

52nd Session of Industrial Development Board of UNIDO
India's Statement on Agenda Item No 3: Annual Report of the
Director General
[To be delivered by Ambassador]

Thank you Chair,

1. India warmly welcomes your assumption of the Chair of the 52nd Session of the Industrial Development Board. We assure you of our full cooperation in the work of the Board
2. We associate ourselves with the statement made by the distinguished Ambassador of Colombia on behalf of the Group of 77 and China and would like to add the following points from our national perspective.
3. We have taken note of UNIDO's Annual Report for the year 2023. We have taken note of the activities, achievements and challenges faced by UNIDO in 2023.
4. India has one of the largest country portfolios. In the country program that has just concluded, projects were across sectors including facilitating the industrial sector to adopt renewable energy, improve energy efficiency, and reducing industrial toxic waste; and promoting environmental-friendly agriculture.
5. India has finalized next Country Program till 2027, in which technical cooperation project portfolio would be more than 60 million USD. We hope that the Country Program projects will achieve the desired objectives and will follow the stipulated

completion timeline. We would like to mention that UNIDO has to ensure that for greater impact of projects in India, the project must be commercially viable at a larger scale.

6. We are looking forward to opening of an ITPO in India. India is at an advance stage of industrialization and is ready to internationalize the innovation being done in India to other developing countries and countries in transition. India also supports active involvement of private sector to achieve the desired results.
7. We urge UNIDO to also consider the suggestions made by External Auditor related to performance audit, as project management is the main area of UNIDO's activities. As observed by OAC, UNIDO must give attention the slow pace of implementing outstanding external audit recommendations. We would underline the importance of achieving equitable geographical representation in UNIDO's human resource profile.
8. We would encourage UNIDO to further explore avenues for transfer of clean and innovative technologies from the developed countries as this will be indispensable for the inclusive and sustainable industrial development in the member states.
9. India appreciates the attention given by UNIDO to digital transformation. India has made rapid progress in digital transformation. India's approach to development combines community participation with cutting-edge financial technology, especially digital public infrastructure.

10. India gives substantial contribution to the UNIDO. We would encourage UNIDO to continue seeking new funding sources, including from private sector.

11. I would like to take this opportunity to extend invitation to Director General Mr Mueller to visit India next year. This would help in boosting bilateral partnership between India and UNIDO.

12. India, as a founding member of UNIDO, believes that UNIDO is capable to provide a specialized platform for knowledge and technology transfer. In this regard, we look forward to rejoining the IDB for the period 2025 to 2028 with the view to continue our positive contribution to the processes of UNIDO.

I thank you, Chair.
