



**G-77 and China statement during the UNIDO Industrial Development Board, 50<sup>th</sup> session, 21-23 November 2022, delivered by H.E. Ambassador Azzeddine Farhane, Permanent Representative of Morocco**

**Agenda Item 7: Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA III) (Algeria)**

Mr. President,

1. The Group of 77 and China takes note of the report on the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA III) and would like to assure the Director General and the Secretariat of our support for their efforts to make progress in the implementation of this important Decade. The Group believes that, in light of the current encouraging conditions in the world, to recover from the COVID-19 crisis and return to normal life, UNIDO should focus at the next stage on the developing plans and programs aiming at assisting the affected and developing countries from the effects of this pandemic by adapting the strategies and interventions related to the policy adopted to respond to the crisis. Thus, will enable Member States, including developing countries, to implement necessary measures of immunity and prevent the collapse of their economies.
2. The Group appreciates efforts made by UNIDO, as the central coordinator of international industrial cooperation, in its dedication to Africa in the path of inclusive and sustainable industrial development. The Group stresses that it is time to move the agenda of the Third Decade of Industrial Development for Africa, firmly forward in order to promote inclusive and sustainable industrial development in Africa. This was achieved through the involvement of public and private sectors, financial development institutions, the United Nations system as well as bilateral, and multilateral institutions in raising the level of African industrialization.
3. The Group welcomes the extraordinary African Union Summit on Industrialization and Economic Diversification in Africa, which will be held in Niamey, Niger on 25 November 2022 on the theme “Industrializing Africa: Renewing Commitments for Inclusive and Sustainable Industrialization and Economic Diversification” which aims to shed light on 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 and United Nations Agenda 2030. We hope that this summit will contribute to unleashing the potential of the continent by integrating key social and economic links and strengthening regional cooperation.
4. Furthermore, the Group believes that in parallel to those efforts, it is necessary to continue working on expanding the Programme for Country Partnership (PCP) and Country Programmes (CP) in Africa, as well as developing African National Strategies for the implementation of 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.
5. The Group takes note of the update on the recruitment process of the IDDAIII Secretariat, which is instrumental in the implementation of the joint road map. We urge the Secretariat to finalize the recruitment process and further encourage Member States to provide financial support of project funded staff and secondment of experts in order to ensure the full operationalization of the IDDAIII Secretariat.

6. The Group also encourages UNIDO to continue to cooperate with Member States, strategic development partners, United Nations agencies, and other intergovernmental agencies, as well as development financing institutions to support the implementation of the objectives of the Third Decade of International Development. Creating synergies between UNIDO and the African Union would help to build technical capacity and policy knowledge for the development and implementation of regional and continental industrial initiatives.

7. To conclude Mr. President, the Group of 77 and China is confident that the Director General and the Secretariat will contribute to advancing the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA III) to broader horizons and will gain the African continent further progress and growth.

Thank you, Mr. President.