



**STATEMENT BY H.E. MICHAEL A.O. OYUGI,
AMBASSADOR/PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF KENYA
DURING THE 17TH SESSION OF THE UNIDO GENERAL
CONFERENCE 27TH NOVEMBER-1ST DECEMBER, 2017, VIENNA**

Madame Chairman,

Thank you for giving me the floor. My delegation associates itself to the statements delivered by Africa and G-77 & China Groups.

1. On behalf of my delegation, I would like to congratulate you upon your election as the Chairperson of the 17th session of the **UNIDO General Conference**. I also congratulate the new Bureau and reaffirm Kenya's commitment and support to work with you all during your tenure. Indeed, my delegation has full confidence in your skills and ability to steer the Session to a fruitful conclusion.
2. I would like to also to express our gratitude to your predecessor and the Bureau for the valuable contribution and commendable leadership during the 16th Session of the GC.

Madame Chair,

3. Allow me also to I convey the Government of Kenya's congratulations to the Director- General, Mr. Li Yong, on his re-election. The fact that he was the sole candidate is, indeed, a clear manifestation of the confidence of all Member States that he has earned at the head of the Organization through numerous concrete achievements including the ISIDG and other projects aimed at helping Member States attain the Sustainable Development Goals. I therefore wish to re-affirm Kenya's support to Mr. Li Yong and his team in their endeavor to steer forward UNIDO and fulfill its mandate in an evolving and competitive world.

4. Kenya would like to thank the Secretariat for the timely preparation and circulation of the documents. Further, we commend the efforts taken to share information on various activities and preparation for the General Conference very useful and indeed facilitated our effective preparations as well.
5. The theme of this session of the General Conference: **PATNERING FOR IMPACT** is very appropriate to the key aspirations of UNIDO and its membership. By its design and modus operandi, promoting strategic and viable partnerships is of capital importance to the Organisation. The 17th Session therefore provides us with the opportunity to also assess the outcome of the various partnerships which we have so far forged.
6. We take note of initiatives, activities and major programs like PCPs implemented in 2015-2016 and the all the efforts putting into action the implementation of the Lima Declaration of Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development (ISID) under the prevailing dare financial situation of the Organization.

Madame Chair

We single out the Country Programme Partnerships (PCP) in Ethiopia, Senegal and Peru which we can all attest to beating all odds while concretely contributing to job creation and poverty alleviation in those countries.

Although this initiative is still in its early stages, it has a great potential for propelling sustainable development in member States. Many Member States have indeed shown an interest in it as it provides new opportunities for development co-operation including with external partners in the private sector.

From the mid-term review, we see more benefits than the challenges and are therefore confident that, the Secretariat in consultation with Member States will overcome them and deliver. To this end, we look forward to more regular in-depth briefings and consultations with Member States with a view to ensuring that expansion of the model will incorporate the recommendations of Members States and those of the Mid-term Review PCP Report.

We fully support the initiative and urge Member States and donors to contribute to the Trust Fund to cover the necessary costs of the Secretariat.

Madame Chair,

7. This Session take place against the backdrop of serious financial challenges facing the Organization yet UNIDO has been given an additional task of being the lead Agency to implement IDDA III.

Industrialisation in Africa is still low and is moving at a slow pace. In fact most of the world's least developed countries are still to be found in the continent. This is so despite the fact that the United Nations in general has promoted industrialisation in Africa by amongst other things, highlighting attention through the framework of the First and the Second International Decades of Industrialisation in Africa. The Third Decade series was recently launched in pursuit of this rather hitherto elusive goal. This disappointing experience should be a warning that the quest for industrialisation risks becoming an endless process. We therefore urge UNIDO to mobilise and coordinate development partners as in close cooperation with national Governments to garner the necessary resources for meaningful implementation of the Third International Decade for Industrialisation in Africa. In the spirit of Inclusive and Sustainable Development, let us work under the framework of UNIDO and external partners to make the Third Decade for Industrialisation in Africa, the final one, the one during which all countries of the continent, without exclusion, will achieve this highly desired goal.

8. We commend UNIDO's efforts to forge new and innovative partnerships with different financing institutions and other Governmental groups to support industrialization process in developing and least developed countries. Further, provision of technical support to Member States to adopt and incorporate green policies in their respective industrialization processes within COP 21, COP 22 and COP 23 is crucial and should be continued.
9. On the financial situation of the Organization, we than all Members states that pay up their assessed contributions in time. We also thank those who provide extra budgetary resources which greatly assist UNIDO to deliver its core activities. In this context, we call on all Member States to pay up their assessed contributions and urge those leaving to reconsider the issue. We believe that UNIDO is relevant and we must support it in all ways in order to convince and persuade those in doubt to join in pushing forward the agenda of ISID.

Madame Chair,

10. We note that UNIDO continues to accord high priority to matters of gender equality. It is to be appreciated that the Organisation has developed and implemented a comprehensive mechanism of incorporating and tracking gender equality measures in the whole spectrum of its operations be it in employment at its headquarters, field offices, or relatively recent innovations and interventions such as the Programme for Country Partnerships.

Madame Chair,

11. In conclusion, allow me to point out that Kenya believes in UNIDO and will do her part to support the activities and leadership to deliver the Organization's mandate.

12. On matters arising on substantive issues in the agenda before us for this Session, my delegation will make contributions in agenda items 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, and 19.

Thank you, Madame Chair.