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**Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa
(IDDA III)**

Report on the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA III)

Report by the Director General

The present report responds to the request of the Industrial Development Board in its decision IDB.46/Dec.13, to regularly report on the progress made on the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA III). It follows the information contained in document [IDB.52/11](#) and should be considered in conjunction with the information on IDDA III initiatives contained in the *Annual Report of UNIDO 2024* and the United Nations General Assembly's note by the Secretary-General on IDDA III ([A/79/255](#)).

I. Progress made in the implementation of the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA III)

Technical assistance activities

1. In 2024, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) managed 297 projects across Africa, with a total budget of \$168.66 million. Nine Programmes for Country Partnership (PCPs) were at various stages of development and implementation. Of these, five PCPs were at key milestones: Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria and the United Republic of Tanzania were ready for signature, while Rwanda and Zambia were actively under implementation; three PCPs were in development for Ethiopia, Kenya and Senegal; and one PCP was in development for Guinea. Additionally, thirteen Country Programmes (CPs) were active or in development. Six CPs were ongoing in Benin, Cabo Verde, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Guinea-Bissau, the Gambia and Sierra Leone; two CPs were in development for Madagascar and Togo; and the status of the Niger's CP will be updated in due course.
2. UNIDO launched several projects to promote agribusiness and agro-industry across Africa. In Liberia, a €7 million European Union-funded project enhances food safety and trade in local products. In South Africa, a €1.5 million Swiss-funded project enhances the quality of essential and vegetable oil exports. The Sudan benefits from a €12.5 million portfolio, including initiatives funded by Canada, the European



Union and Italy, to strengthen key agricultural value chains, improve food security and support economic recovery.

3. In Burkina Faso, a \$530,973 project with the World Food Programme improved food stock management. In Kenya, a \$328,000 United Nations-funded activity promoted sustainable agroprocessing, attracting an additional \$624,000 from Canada for gender-sensitive blue economic activities. In Guinea-Bissau, UNIDO partnered with the World Trade Organization to train 300 artisanal fisherfolk. Additionally, a global alliance on special economic zones was launched to promote sustainability and international collaboration.

4. UNIDO advanced trade capacity across Africa with several strategic projects. In Ghana, a €6.59 million European Union-funded initiative enhanced processed fruit and cosmetics value chains. In Egypt, an €8.1 million project improved small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) compliance with trade regulations. Sierra Leone benefited from a €4.6 million European Union project developing cocoa, cassava and palm oil value chains. In the Gambia, a €2.55 million European Union project focused on onion storage and women's empowerment, while in Senegal, €2.25 million supported 274 micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) to boost competitiveness and resilience.

5. In Ethiopia, a livestock sector capacity-building project, funded by the Government of China, supported livestock industry policy design, institutional capacity-building and quality improvement to enhance Ethiopia's livestock exports and value addition. Phase I of the project with a budget of \$2 million concluded in December 2024, while phase II commenced in January 2025 with \$1.6 million under the Centres of Excellence (CoE) programme. The project focuses on strengthening regional institutions, improving disease-free zones and providing policy support to boost market access, productivity and competitiveness in Ethiopia's livestock sector.

6. In the Sudan, UNIDO's agribusiness and food security projects focus on recovery and resilience, particularly in the eastern part of the country. Key initiatives include the Women Agribusiness for Food Security project with \$6 million, the Sudan Strategic Value Chain Transformation and Adaptation initiative with €3 million, the €5.5 million European Union-funded agro-value chain project, and the €0.8 million Co-creating Agri-tech Ecosystem Resilience for Women, Peace and Security project funded by Japan. These efforts aim to enhance food security, support agribusiness recovery and strengthen local agricultural livelihoods amid ongoing challenges from the conflict.

7. Funded by the Embassy of Sweden in Liberia, the project, "Promoting MSME development and employment opportunities in Liberia through a market system and cluster development approach in agro-industry value chains", has achieved substantial results in promoting MSMEs development and employment in Liberia through targeted interventions in the cocoa, horticulture and cassava value chains. By addressing systemic challenges and focusing on sustainability and market-driven solutions, the project continues to enhance productivity, market access and value addition, with a clear commitment to fostering inclusivity and resilience across these key sectors.

