

Permanent Mission to the United Nations and other International Organizations Jaurèsgasse 3, 1030 Vienna

Statement by the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran at the 18th Session of the UNIDO General Conference

Annual Report of Director General on activities of the UNIDO

(Abu Dhabi, 3-7 November 2019)

In the Name of God The compassionate, the Merciful

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Mr. President,

Allow me, **Mr. President**, to take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation to the Director General and his team for their commendable efforts during last year activities.

Mr. President,

The Islamic Republic of Iran attaches great importpance to the role and activities of UNIDO aiming at discharging its mandate and commends relevant initiatives, activities and programs during past years.

Six decades after UNIDO's inception, the world is still facing with huge challenges such as poverty, unemployment, hungry, climate change, unilateral coercive measures, economic terrorism, migration, etc.

We agree with Director General that as the Organization of the United Nations mandated to advance inclusive and sustainable industrial development (ISID), UNIDO is improving its services to reduce poverty and inequality. We also welcome the Director Generals approach that we need to strengthen multilateralism and enhance development cooperation.

We are of the view that unilateralism is one of the causes which hinders UNIDO to conduct its proper function. In this regard any unilateral measures against the advancement of cooperation should be responded and reported by DG to the IDB and General Conference. Our experiences of the past years prove that while we work together and remain focused on our responsibilities, we can change our world for the better.

We do believe and welcome the focused activities of UNIDO in Africa and it is important that UNIDO continues to advocate for structural transformation and sustainable industrialization of the African continent, in particular as the agency leading the implementation of the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA III).

We also support UNIDO's continued efforts to play an important role in the area of science, technology and innovation and to identify means for turning the transformative of the new industrial revolution into benefits for the less developed countries.

My delegation would also like to stress on the priority of technical cooperation as a core activity which is the main pillar of the Organization's support to the Member States. The Islamic Republic of Iran supports initiatives of South-South and triangular cooperation

which had proven successful in the past with regard to knowledge transfer and knowledge networking.

I thank you Mr. President.