

47th Session of Industrial Development Board of UNIDO

Statement on Agenda Item No 3: Annual Report of Director General of UNIDO

[Delivered by Subhash P Gupta, Alternate Permanent Representative of India to UNIDO]

Thank you Mr. President

My delegation would like to welcome you for assuming the Chair of the Industrial Development Board. We also welcome other members of the Bureau and assure full cooperation from my delegation to the work of the IDB.

2. We associate ourselves with the statements made by Ambassador of Egypt on behalf of the Group of 77 and China under this Agenda item and would like to add following points from our national perspective.

Mr. President,

3. As a founder member, India has enjoyed a close association with UNIDO and has contributed resources - financial, managerial, and technical - and supported a large and diverse arena for UNIDO's developmental interventions over decades. The India Country Programme (CP) represents the second largest UNIDO country portfolio. Over 400 UNIDO projects have been implemented in India since 1966. Besides the annual contribution of over 0.84 Million Euros equivalent to 1.23% of total assessed contribution of UNIDO for 2019-20, India also provides USD 1.2 million as annual voluntary contribution to the Industrial Development Fund (IDF) of UNIDO, which funds the various activities of UNIDO projects in India as also activities in third countries under the South-South cooperation. Besides this, sizable funds are provided by other international organizations like GEF for executing projects.

4. India has also contributed managerial and technical resources to the activities of the UNIDO since its inception and has also actively cooperated with the UNIDO in projects in many developing countries.

5. UNIDO's International Centre for Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development, fully funded by the Government of India, is a new framework set up in 2014 under the rubric of the Lima Declaration, in order to increase industrial competitiveness, technology upgradation and innovation, generation of decent jobs and ensure sustainable environment and energy access. Under this framework, various projects are under. We, however, feel that the Centre requires vigorous monitoring at HQs. We believe that member states must approach this Center for exploring options of collaborations and joint projects wherein mutual partnerships can be tailored for mutual benefits. We would also like to see the Regional Office in New Delhi strengthen UNIDO's effectiveness and collaboration linkages in the region.

6. India believes that Industrial Development is essential for improving the lives of people to give those equal opportunities and a life that they can live with dignity. Given the importance of industrialization, an Industrial Policy Discussion Paper was released by India in 2017 and the New Industrial Policy is under consideration with the Government of India. India has launched Make in India and Start-up India initiatives to facilitate investment, foster innovation, enhance skill development and build the best-in-class manufacturing infrastructure, mirroring the SDG 9 of 2030 Agenda. We will be happy to share our

experience and expertise in the field of industrialization with UNIDO and with any interested Member States.

Mr. President,

7. With reference to the Annual Report 2017 of UNIDO, India appreciates the overall performance achieved by UNIDO including technical cooperation delivery, which touched \$190 million during 2018 within the available resources whereas voluntary contributions for programme implementation exceeded \$204 million, and funds mobilized, including future instalments reached a record high of \$272 million.

8. India compliments the efforts of UNIDO in focusing on sustainable industrialization while implementing their projects to harness modern technologies for pursuing enhanced economic growth. However, there is potential for more efficient resource utilizations and environmentally sound projects. We note that UNIDO is aligning its projects with the SDGs and 2030 Agenda for Development and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. We take note that UNIDO through its GCIP, UNIDO works directly with developing country Governments and SMEs to support and adopt innovative, clean technology business models.

9. We also take note that PCP was expanded to all geographical regions in 2018, thus completing the pilot phase. The PCP is now ongoing in six countries, with implementation advancing in Ethiopia, Peru and Senegal as well as programme is being finalized in Morocco and ongoing in Cambodia and Kyrgyzstan. The programme formulation process for new PCPs in Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Rwanda and Zambia were commenced last year. In this regard, India will be ready to join UNIDO in executing projects and in sharing our experience and expertise in these PCP countries. We believe that the tried and time-tested model of project delivery in the South-South, and triangular cooperation frameworks, should be further enhanced.

Mr. President,

10. We note, with concern, the depletion in the assessed contributions base of UNIDO. India urges all Member States to make timely payments of their assessed contribution. This is essential for the sound financial health of the Organization and this will help to ensure the smooth continuation of UNIDO's activities. We take note of the reforms introduced by the Director General on organizational restructuring of field offices and budgetary reform to achieve financial savings. More can and should be done in consultation with Member States. Increasing voluntary funding and increasing the quantum of technical cooperation will not replace the diminishing regular budget of the Organization. Continuing departures from the Organization are a matter of deep concern and measures need to be taken to address this urgently. It is important that we work collectively towards retaining the relevance of this Organization.

Thank you, Mr. President,