8. In 2024, UNIDO advanced sustainable energy and climate action across Africa with major initiatives. The Organization expanded its Global Network of Regional Sustainable Energy Centres (GN-SEC), securing €3 million for the Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency for Central Africa. UNIDO launched the Global Impact Programme for Clean Cooking in Botswana and Madagascar with a €7 million budget, and secured €19 million for the Energy Efficiency for Sustainable Livelihood in Africa (EELA) programme. UNIDO also led industrial decarbonization efforts with €23 million funding for the Net Zero Partnership and promoted electric mobility in Cabo Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt and Tunisia. Additionally, the Organization implemented €4.8 million Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) projects in Ethiopia, Kenya, Senegal and Tunisia.

9. UNIDO focused on entrepreneurship and skills development across Africa with significant initiatives. In Ethiopia, a \$3.12 million vocational education project, funded by Sweden, empowered youth and supported sustainable agro-industrialization. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, a \$6.9 million project, backed by Sweden and private sector partners, increased access to skilled labour through Technical and Vocational Education and Training. The Learning and Knowledge Development Facility (LKDF) Forum 2024 in Zambia gathered over 300 participants to address skills gaps in critical raw materials supply chains, generating 14 new project ideas. Additionally, UNIDO continued promoting value chain integration and local entrepreneurship development across regions.

10. UNIDO's Global Cleantech Innovation Programme (GCIP) accelerated 199 clean technology MSMEs across Lesotho, Morocco, Nigeria, Senegal and South Africa. GCIP engaged over 200 stakeholders in policy workshops, generating over 100 recommendations for cleantech development. The GCIP Global Forum 2024 hosted finalists from Lesotho, Nigeria and South Africa in Vienna for capacity-building and investment facilitation. Expanding to Namibia and Senegal, GCIP aims to support 2,100 MSMEs and reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 11 million tonnes. Partnering with Global Environment Facility (GEF) and Green Climate Fund (GCF), the programme will extend to Egypt and the Gambia in 2025.

11. UNIDO supported several initiatives promoting circular economy and sustainability across Africa and the Middle East. Notable projects include a \$10.9 million European Union-funded initiative in Algeria, a \$3.2 million Japan-funded project in Egypt to promote plastic circular economy, and the SwitchMed II programme assisting eight Southern Mediterranean countries. In Nigeria, projects totalling \$11.1 million focused on sustainable plastic waste management and renewable energy. In Ghana, a \$5.3 million initiative aims to foster circular economy solutions, particularly for women and youth entrepreneurs in key sectors.

12. In 2024, UNIDO's Industry 4.0 to Foster Youth Employment project advanced Industry 4.0 adoption in Tunisia and Côte d'Ivoire through education, training, and SME capacity-building. In Tunisia, a master's programme in Industry 4.0 was launched, and a Smart factory is being developed, while 85 SMEs received support for innovation. Côte d'Ivoire developed a curriculum for a license in Industry 4.0 and provided training to 25 SMEs. Both countries also benefited from Festo seminars, training 117 participants. These initiatives promoted digital transformation, workforce development and industrial innovation.

13. UNIDO strengthened the Alliance for Industry 4.0 and Smart Manufacturing in Africa (AISMA) as a key cooperative network for Industry 4.0 expertise. AISMA facilitated knowledge-sharing and provided actionable solutions for integrating digital technologies into manufacturing. Advocacy efforts included the participation of AISMA experts in major events in 2024, like the Hannover Messe and the fifth International Smart Factory Summit. The year 2025 will mark the establishment of AISMA's governance structure and the organization of its first conference.

14. Over the past twenty years, UNIDO has supported the East African coffee sector through projects in Ethiopia, Kenya and Mozambique, with funding from the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS). Key initiatives include the establishment of Ethiopia's first coffee training centre, a collaboration with Illycaffè and Lavazza, and the creation of a centre for circular economy in coffee. Additionally, UNIDO developed an impact assessment tool and a credit line for Ethiopian investors and supported the development of the Mozambican National Coffee Strategy Plan (2024–2033).

