more. But I wanted to underscore that these conversations are ongoing and focused on providing the efficient and effective support to the CTCN, the Technology Mechanism, and to the climate technology needs of Parties to the UNFCCC.
2. We are also working on structuring not only our contributions to CTCN and but also our work in UNIDO in a way to scale-up CTCNs work to meet the scale of the challenge before us. This is not only sensible because CTCNs operational priorities have sharpened since its inception ten years ago, but also because our respective operational frameworks have adjusted as well. On UNIDOs side, a restructuring in 2020 created a directorate with a special focus on environment and energy, and we are moreover in the process of developing a climate change strategy to adapt our work further to the increasing urgency of climate change and the need for a just transformation to a lower-carbon and resilient future.
3. UNIDO is, at its core, a UN agency focused on economic development and the role of industry in this process. On climate, Industry is often seen – not entirely fairly - as a primary driver of climate change. But it is also subject to its impacts, with cascading effects on jobs and development

priorities. UNIDO remains focused on its mandate to support inclusive and sustainable solutions that advance the adaptation and mitigation priorities of our constituent countries; as well as to the role of industry in accelerating their development and deployment. This applies across the technology cycle – and the Technology Framework – but particularly with respect to innovation.

4. Mindful of this, UNIDO is working to create a unified and co-ordinated project development approach specifically for climate change related projects across the whole organisation. You might be aware that UNIDO is very strong on innovation, low carbon energy access and use including hydrogen, Circular Economy – one of the several partnerships between UNEP and UNIDO is the Global Alliance on Circular Economy and Resource Efficiency, GACERE – and on adaptation. But we are also strongly involved in the agro-industry sector, in trade, investment, and digitization – all important means to drive the necessary change. And with the stronger tools on information access and sharing that we aim to develop as part of the collaborative arrangements to support the CTCN, the basis exists for more programmatic work and a better uptake of CTCNs results.
5. Similar to Steven, I am new to the CTCN process and hence I think it is sensible to briefly advise you on my background. Since 2014 I am working for UNIDO, first as director for Montreal Protocol, after a few months heading the then newly formed Environment Department, and since mid 2020 heading the newly formed directorate for environment and energy. Being a mechanical engineer, I worked in research and technology transfer, in international expert groups e.g. as lead author for IPCC, participated in German delegations and worked for a decade for the UNEP hosted Secretariat of the Multilateral Fund. UNIDO, and myself, is committed to contribute in partnership with UNEP to the success of a comanaged CTCN.
6. With great happiness and also, let me say, some pride I noted the appreciation for CTCNs work expressed through the COP26 decision in Glasgow on the CTCN, and I would like to thank both UNFCCC as well as UNEP for their quick execution of the agreement on hosting CTCN.
7. Thank you very much to you chair for giving me a few minutes time in this meeting, and to my colleague Steven Stone from UNEP and to the CTCN and its director, Rose Mwiwaza for the engaged and positive discussions on our collaborative arrangements to support the CTCN. I am looking forward to listen to and, where appropriate, be part of the productive discussions during this meeting and through them understand better the ways in which UNEP and UNIDO can continue strengthen our support for CTCN.