



STATEMENTS DELIVERED

BY

THE REPUBLIC OF GHANA

AT THE 49TH SESSION OF THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD

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Madam President,

The delegation of Ghana joins earlier speakers to congratulate you on your election as the President of the 49th session of the Industrial Development Board. We have confidence in you and the Bureau to steer this session to a successful conclusion. We would also like to thank the outgoing President of the 48th Session, His Excellency Mr. Darmansjah Djumalah, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Indonesia, for his remarkable leadership and members of his Bureau, for their outstanding work and contribution during the previous session.

2. Ghana commends Director General LI Yong for his remarkable stewardship, purposeful leadership and focused determination in the promotion of Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development (ISID) and the Agenda 2030 during his tenure of office. Ghana also commends UNIDO for the COVID-19 assistance, the development of Zero growth Budget for the biennium 2022-2023 and the initiatives on circular economy.

3. In conclusion, Ghana expects a lot more commitment from UNIDO and all other stakeholders for inclusive, equitable, and sustainable industrialisation of the developing world to help roll back the losses made on the attainment of the Agenda 2030 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Agenda Item 7. UNIDO's response to the COVID-19 pandemic

Madam President, the delegation of Ghana takes note of the Director General's report on UNIDO's response to the COVID-19 pandemic as contained in document number IDB.49/12.

2. The delegation aligns itself with the statement by His Excellency Mr. Alejandro Solano Ortiz, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Costa Rica, on behalf of the Group of 77 and China and that of the African Group delivered by Her Excellency Madam Teodolinda Rosa Rodrigues Coelho, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Angola, on the agenda item and would like to make the following brief remarks in our national capacity.

3. Madam President, the delegation of Ghana wishes to express deepest appreciation to UNIDO for the support it has extended and continues to extend to Ghana in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. We would like to mention, in this instance, the ongoing implementation of the project to promote public health and social resilience against COVID-19 by strengthening the domestic supply chain of personal protective equipment under a circular economy approach.

4. The Project, whose outcome is to strengthen the domestic supply chain of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), disinfectants, and hygiene supplies in terms of a) production capacity, b) quality, and c) business resilience and continuity in emergency situations using green technology, will have a medium to long term effect on the humanitarian development of Ghana by anchoring a stable public health system and bringing stability to both economic activities and the livelihood of the people.

5. While the Project offers a direct response to the prevention of the spread of COVID-19 by increasing the accessibility of PPE, disinfectants, and hand hygiene supplies to the public as well as national medical service institutions, it will also specifically contribute to the realization of three of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), namely good health and wellbeing (SDG 3), gender equality (SDG 5), and industry, innovation and infrastructure (SDG 9). It is for this reason that the Government of Ghana attaches great importance to the successful implementation of this Project.

6. In view of the nationalisation of COVID-19 vaccines and in furtherance of efforts to attain SDG Goals 3 and 9 without leaving anyone behind, it might be useful if UNIDO could assist developing nations, particularly those in Africa, in partnership with other United Nations' entities to develop capacity to produce vaccines to deal pandemics and epidemics.

Thank you, madam President.