



UNIDO 51st Session of the Industrial Development Board

***Statement by the Kingdom of Morocco on Agenda Item 9: " Third
Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA III)***

***delivered by H.E Azzeddine FARHANE, Ambassador, Permanent
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Vienna, 03-06 July 2023

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Mr President,

1. My delegation associates itself with the statements of the G77 and China and the African Group and wishes to make the following comments on national capacity.

Mr President,

1. Morocco considers the industrialization to be an indispensable condition for ensuring sustained and inclusive growth in Africa. All the development strategies carried out in the continent identify industrial development as the cornerstone of inclusive growth, job creation and the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 and those of Agenda 2063 of the African Union;
2. Africa has all the necessary means to become the next global driving force for industrial development thanks, in particular, to its young workforce, its abundant natural resources and its growing domestic markets.
3. Nevertheless, progress in industrialization in Africa remains insufficient. The continent's share of global manufacturing output has fallen in recent decades below 2% of the global level. African economies remain dependent on [unprocessed/ raw](#) commodities, hence their vulnerability to fluctuations in global demand.
4. In this context, Morocco welcomes UNIDO's initiatives and projects carried out on the African continent aimed at placing Africa firmly on the path of inclusive and sustainable industrial development.
5. The role of UNIDO, as the central coordinator of international industrial cooperation responsible for fostering inclusive and sustainable industrial development in Africa, is important and crucial, particularly in the context of the process of developing UNIDO's Industrial Strategy for Africa, which is aimed at providing a common guiding framework for the Organization's interventions in promoting industrial development in Africa.
6. It is in this perspective that the expansion and generalization of the UNIDO Country Partnership Program (CPP) approach to other African Member States of the Organization could greatly contribute to the successful implementation of the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa.

Mr President,

7. Over the past twenty years, Morocco has participated actively in the development of the continent by taking concrete actions and adopting an

approach based on the principle of co-development, and making investments aimed at sharing growth at continental scale.

8. In this context, several initiatives have been put in place by the Kingdom to support the development of the brotherly African countries, namely through the cancellation of the debt of the least developed African countries, as well as granting duty-free access to Morocco for products from certain developing countries in Africa.
9. Furthermore, the Moroccan cooperation in Africa is also focused on the promotion of sustainable development. In this regard Morocco continues to support the "Triple A Initiative" for sustainable agriculture, the "Blue Belt" which promotes sustainable fishing, and the "Blue Fund for the Congo Basin" which aims at backing the Congo Basin countries to shift their economies from forest exploitation to marine based activities.

Mr President,

10. In conclusion, my delegation believes that UNIDO's support remains essential to the African continent in terms of strengthening the diversification and competitiveness of its industry and the promotion of its exports, through a multi-stakeholder approach promoting a win-win relationship that mobilizes complementarities, boosts economic specialization profiles and helps African countries play an active role in the revival and success of the economic changes to which we all aspire.

I thank you for your attention