



UNITED NATIONS  
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

GERD MÜLLER  
DIRECTOR GENERAL



Mr. Alexandros Spachis  
Secretary General  
European Business Council for Africa  
Rue Montoyer 24  
1000 Brussels  
Belgium

31 October 2022

Dear Mr. Spachis,

I have the pleasure to thank you for your letter of congratulations on my new role as Director General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). After eight years as the Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany, I take on this responsibility with great enthusiasm and determination.

The industrial and economic development of Africa is at the centre of UNIDO's efforts. As such, I note with interest the achievements of the European Business Council for Africa (EBCAM) and value EBCAM's consultative status with UNIDO, held since 2019.

Since the beginning of my tenure, I have sought to make UNIDO a leading United Nations agency in promoting a green transition and recovery and in fostering resilient, inclusive and sustainable industrial development. I also support a renewed partnership between developing countries, emerging economies and industrialized countries. This relies on a stronger engagement of industrialized countries, in particular countries of the European Union.

For Africa specifically, I want to do more to realize the continent's potential for agricultural production and agro-processing, the transfer of skills and technologies. I also aim to link partners for access to new markets in Africa, Europe and worldwide. Energy is key in this context; Africa can increasingly become a green renewable energy continent, with massive investments in technology and infrastructure to create the energy solutions of the future and decouple growth from emissions.

To further discuss cooperation between EBCAM and UNIDO, you are welcome to contact Mr. Victor Djemba, Chief, Regional Coordination Bureau, Africa. Mr. Djemba is available by email at: [v.djemba@unido.org](mailto:v.djemba@unido.org). In addition, I would be delighted to welcome you to UNIDO headquarters in Vienna, with a view to broadening our dialogue for Africa's inclusive and sustainable industrial development.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Gerd Müller'.