



STATEMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA DELIVERED BY AMB. ROBINSON NJERU GITHAU, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE, DURING THE 48TH SESSION OF THE UNIDO INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD (IDB) HELD FROM THE 23RD TO 25TH NOVEMBER, 2020.

AGENDA ITEM 9: THIRD INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT DECADE FOR AFRICA (IDDA III)

Mr. President,

My delegation has taken note of the Report on the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA III) as presented.

We align ourselves with the statements by the Africa Group, and the G77 and China on this agenda item, and we wish to add the following comments in our national capacity:

Mr. President,

1. Kenya commends UNIDO and all the stakeholders of the IDDA III for their efforts towards its full implementation.
2. The vision of the IDDA III implementation is to firmly anchor Africa on a path of inclusive and sustainable industrial development, thus implementation within the agreed joint road map of IDDA III is of particular interest to my delegation. We however, urge UNIDO to enhance the implementation of IDDA III programmes and projects.
3. In this regard, my delegation supports the calls for the operationalization of the IDDA III Secretariat at the earliest.
4. We also support the call for UNIDO to work closely with the African Union to develop more concrete strategies for cooperation in order to synchronize efforts and avoid duplication.

Mr. President,

5. Kenya welcomes the efforts by UNIDO aimed at expanding the Programme for Country Partnership (PCP) to include more African countries.



6. Africa is in need of enhanced and sustained development, and it is my delegation's belief that the expansion of the PCP portfolio in Africa will ensure that the much-needed integration of UNIDO services with national government policies is attained and the implementation of programmes and projects is fast-tracked.
7. In this regard, we welcome the close collaboration between UNIDO and National authorities in the implementation of the Programme for Country Partnership, including the PCP Self-Starter Initiative, in which Kenya is a pilot country. My Government confirmed the establishment of the National Development Implementation and Communication Cabinet Committee (NDICC) that was set up to implement the Self-Starter Initiative. The Cabinet Committee and the UNIDO Country Office have held several meetings already, and we take this opportunity to confirm our unreserved support and facilitation in order to realize the PCP within 2021 and adherence to the PCP plan of action and timelines.
8. We also take this opportunity to appreciate the efforts of the Director General and the UNIDO Country Office in Kenya, and we look forward to the planned joint launch during the 3rd week of December 2020, to be officiated by H.E Uhuru Kenyatta, President of the Republic of Kenya and Director General Mr. Li Yong.
9. **Mr. President**, the expansion of the PCP to more African countries could not have come at a better time than now, when the African Continent has adopted the African Continental Free Trade Area which became operational in 2019.
10. The trade area removes tariffs to create a continental market that benefits from the economies of scale that will have immense benefits for the PCP. We urge UNIDO to work closely with the African Union through the trade area to ensure enhanced sustainable and inclusive socio-economic development that leads to industrial and agricultural development and food security.

I Thank you.