15. In 2024, UNIDO was entrusted with developing the €15 million project named "Advancing climate-resilience and transformation (ACT) in African coffee programme" to strengthen Africa's coffee value chain, following the Africa-Italy Summit. The programme, launched in collaboration with AICS, the Cassa Depositi e Prestiti and key partners, initially targets East Africa (Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania) and will expand across 25 additional

countries. The initiative aims to enhance resilience, circularity and equity in coffee value chains, aligning with sustainability goals and G7 commitments. The ACT programme will start in 2025, driving transformation and climate resilience in African coffee production.

16. To increase the flow of public and private climate investments to Africa, UNIDO and the Climate Parliament are implementing the Parliamentarians for Climate Finance project in 15 African countries. This initiative is supported by the Green Climate Fund through its Readiness Programme. The project strengthens the capacity of a target group of 150 legislators on climate finance, facilitates dialogues with investors, and develops policy toolkits – including model legislation and policy briefs – to support parliamentary action. Additionally, it assists countries in designing investment framework strategies and curating pipelines of projects focused on renewable energy deployment, low-carbon industries, and green energy zones. These efforts help attract further donor support and contribute to achieving the Paris Agreement targets and net-zero emissions by 2050. Currently the following countries are taking part in the project: Botswana, Côte d’Ivoire, Djibouti, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Nigeria, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Rwanda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Collaboration with United Nations agencies and other stakeholders

17. UNIDO, in collaboration with the African Union (AU), European Union and five Regional Economic Communities (RECs), is implementing the €205 million African Trade Competitiveness and Market Access Programme. UNIDO leads activities with the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the Southern African Development Community (SADC), managing €113 million, with €85.2 million directly allocated to its Directorate of Technical Cooperation and Sustainable Industrial Development (TCS) and to the Directorate for SDG Innovation and Economic Transformation (IET) over four years. This initiative aims to boost sustainable intra-African trade, strengthen Africa-European Union trade relations, and foster regional integration and economic development across Africa.

18. UNIDO joined in partnership with Ethiopia and China to establish a CoE in Addis Ababa, aimed at advancing agriculture modernization, sustainable energy solutions, digital technology, industrial policy, and SME capacity development across Africa. The CoE, with its opening on the eve of the World Without Hunger Conference in Addis Ababa, serves as a regional hub for innovation and sustainable development. Additionally, UNIDO collaborated with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to enhance agrifood value chains in Lesotho and Malawi under the One Country One Priority Product programme, supporting food systems transformation through tailored, systems-based solutions.

19. In line with the AU resolution on the Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP) in February 2024, UNIDO actively contributed to the formulation of the CAADP Strategy and Action Plan (2026–2035): “Building Resilient Agrifood Systems in Africa”. During the AU Extraordinary Session on CAADP in January 2025, in Kampala, UNIDO supported discussions on accelerating agricultural transformation, food security, and economic growth. Collaborating with the African Union Commission, the African Union Development Agency-New Partnership for Africa’s development (AUDA-NEPAD), and key partners, UNIDO played a vital role in shaping the post-Malabo agenda to drive agrifood resilience, agro-industrialization, and sustainable development across Africa.

20. In April 2024, UNIDO, in collaboration with the Delegation of the European Union to Zambia, COMESA, and the International Trade Center (ITC), conducted a joint scoping mission to formulate the COMESA regional component of the Africa Trade Competitiveness and Market Access (ATCMA). Led by the UNIDO Regional Bureau for Africa, the mission included a workshop engaging key regional

stakeholders, such as the COMESA Secretariat, COMESA Business Council, and the COMESA Association of Women in Processing. This workshop provided valuable recommendations and a detailed framework to advance the formulation of the regional programme effectively.

21. In October 2024, a consultation workshop with the Member States of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) was held to present the overall Africa Trade Competitiveness and Market Access Programme (ATCMAP), with a specific focus on its regional component. The objective was to highlight the value propositions under the five outputs of the ATCMAP-SADC component and secure stakeholder consensus to proceed with the Programme's contracting. This workshop followed a joint scoping mission conducted in September 2024 by SADC, the European Union, ITC and UNIDO. Led by the UNIDO Regional Bureau for Africa, the mission included a stakeholder workshop to gather information, assess needs, and establish the foundation for the SADC regional ATCMAP.

