

**Statement by H.E. Debora Lepre, Permanent Representative of Italy,
under agenda item 11**

***‘Strengthening capacities in developing productive, resilient and
sustainable supply chains’***

Madam President, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,

Italy appreciates the Director General’s comprehensive report. **Resilience, sustainability, and productivity of global supply chains** are issues of growing concern and importance.

In recent years, overlapping crises have exposed the fragility of global supply chains. These **challenges have strained regional economies and worsened food and energy insecurity**, exposing the vulnerabilities of trade interdependence and underscoring the urgent need for resilient and inclusive systems.

A **coordinated response** is urgently needed. Italy firmly believes in an ambitious global response to the development challenges and multiple crises that are holding back progress towards **implementing the 2030 Agenda**. In this regard, we particularly welcome the outcomes of the **Summit of the Future**.

To go along this path, we need resilient, secure, sustainable and inclusive supply chains:

- **resilient** to face withstanding shocks, adapting to change, and recovering swiftly.
- **secure** to de-risk through diversification, transparency and reduction of critical dependencies
- **sustainable** to invest in the **nexus between growth and energy transition**.
- inclusive** empowering smallholder farmers, local producers, and marginalized communities to fully benefit from a **free and fair multilateral rules-based trading system**.

There is much countries can do domestically to reduce vulnerabilities and boost sustainable growth but international co-operation is crucial to ease and extend any progress that is to be made.

As already mentioned, **our project on the coffee value chain in Africa relies exactly on these principles**.

President,

This vision has been a central focus of recent multilateral discussions, particularly during the **G7 Ministerial meetings under the Italian Presidency**. The **G7 Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment (PGII)** - to mention one initiative - has at its core the objective to improve international value chains resilience, clean energy supply chains, connectivity through reliable digital infrastructure and transport networks.

Through PGII, we seek to **drive multi-sector investment** focused on supporting connectivity to regional and global markets through strategic economic corridors. **Italy, alongside with EU and many other partners, contributes significantly to this strategic approach**, in full consistence with our engagement with UNIDO and the overall multilateral system.

President,

We recognize that AI and other emerging technologies, if shaped to be safe, secure, and trustworthy, can be pivotal for the achievement of these targets and more broadly of the SDGs. In this regard, we consider **technical collaboration, the involvement of the private sector as well as voluntary knowledge exchanges**, as key mechanisms to foster industrial competitiveness, promote new business opportunities, and encourage a level-playing field for wide market participation.

In conclusion, Italy remains committed to advancing policies and implementing **specific programs that make supply chains more inclusive and better equipped** to support the most vulnerable. Doing so, we can build better international productive linkages, which can drive sustainable and equitable growth for all.

Thank you, Madam President.