



Agenda Item 10: Inclusive and sustainable industrial development in middle-income Countries

Mr. President,

1. The Group of 77 and China welcomes the adoption of the UNIDO Strategic Framework for Partnering with Middle-Income Countries, as contained in Board decision IDB.47/Dec.7, by the General Conference through resolution GC.18/Res.9 during its 18th session held in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates in November 2019.
2. Along these lines, the Group notes with appreciation the efforts of the Director General, through the Secretariat, to prepare a workplan as stipulated in the aforementioned General Conference resolution to operationalize the Strategic Framework, and the presentation of the said work plan in this session of the Board.
3. The Group also notes that the preparation of the workplan adheres to the strategic priority areas of technology advancement, human capital, and environmental sustainability as identified in the Strategic Framework, and with the view to continuing active engagement with MICs and other relevant stakeholders, leveraging of the Programme for Country Partnerships and Country Programmes, and technical cooperation, including South-South and triangular industrial cooperation with MICs.
4. Recognizing the extra-ordinary challenges confronting the world today, the Group appreciates the reference to the impact of COVID-19 on the industrial development efforts of MICs in the workplan, which gives added relevance and context to the document.
5. The Group believes that ownership of the workplan by Member States is crucial in its successful formulation and implementation, and, therefore, welcomes the opportunity to deliberate on, and refine the document through continuous consultations with the view to a timely and result-oriented workplan, all the while remaining cognizant of the relevant needs of MICs.
6. With these remarks, the Group takes note of the Director General's report as contained in the document IDB.48/15.

Thank you, Mr. President.