22. In the field of energy and climate action, in the 4th Ordinary Session of the African Union Specialized Technical Committee on Transport, Transcontinental and Interregional Infrastructure, and Energy (STC-TTIE), which took place in September 2023 in Zanzibar, United Republic of Tanzania, the Ministers in charge of Transport and Energy requested "the African Energy Commission (AFREC) and AUDA-NEPAD in partnership with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and other partners to develop the Clean Energy Value Chains in Africa (CLEVA) initiative". Following this request, AFREC and UNIDO collaborated closely, engaging key stakeholders, high-impact countries and potential funding partners to develop this crucial CLEVA initiative.

23. UNIDO, in collaboration with the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries Fund and Sustainable Energy for All, launched the Council on Ethanol Clean Cooking to achieve universal access to clean cooking by 2030. This multi-stakeholder platform promotes sustainable ethanol industry development and clean cooking solutions in developing countries. Since its launch, 22 countries, including 20 African countries, and 26 institutional and technical partners have joined the initiative, strengthening the network's impact on clean cooking and sustainable value chains.

24. The Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency for Central Africa has been integrated in a pan-African initiative by the African Development Bank (AfDB) on vocational training and certification for energy auditors. The Centre has also started cooperating with the AfDB, AFREC, European Union, the International Renewable Energy Agency, the Oyo Centre in the Republic of Congo, United Nations Children's Fund, and other GN-SEC centres, with more strategic partnerships expected to come to fruition during the biennium 2024–2025.

25. UNIDO, in collaboration with COMESA and ECOWAS, organized training workshops in Nigeria and Zambia, strengthening the capacities of 120 participants in small hydropower development, technical guidelines and participation in ISO/TC 339. UNIDO also implemented two GCF readiness programmes in Morocco and South Africa. In South Africa, the programme supported the Hydrogen Society Roadmap, including pre-feasibility studies for decarbonizing heavy-duty transport, while in Morocco, it focused on green hydrogen applications for steel production, strengthening institutional capacities and policy frameworks. Both programmes were endorsed by their respective project steering committees.

26. UNIDO launched the GEF-8 Global Clean Hydrogen Programme, involving nine countries, including Algeria, Egypt, Namibia, Nigeria and South Africa, to enhance institutional capacities, create policy frameworks and promote innovation in clean hydrogen production. The programme also focuses on supporting national climate goals and net-zero industrialization through tailored technical assistance. Additionally, UNIDO initiated child projects in Morocco and South Africa under the Circular Solutions to Plastic Pollution Integrated Programme, aiming to promote the sustainable use of plastics in the food and beverage sector.

27. UNIDO, in collaboration with the World Bank Group and ITC, implemented the €34.7 million African, Caribbean and Pacific Business-Friendly Programme, supporting investment promotion agencies in six African countries. The programme included over 100 technical sessions, benefiting more than 500 participants, and provided rapid response windows in three countries. Through the Invest-in-ACP Platform, UNIDO showcased 850 investment opportunity profiles, mobilizing over €51 million in loans to local SMEs across Africa, promoting sustainable foreign direct investment.

28. UNIDO, in collaboration with the African Economic Zones Organization (AEZO), finalized the Special Economic Zones (SEZ) survey titled “Characteristics, Trends, and Way Forward for Special Economic Zones in Africa”. The findings, presented at AEZO’s 2024 Annual Meeting in Nairobi, highlighted key trends in Environmental, Social, and Governance transitions and digitalization, offering four key recommendations. A memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed between AEZO and UNIDO to guide future programme implementation, enhancing the understanding and development of SEZ surveys in Africa.

Global forums and advocacy

29. In April 2024, UNIDO convened the Industrial Innovation Forum with African Member States in Vienna. The Forum served as a platform for strategic dialogue on advancing Africa’s industrial development, with a focus on scaling up efforts in clean energy transition, food security, job creation, and infrastructure development. Ambassadors and Representatives emphasized the importance of regular engagement with UNIDO to promote Africa’s priorities and foster international cooperation. The Forum concluded with a renewed commitment to enhance collaboration, address key challenges and accelerate sustainable industrial development across the continent.

