



**Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Philippines to the
United Nations and other International Organizations**

DRAFT PHILIPPINE STATEMENT

**UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD
50TH SESSION
21-23 November 2022**

**AGENDA ITEM 12: INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN
MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES**

Mister President,

The Philippine delegation takes note of the Report by the Director General on UNIDO's activities and strategies in relation to programmatic engagements geared towards inclusive and sustainable industrial development in middle-income countries, or MICs.

Of particular interest to this delegation is paragraph 10 of the report on UNIDO's Global Programme for Green Hydrogen in Industry, which was launched earlier this year, and on which the Philippines has actively engaged. We recall that the Philippines, through our Department of Science and Technology, had signed the Joint Declaration on the establishment of a development partnership in support of the UNIDO Global Programme for Green Hydrogen in Industry following the programme's launch in April. We likewise recall that this level of interest in the initiative was reiterated in the dialogue between UNIDO Director General Gerd Müller and the Department of Trade and Industry during the official visit to the country of the former last September. The Philippines eagerly awaits further developments in this area in the coming months.

Mister President,

The Philippines has recently released its industrial policy, which is anchored on four clusters, namely: industry, manufacturing, and transportation; technology, media, and telecommunications; healthcare and life sciences; and resilient manufacturing.

The Philippines recognizes its strong partnership with UNIDO in leveraging technology within the context of the 4th Industrial Revolution. We have begun conducting a feasibility study for the eventual establishment of a sustainable Industry 4.0 Pilot Factory that will host demonstrations and case applications of Industry 4.0 technologies for enterprises, especially MSMEs, with the ultimate goal of facilitating the adoption of advanced manufacturing technologies in their operations.

We have entered into a public-private partnership for a Center for Artificial Intelligence Research where government agencies, researchers, universities, research institutes, startups and multinational corporations can perform collaborative AI research and development and technology application with a focus on manufacturing, services, precision agriculture, construction, banking and finance, healthcare, resilient technology, and smart cities.

The Philippines has also launched its Rural Agro-enterprise Partnership for Inclusive Development, or RAPID, Growth Competitiveness and Innovation Project to address challenges and pursue opportunities under the 4IR. We have likewise initiated the Creative Economy Strategy of the Philippines, or CREST PH, that is designed to improve competitiveness, enhance the capability of stakeholders, increase productivity, and facilitate the promotion and development of export, and permit compliance with global standards for greater market access.

Mister President,

In all these initiatives, the Philippines acknowledges the value of its strong cooperation with UNIDO. We, therefore, urge the Organization to continue pursuing innovative initiatives to help MICs avoid the so-called “middle income trap” and progress beyond our current status in a responsible, inclusive, and sustainable manner.

Thank you, Mister President.