



**ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN**

**PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS  
JAURÈSGASSE 3, 1030 VIENNA**

**Statement**

**by**

**H.E. Dr. Kazem Gharibabadi,  
Ambassador and the Permanent Representative of the Islamic  
Republic of Iran**

**before**

**49<sup>th</sup> Session of the UNIDO Industrial Development Board (IDB)**

**Agenda Item 3:  
Annual Report of the Director General for 2020**

**Vienna, 12-15 July 2021**

*In the Name of God, the Most Compassionate, the Most Merciful*

*Please check against delivery*

**Madam President,**

**Mr. Director General,**

**Distinguished delegations,**

At the outset, let me congratulate you, H.E. Madam Dominika Krois, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Poland on your election as the president of the 49<sup>th</sup> session of the Industrial Development Board (IDB), as well as the members of the bureau for their election. I assure you of the full cooperation of my delegation in discharging your mandate and hope that this session will come to a positive and productive outcome.

I would also like to express my appreciation to the distinguished Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Indonesia and members of the outgoing bureau for their outstanding work done during the 48<sup>th</sup> Session of the IDB.

We take note of the informative introductory statement by the Director General and appreciate him for his able leadership and relentless efforts towards achieving noble goals of the UNIDO during the year 2020, in particular in the difficult situation of COVID-19 pandemic. We also note with satisfaction, UNIDO support and commitment to the policy of Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development, which is at the core of the aspiration of the developing countries.

My delegation associates itself with the statements delivered by the distinguished Permanent Representative of the Costa Rica on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, and would like to add some comments at its national capacity as follow:

The Islamic Republic of Iran takes note of the annual report of the Director General for 2020. We express our satisfaction over the various

initiatives, activities and programs implemented by the UNIDO during 2020. As can be deduced from the report, the organization has navigated its work in a professional way, despite many challenges. We share Director General's assessment that 2020 was a very exceptional year for each and every one of us and the COVID-19 pandemic gripped the world. Despite this fact, the framework of the country program and the joint ongoing projects in my country with UNIDO, including in promoting clean energy and industrial energy efficiency, ICT, small and medium businesses, medical waste management, smart cities, sustainable settlements for refugees and promoting fisheries, continued.

We appreciate the Director General and his team in the UNIDO for their dedicated efforts and commitment for implementation of the joint projects in the Islamic Republic of Iran and also for the initiatives undertaken during 2020 to help the country during Covid-19 pandemic. We also seize this opportunity to thank those donor countries who financially supported the implementation of these projects.

Indeed, the main target of the Government is to maximize the use of new technologies for sustained industrial development at national level and to help small and medium-sized enterprises in different industries to better communicate and engage more with regional and international companies and organizations.

Taking into account the very high-level expertise, infrastructures, potentials and best practices and experiences existing in the Country in different areas, the Islamic Republic of Iran is determined and has expressed its full readiness to expand its cooperation with UNIDO in all feasible areas of collaboration and there are numerous economic opportunities and capacities in Iran, which can be utilized by different countries with the help of UNIDO.

**Madam president,**

In view of the serious challenges of our era, we firmly believe that fulfilling our commitments on gaining inclusive industrial development and creating enabling environment for the benefit and welfare of our people can only be achieved through taking common endeavors and sharing responsibilities, based on international cooperation and multilateralism, including through multilateral institutions like UNIDO, and to maintain and uphold our unified objection to unilateralism. As Director General rightly

pointed out, the challenges of 2020 renewed the global sense of solidarity and reminded us that international cooperation, policy coherence and a multilateral response are essential.

We are of the view that unilateralism is one of the main 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.

Finally, we support the UNIDO Progress in advancing management objective of “integration and scale-up” especially in the Programme for Country Partnership (PCP) and also the UNIDO role in leading the implementation of the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA III), and contribution by UNIDO to industrial development.

In conclusion, Madam President, I wish this IDB session of UNIDO could achieve significant results through collective endeavors, constructive discussions and excellent decisions and to contribute to further development and prosperity of our societies.

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**I thank you Madam President.**