

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

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Statement

by

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the Islamic Republic of Iran

Before

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In the Name of God The compassionate, the Merciful

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Mr. President, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

As the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran, I am very pleased to speak at this august body. Allow me at the outset to congratulate you, Mr. President, as well as other members of the bureau on their election.

I also wish to welcome participation of new members of UNIDO at this Session of the General Conference. Their presence and participation in this body would be a clear indication that developing states are supporting UNIDO and at the same time have confidence in the Organization's outstanding and unique role in promoting inclusive and sustainable industrial development.

Mr. President,

I would like to take this opportunity to elaborate on Iran's current economic and industrial status.

Iran has huge capabilities and capacities in various natural resources, including oil, gas, mines, educated human resources, not to mention colossal appropriate infrastructure. Technology and science have a special place in various industries and Iran's goal is to maximize the use of new technologies for its industrial development. The Islamic Republic of Iran is determined to continue to increase the industrial growth of the country and in this regard, the proper use of the state of the art technology is

on the agenda. In this context, areas such as education, research and technology, have also been given special attention. The education in applied and basic sciences is one of the main goals of the government, which can provide the possibility of producing new technologies by creating proper atmosphere and creating a set of incentives for the Iranian knowledge based companies.

One of the goals of the Government is to help small and medium-sized enterprises in different industries to communicate and engage more with international companies and organizations in order to provide the opportunity to exchange technology more than ever. Thus, Iran declares its willingness to cooperate with other developing countries in various technical, industrial, and engineering fields.

Iran is ready to make its economic opportunities and capabilities available to different countries including through UNIDO. It is also worth mentioning that at present, engineering and engineering companies and powerful Iranian contractors in the Middle East, Central Asia and Latin America are in the process of launching various projects, and we hope that this collaborative development will be expanded further and maintained.

Mr. President.

Industry is one of the key sectors of economy and the mainstay of any country's economic growth and development, and it is almost impossible to achieve economic development without achieving industrial growth and development.

After implementation of the JCPOA, mainly due to the profitability margins of Iran's industry sector, a growing interest was shown by foreign companies and investors to

engage, including through investment and joint ventures, in Iran's industry. Iran's Industry also gained a better access to international market. Unfortunately, these opportunities have been soon affected mostly as a result of the U.S illegitimate behavior. Unilateral coercive measures illegally imposed and extraterritorially implemented by the U.S are among the external barriers in industrial development of target countries.

Unilateral withdrawal of the U.S from the JCPOA (nuclear deal) and re-imposition of its unlawful sanctions have had a destructive effect in foreign investment in Iran's industry. In this regard the Islamic Republic of Iran expects UNIDO's full responsibility towards development of its member states and continuation of its efforts to fully participate in Iran's development projects.

Mr. President,

A newly National Plan for the Empowerment of Manufacturing and Development of Sustainable Employment (TOP) launched in Iran aiming development of enterprise-based knowledge by benefiting graduate students, enhancing their skills and expanding communication and interaction between industry and academia for practical purposes. Furthermore, introducing new technological knowledge and findings of scientific members of universities and institutions of higher education and research, upgrading the technical and engineering capacity of industrial, mining and commercial enterprises and capacity building through the creation of new added value and the provision of generative and sustainable employment, are the prime goals of this plan. This plan was carried out in January 2019 and includes the graduate students who wish to carry out their thesis in industry and mining areas, and even they can work in industrial and mining units as their military service period.

Mr. President,

The Islamic Republic of Iran reaffirms the positive role of continued contribution of some Member States and international donors towards implementation of PCPs and its expansion. The increasing demand for PCP is a manifestation of its success in contributing to industrial development in the recipient countries. We support and request to continue strengthening partnerships, including promoting South-South, North-South, as well as triangular cooperation on a results-based management, among others, best practices and technology transfer as a mechanism for sustainable impact of UNIDO activities in developing countries. We also support Country Program (CPs) and its expansion to other Member States, under the technical cooperation framework.

In conclusion, **Mr. President**, I wish this 18th General Conference of UNIDO could achieve significant results through collective endeavors, constructive discussions and excellent decisions and to contribute to further development and prosperity of our societies.

Thank you Mr. President,