

Statement of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan

Agenda item 5: UNIDO and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Madam President,

In the interest of time our Statement on this agenda item would also include comments on agenda item 8 (a) and 8 (b) as well.

We take note of the Director General's report on 'UNIDO and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development' contained in document IDB.52/15 and UNIDO's activities Related to Circular Economy contained in document IDB.52/16 Update on the development of the action plan for the implementation of the UNIDO Climate Change Strategy contained in document IDB.52/17.

Madam President,

Our progress towards 2030 agenda has faced multiple challenges which include COVID-19, geopolitical tensions, wars and global inflation. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Report 2024 confirms that the world is still significantly off track in implementation of 2030 Agenda. It is important to note that nearly half of the SDG targets have deviated from the required trajectory and around 17 per cent are regressing below the 2015 baseline. We note with concern that progress has either stagnated or reversed on several key indicators, despite reaffirmed commitments by the international community.

Developing countries face increasing challenges to keep pace with global industrial development and we note with concern that several UNIDO Member States face industrial-stagnation while few Member States are confronted with de-industrialization in certain sectors.

Madam President,

Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development (ISID), the core mandate of UNIDO, contributes directly and indirectly to several SDGs. While SDG 9, "Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure" is directly related to UNIDO's work, we also note UNIDO's important role in SDGs 1 (no poverty), 2 (zero hunger), 13 (climate action).

We concur with Director General's remarks that Industry is part of solution and that we need to de-couple industrial development with carbon emissions. UNIDO's work towards green and innovative technologies is therefore, a step in the right direction.

Statement of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan

Madam President,

We highly appreciate UNIDO's role in reducing hunger, indeed Hunger and malnutrition remain among the most vital challenges facing humanity and food security remains an important concern of developing world. UNIDO's cooperation with FAO, IAEA and other organizations and events like 'World Without Hunger Conference' held earlier this month are commendable steps of UNIDO. Moreover, the exponential growth of population in developing world could lead to poverty and hunger. Industry could tackle the issue by providing jobs which can help alleviate hunger and poverty.

Madam President

Pakistan considers circular economy as a means to achieve sustainable development. We need to enhance our efforts towards adopting energy and resource efficient manufacturing practices and innovations in design, production processes and product lifespan management, and by delivering related services. We appreciate UNIDO's role towards this end. We also note that the implementation of the Strategy will maximize synergies between climate action and other priority areas of UNIDO, such as circular economy.

Madam President

We appreciate the Director General and the Secretariat for preparing of UNIDO's Climate Change Strategy and their efforts for preparing an action plan for the same. Vision 2050 is the shared vision of all UNIDO Members States. We appreciate the ongoing dialogue on the action plan and are confident that the action plan will be responsive to the diverse needs and priorities of Member States with measurable indicator and targets to operationalize the implementation of the Strategy at the earliest possible.

We would like to make the follow points

- UNIDO has a pivotal role not only for Industrial development but for achieving Sustainable development goals.
- While North-South collaboration and transfer of technology is essential we must also focus on South-South and triangular cooperation.
- Climate Change and achieving SDGs remains our highest priority, however in doing so we must keep our focus on development of primary, secondary and tertiary industries which employ vast majority of workforce and still remain backbone of economy of developing countries.

Statement of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan

Madam President.

We remain confident that that UNIDO will continue to play its positive role towards achieving SDGs as per the requirements and expectations of the Member States.

With these remarks we take note of documents IDB.52/15, IDB.52/16 and IDB.52/17.