

Statement by Egypt
Industrial Development Board (IDB) 50th session

Statement by H.E. Ambassador Mohamed El Molla, Permanent Representative of the Arab Republic Egypt to the United Nations Organizations in Vienna

Agenda Item 7: Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa

Mr. President,

1. Egypt aligns itself with the statements of the Group of 77 & China and the African Group on the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA III) report, and would like to add the following remarks in its national capacity.

Mr. President,

2. Enhancing industrialization in Africa has been challenged since the world has suffered from cascading crises starting with the consecutive waves of COVID-19 pandemic and the outbreak of the Russian-Ukrainian conflict followed with the escalating levels of sovereign debt as well as inflation.
3. However, we are convinced that this is an opportunity to focus on developing specific industrial sectors that serve best the interests of the African countries, like the medical and pharmaceutical industries, as well as the electricity production and access to renewable energy, agricultural and food processing industries and several other priority sectors where the African countries have competitive advantages.
4. Egypt believes that building the capacity to manufacture in Africa and promoting intra-African trade and integration of regional value chains is imperative for helping African countries lower their vulnerability to current and future crises.

Mr. President,

5. Realizing the significant role of IDDA III in supporting Africa's industrial ambition, at the continental and national levels, H.E. President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi has become in 2018 one of champions of this initiative, aiming at increasing the awareness of Africa's industrialization efforts.

6. Egypt recognizes the important role UNIDO plays in implementing IDDA III, to realize inclusive and sustainable industrial development in Africa, particularly expanding the PCPs CPs in Africa, enhancing coordination with relevant African organizations to implement the Common African Agro-Parks Program and developing a joint program to support the establishment of Africa Industry Observatory.
7. In this regards, Egypt appreciates UNIDO's support for the organization of the coming African Union Extraordinary Summit on Industrialization and Economic Diversification in Africa, which aims at highlighting Africa's determination and renewed commitment to industrialization, as one of the strategic levers to enhance economic growth and progress of the continent, as reflected in the African Union Agenda 2063.

Mr. President,

8. Egypt appreciates UNIDO's support to African countries in developing national strategies for implementing the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), which will allow more opportunities to achieve a broader range of inclusive and sustainable industrial development, enhance intra-African trade, deepen regional integration, and promote structural transformation and inclusive growth.
9. Finally, Egypt is ready to provide any support needed to assist UNIDO in its mission in Africa, especially through Triangular Cooperation which provides in many occasions a high value added for all the partners involved in it.

Thank you, Mr. President.