STATEMENTS BY H.E. AMADEU DA CONCEIÇÃO, AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY AND PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICES AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GENEVA AND VIENNA

ON THE OCCASION OF THE 20TH GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (UNIDO)

Viena, November 2023
President of the General Conference

UNIDO, Director General, Dr. Gerd Muller

Excellencies,

Distinguished delegates,

1. Firstly, may I thank UNIDO, especially the Director General, Mr. Gerd Muller, for inviting the Government of Mozambique to attend the 20th General Conference of this organization.

2. I would like to congratulate you, Madam President, on your election and I am sure that you will wisely lead the work of this important Conference, the highest body of UNIDO.

3. The Mozambique Delegation align itself with the Statement delivered by the African Group and the G77 and China.

4. Mozambique welcomes the new members of this Organization, Palau and South Sudan, in this year.

5. We take note of the annual report of the Director-General for 2021 and 2022. In particular in 2021, the program to access the clean energy for productive activities, UNIDO helped Mozambique to expand access to green energy to support the adoption of integrated renewable energy systems for productive activities. With funding from the Global Environment Fund (GEF) to help the transition from diesel and wood fuels in rural areas of our country. To this end, in 2021
the government approved a regulation that facilitates private investment in off-grid renewable energy systems.

6. We welcome in 2022 the establishment by UNIDO of the office of South-South and triangular cooperation to strengthen the organization's efforts to build industrial capacity and infrastructures in low- and middle-income countries.

7. We are also pleased to note the projects to strengthen economic competitiveness, led by UNIDO and financing by the European Union, to increase exports from Mozambique and Kenya in the agribusiness sectors.

8. We welcome the approach taken by UNIDO in implementing its first results-based budget in 2022 to better illustrate the impact of projects and programs.

Madam President

9. The Mozambican Government recently approved the Just Energy Transition Strategy (ETE) to reduce the country's dependence on fossil fuels, which it estimates will cost $80 billion to implement by 2050 in order to generate funds for economic development.

10. The Energy Transition Strategy aims to promote the use of clean energy sources and contribute to reducing
dependence on the use of fossil fuels and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

11. Mozambique, as a LDC and an African country, recognizes that the development of policies to support **productive capacities**, the **creation of decent jobs, creativity and innovation**, the **development of small and medium-sized enterprises** and the creation of opportunities for their integration into the regional and continental market are fundamental and contribute to achieve the SDGs.

12. In this respect, in 2017, our government launched the National Programme of Industrialization (PRONAI), which aims to strengthen the commitment to industrialization as a vector of economic growth, through the national approach of "**One Country, One Vision, One Industrial Strategy**", covering the different sectors of the national economy.

13. To meet these goals, we support inclusive and sustainable solutions for industrial development in the least developed countries.

14. On the other side, it is also important to take into account the high debt levels of low-income countries and the impact of climate change in vulnerable countries such as Mozambique.
15. In this context, UNIDO should continue to work with other UN agencies, UNCTAD, FAO, IAEA, WHO, WIPO, development partners and all relevant stakeholders.

Madam President,

16. I would like to express our appreciation and thanks to Dr. Gerd Müller for the dedication with which he has performed his duties as Director General since he took over this organization, wishing continuity in the dynamism and ongoing search for innovation and visions for the promotion as well as the industrial development of our nations.

17. To conclude, Mozambique supports and calls upon the Conference to endorse the Ministerial Declaration adopted at the Tenth Ministerial Conference of the LDCs on 25 November.

Thank you, Madam President.