30. In July 2024, UNIDO participated in the 7th SADC Industrialization Week in Harare, focusing on innovation for sustainable economic growth. The event, inaugurated by the President of Zimbabwe, His Excellency Mr. Emmerson Mnangagwa, brought together regional leaders, SMEs and civil society. UNIDO contributed to the high-level plenary, led a session on industrial development, and showcased its achievements in Southern Africa, reaffirming its commitment to fostering innovation, enhancing trade capacity and promoting inclusive growth in the region.

31. UNIDO participated in the AU’s third annual Micro-, Small, and Medium-Sized Enterprises (MSMEs) Forum, held from 9 to 13 September 2024, in Windhoek. UNIDO contributed to the Forum through its ongoing programmes and projects supporting MSMEs capacity-building, including the African, Caribbean and Pacific Business-Friendly Programme and the continental cluster development initiative. In September 2024, UNIDO, in collaboration with the African Union Commission (AUC), the African Business Council, the African Development Bank, Afreximbank, Deloitte and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) organized the final high-level event of the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA III) during the United Nations General Assembly in New York. The event, attended by over 150 participants including Heads of State and Ministers, showcased Africa’s progress in sustainable industrialization, discussed challenges, and proposed actions for the Pact for the Future. It also set the stage for advocating the Fourth Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA IV).

32. At COP29 in November 2024, in Baku, UNIDO hosted its first pavilion, featuring events on innovative climate solutions for Africa, including energy transition and clean cooking. The conference highlighted UNIDO’s commitment to gender equality and women’s empowerment, supported by Her Royal Highness Princess Abze Djigma of Burkina Faso. A key initiative launched was the EELA programme, focusing on Eastern, Southern and Western Africa, with country windows in Kenya, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

33. UNIDO, in collaboration with the Sustainable Development Solutions Network, co-hosts the Council of Engineers for the Energy Transition (CEET), supporting Africa's industrial development. The CEET published key reports on energy challenges, including scalable solar electrification and waste-to-energy solutions in the Gulf of Guinea. It also provided expert guidance on mini-grid planning, contributed to events like the International Energy Agency Summit on Clean Cooking in Africa, and supported the UNESCO-Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Entrepreneurship Bootcamp. Additionally, CEET engaged with Mauritania's Resident Coordinator to aid the country's energy transition.

34. In November 2024, UNIDO co-hosted the World Without Hunger Conference in Addis Ababa, with the AUC and the Government of Ethiopia. The event, attended by over 1,400 participants, including high-level dignitaries, focused on global hunger, sustainable food systems and investment promotion. The conference featured discussions on food security and policy innovation, culminating in the adoption of the Addis Ababa Call to Action to eradicate hunger. UNIDO reinforced its commitment to partnerships and driving innovation in addressing global hunger and malnutrition.

35. In November 2024, the United Nations General Assembly's Second Committee commended UNIDO's ongoing support for Africa's industrialization, highlighting its involvement in initiatives such as the Common African Agro-Parks (CAAPs) Programme, the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Plan for Africa, and African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) value chain mapping. The Committee called for accelerated implementation of IDDA III and urged the launch of IDDA IV to build on progress. It emphasized the importance of partnerships with public and private sectors and international organizations in advancing these efforts.

36. In December 2024, the First Extraordinary Session of the Specialized Technical Committee (STC) on Trade, Industry and Minerals held in Addis Ababa, led to a ministerial declaration calling for the AU Assembly to adopt a resolution for IDDA IV. Building on the successes of IDDA III, the session underscored the need for continued industrialization, economic growth, and sustainable development. Stakeholders reaffirmed their commitment to aligning efforts with Africa's long-term goals, enhancing partnerships and finalizing industrial development strategies.

37. Within UNIDO, the Directorate of Global Partnerships and External Relations, together with the Directorate of Technical Cooperation and Sustainable Industrial Development and the Directorate of SDG Innovation and Economic Transformation, developed an innovative approach to the European Union Programme's framework, gaining recognition for its leadership in quality infrastructure and standards compliance, as well as value addition. UNIDO was designated to lead initiatives in COMESA, ECOWAS and SADC, with a combined funding of €113 million. The programmes focus on technical cooperation, coordination, and business support, strengthening industrialization and economic integration across Africa.

