



Statements

By

**HON. REBECCA MIANO, MBS, CABINET SECRETARY MINISTRY
OF INVESTMENTS, TRADE AND INDUSTRY**

DURING

**THE 20TH SESSION OF THE UNIDO GENERAL CONFERENCE, 27TH
NOVEMBER, TO 1ST DECEMBER, 2023**

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**President of the General Conference,
Excellencies,
UNIDO Director General, Dr. Gerd Muller,
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen**

1. Greetings from Kenya to all of you.

2. Madam President, allow me to thank Dr. Gerd Muller, Director General of UNIDO for inviting me to this 20th Session of the UNIDO General Conference.

3. Indeed, Kenya and UNIDO have remained committed partners toward promoting industrial development agenda in Kenya.

4. The Gap between developed and developing Countries still is here with us. Most African Country's Economies continue to suffer from supply-side constraints, such as lack of required industrial capabilities, limited technologies, inadequate supportive policies/regulations, entrepreneurship and institutional support, energy & infrastructure-related bottlenecks, and climate change issues, among others, where Kenya is not an exception.

5. The Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA III), 2016-2025, anchors Africa on a path of inclusive and

sustainable Industrial development that would transform the continent into locations of competitive industrial production.

The IDDA is consistent with the Africa Union's Agenda for 2063, which prioritizes economic growth, industrialization, and job creation. Kenya's Fourth Medium Term Plan, "The Bottom-Up Transformation Agenda" is geared towards economic turnaround and inclusive growth and is well aligned to these Agenda items and it is anticipated that the manufacturing sector will gain impetus emanating from these development goals. The Vision of the Country is to raise manufacturing contribution to GDP from the current 7.8 to 20 by 2030, grow Investments from the current **USD 500 M to USD 10B by December 2025** and thereafter at **10 B Annually** as well as **Increase export from 10% of GDP to 30% by December 2025**. This cannot be realized without innovative projects and programmes like the Programme for Country Partnership (PCP) and Country Partnerships (CP).

6. For evolving Economies Kenya included, UNIDO has a key Role in Supporting Inclusive and Sustainable Industrialization Agenda. Kenya launched the Programme for Country Partnership in 2021, providing impetus for accelerated inclusive sustainable Industrial development and promoting competitiveness in the Country.

7. The Kenyan Government is committed towards an inclusive and sustainable industrial development agenda. The Self-

Starter PCP anchor project “the Nyamira Integrated Agro-Industrial Park project’s Environmental and Social Impact Assessment has been concluded, and the development of detailed designs is ongoing. Once completed, we call upon UNIDO, the private sector and development partners to cooperate with us as we implement the project.

8. In the same spirit of Self-Starter PCP and In promoting agribusiness, value chain development, Industrial Parks and ensuring participation of rural communities in the Industrial development agenda, The Government has allocated **9.4 Billion Kenya shillings** in 2023/2024 financial year toward the first eighteen (18) County Aggregation and Industrial Parks (CAIPS) to be established at Counties as Cluster Industrial Parks to deepen agro-value addition, create jobs, increase income and transform the rural economies in Kenya improving livelihoods of many women and youth. Each CAIPS target at least five Value Chains. The Parks will be established on a Multi-stakeholder approach and give room for both private sector, Government and development partners to join hands toward the industrialization agenda. The Government's target is to establish CAIPs in all 47 Counties in the next three years. We thank UNIDO for agreeing to partner with us in support of CAIPs. We call on UNIDO, the private sector and development partners to enhance cooperation with us in the implementation of these projects and initiatives.

9. We appreciate the fact that Special Economic Zones play a key role in mega-industrial investments. Towards this, The Country is targeting to establish Seven (7) Special Economic Zone by the year 2030 and during this year, we have set aside **550 Million** Kenya Shillings for finalization of basic infrastructure in two of these SEZs. Kenya has developed a Public Private Partnership framework to support PPP initiatives. The Government is also committed to supporting Value chain development as well as supporting and promoting agribusiness, Industrial polices, industrial capacity building and promotion of Industrial Parks which are in line with the IDDA agenda.

10. Kenya acknowledges and supports the UNIDO Strategy for Africa 2023-2025 and the support for the ongoing deliberations at UNIDO to entrench gender equality and women empowerment in industrial development.

11. Kenya has made commendable strives towards strengthening industrial development enablers and will continue to support the same, like expansion of Road Net Work, digital transformation framework, and business environment, among others, which are key toward industrial acceleration. Allow us to renew our commitments and call on UNIDO and Development partners to join us in this journey towards Industrialization.

12. Kenya recognizes and acknowledges promoting green industrialization and the establishment of sustainable value chains for low carbon technologies is pivotal in efforts to decarbonize the energy and transportation sector. However, the supply chain of these technologies remains constrained in a few countries. There is a need to reduce local imports and increase manufacturing of such technologies in developing Countries. Further, there is a need for the adoption of green manufacturing, cleaner production technologies and resource efficiency.

We will continue to harness intra-regional trade, and value chain supply linkages through the Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). We urge UNIDO to endeavour to align the deliverables of IDDA III with those of AfCFTA and support AfCFTA.

13. We continue to encourage UNIDO to endeavour in implementing IDDA III as it contributes and aligns to the realization of Africa Union Agenda 2063 goals of prioritizing economic growth, industrialization and employment creation over the next three decades.

14. We also encourage UNIDO to continue enhancing cooperation, attract investments and support more Africa-orientated industrial development initiatives such as in Agribusiness, Industrial parks, Special Economic Zones,

business environment, industrial policies and capacity strengthening, digital technologies, green manufacturing, industrial decarbonization since Africa has a clear competitive advantage.

15. Allow me to conclude, Madam President, to sincerely thank UNIDO for the continued support, partnership and friendship to most developing countries, Kenya included.

I Thank You.