

BIR is the international trade association of the recycling industries. Around 70 countries are represented through their national trade associations and individual companies which are involved in recycling. BIR comprises four commodity divisions: iron and steel, non ferrous metals, paper and textiles, and has three commodity committees dealing with stainless steel and special alloys, plastics and rubber. BIR's primary goals are to promote recycling and recyclability, thereby conserving natural resources, protecting the environment and facilitating free trade of secondary raw materials.

## PRESS RELEASE

## Recent BIR World Recycling Convention & Exhibition in Barcelona (27 - 30 May 2018)

## BIR and UNIDO sign Joint Declaration

## Brussels, 13 June 2018

On 12 June 2018, the Bureau of International Recycling and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) signed a Joint Declaration with a view to facilitating a closer cooperation between the two organisations.

This is the direct result of UNIDO's official support of the first-ever Global Recycling Day organised by BIR on 18 March 2018. At the time, UNIDO had published a statement on their website endorsing GRD and encouraging people to sign BIR's petition.

The Joint Declaration, which was signed in Vienna by BIR President Ranjit Baxi and UNIDO Director General LI Yong, outlines the intention of both organisations to "promote Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development by supporting sustainable recycling practices and industries". It is intended to raise the awareness regarding the importance of recycling and recycling industries; to promote free trade, the environmentally sound management and recycling of materials and use of recycled materials worldwide; and to encourage manufacturers to design products with a better understanding of the possibilities of recycling.

At a practical level, both organisations are looking at jointly organising specific activities/events, exchanging information about recycling and keeping each other informed on recycling-related activities and events.



BIR President Baxi stated: "I am very proud that we have signed this Joint Declaration, which is a big step forward to facilitate cooperation between BIR and the United Nations. I would like to thank UNIDO and their Director General Li for providing this great opportunity of dialogue and common action."



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Official UNIDO press release view here