38. UNIDO led the Côte d'Ivoire-Ghana – Common African Agro-Park (CIG-CAAP) meeting in Kampala, where key updates on Common African Agro-Parks (CAAPs) Programme Cluster 01 progress were shared, including the draft action plan and budget estimates. The meeting, with strong participation from stakeholders like the AUC and representatives from Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana and the programme cluster technical working group, endorsed the terms of reference for a pre-feasibility study and cross-border value chain analysis. Despite challenges, the meeting secured commitment for further political engagement and collaboration, paving the way for the establishment of the Côte d'Ivoire-Ghana – Common African Agro-Park (CIG-CAAP) Steering Committee.

II. Outlook

39. *Implementation of the Management Action Plan (MAP) for IDDA III:* The MAP for IDDA III, developed in response to a 2024 strategic evaluation, focuses on strengthening UNIDO's coordinating role, allocating resources, and setting SMART

targets for future phases. A key initiative is the creation of an IDDA III database within the African Industrial Observatory to track progress. The MAP also promotes a programmatic approach, including the expansion of the PCP model across Africa and raising awareness in under-represented regions, with strong coordination among lead agencies to enhance impact.

40. *Implementation of the Roadmap for IDDA IV preparation:* The roadmap for IDDA IV focuses on advancing Africa's industrialization, building on IDDA III's successes. UNIDO plays a key role in resource mobilization, consultations with AU Member States, and facilitating high-level meetings to secure an AU resolution for IDDA IV. Additionally, UNIDO will lead the drafting and negotiation of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) resolution, with advocacy efforts at the 80th session of the UNGA to garner support from African governments, regional organizations and international stakeholders.

41. *Expanding partnerships and regional programmes:* UNIDO's strategy for Africa under IDDA III aims to enhance industrialization through expanded partnerships and regional programmes. This includes scaling up the Programme for Country Partnerships (PCPs) in underserved areas and addressing transboundary challenges via the Programme for Regional Partnerships in key corridors and regions. The strategy also focuses on fostering economic integration through the European Union-funded ATCMAP, supporting AfCFTA goals, and collaborating with regional communities, governments and the private sector to strengthen value chains, mobilize resources and ensure sustainability.

42. *Supporting the implementation of African Union Summit Action Plan initiatives:* UNIDO will continue its support for the AUC in implementing activities from the African Union Summit Action Plan, following key resolutions from the Niamey Summit, held in November 2022. This includes providing technical and strategic support to AUC and AUDA-NEPAD to advance Africa's industrialization and economic diversification. UNIDO's expertise will align with AU priorities, fostering coordination across stakeholders to achieve sustainable development and contribute to the long-term goals of Agenda 2063.

43. *Organization of global forums and conferences:* UNIDO plans to organize and participate in several key global forums and conferences to advance the objectives of the IDDA. These include high-level advocacy at the 80th session of the UNGA session for IDDA IV, alongside engagements with the African private sector at events like the Manufacturing Indaba, Africa CEO Forum, Intra-African Trade Fair and TICAD. Additionally, UNIDO will organize and participate in AfCFTA-related regional events, and various Africa Industrialization Day and SME Forum initiatives to further industrial growth across the continent.

44. *Consultative meetings with continental and regional intergovernmental organizations:* UNIDO will expand its partnerships with key African regional organizations, including AUC, AUDA-NEPAD, COMESA, the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), ECOWAS and SADC, and extend collaboration to the Arab Maghreb Union and East African Community by 2025. It will finalize agreements with AUDA-NEPAD and the AfCFTA Secretariat to strengthen regional industrialization efforts. UNIDO will also renew partnerships with sub-regional financial institutions to secure funding for industrial development and SME support, driving innovation, job creation and inclusive economic growth for Africa's sustainable industrial transformation.

45. *Submission of the United Nations General Assembly progress report:* The ninth and final annual progress report for IDDA III, due in July 2025, will highlight the outcomes, challenges and lessons learned over the decade. It will highlight progress in industrialization, economic growth and sustainable development, emphasizing UNIDO's role and partnerships. The report will also provide key insights to inform the preparation for IDDA IV, offering a comprehensive review of IDDA III's achievements and setting the stage for the next phase of Africa's industrial development.

III. Action required of the Committee

46. The Committee may wish to take note of the information contained in the present document.
