Thailand's Statement delivered by H.E. Ms. Morakot Sriswasdi

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Thailand at the 48th Session of the UNIDO Industrial Development Board 24 November 2020

Agenda Item 10: Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development in Middle-Income Countries

Mr. President,

- 1. The Thai Delegation aligns itself with the statement delivered by the Permanent Representative of the Philippines on behalf of the Group of 77 and China and would like to add the following remarks in its national capacity.
- 2. We thank the Director General for his presentation on the workplan for the implementation of the UNIDO Strategic Framework for Partnering with Middle-Income Countries (MICs). We are of the view that, by taking into account the characteristics of countries and regional identities, the workplan's three strategic priority areas of technology advancement, human capital, and environmental sustainability, could promote and advance inclusive and sustainable industrial development (ISID) in MICs. We also recognize that the basic premises for the operationalization of the Strategic Framework are all-encompassing and could be applied in a step-by-step approach of the workplan to help ensure its successful implementation, despite the global disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 3. In our national context, ISID is among overarching principles of the Thai Government's economic and industrial policies. Concrete roadmap has been laid out to warrant consistent implementation of the Government's long-term strategy on industrial development. Such strategy is designed to be carried out through the public-private-people partnership, including partnership with international organizations in related field like UNIDO.
- 4. The cooperation between Thailand and UNIDO has been progressing under the Thailand-UNIDO Strategic Cooperation Framework, or SCF, for 2018 2021, signed by the Director General and the Minister of Industry of Thailand during the 17th Session of the General Conference. Some of the recent activities under the SCF include: a project to promote low-carbon public transportation and transfer of electrical vehicle technology within areas of Thailand's Eastern Economic Corridor (EEC), to be implemented with funding from the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund; a nation-wide survey on Thailand's readiness to adapt to the Fourth Industrial Revolution; and a capacity building workshop on inclusive investments and global value chains for Thai SMEs.

Mr. President,

5. We believe that such national cooperation framework, would fit very well into the Organization's broader Strategic Framework for Partnering with MICs, while allowing for tailor-made and focused coordination and action towards the acceleration of ISID in each specific context. In this regard, Thailand affirms our commitment to continue working in partnership with UNIDO under the current SCF and beyond.

I thank you.

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