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Item 12 of the provisional agenda  
**Third Industrial Development Decade for  
Africa (IDDA III)**

## **Annual update 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 should be considered together with the information on IDDA III contained in Chapter X of the *Annual Report of UNIDO 2018*.

## **I. Introduction**

1. Following the proclamation of the period 2016–2025 as the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA III) on 25 July 2016 in the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) resolution [70/293](#), the African Union Commission (AUC), the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), and specifically UNIDO were requested to develop, lead and operationalize the implementation of IDDA III.

## **II. UNIDO's activities in support of the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA III)**

2. As the main agency mandated by the General Assembly to lead the implementation of IDDA III, UNIDO has taken a number of steps towards the operationalization and implementation of IDDA III. These steps range from the elaboration of various documents to guide IDDA III implementation, to the development of key initiatives to raise the visibility of activities within this framework. UNIDO has also been implementing various industrial development-related activities in areas stipulated in the resolution, which include special economic

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zones and industrial parks development; renewable energy and energy efficiency; trade capacity-building; agribusiness value chain development; technology transfer; industrial policy; innovation; and entrepreneurship and private sector development, with the empowerment of women and youth as cross-cutting issues.

3. A UNIDO roadmap was developed, based on six interconnected pillars: Global forums; strategic support to develop and manage industrial policy instruments; technical cooperation; cooperation at the level of the African Union, Regional Economic Communities and countries; partnerships and resource mobilization; and communication and advocacy.

4. Based on the UNIDO roadmap, the development of a joint roadmap with key implementing partners was initiated. Key elements of the joint roadmap were discussed at a three-day workshop of IDDA III focal points from key implementing partners, held from 18 to 20 March 2019 at UNIDO Headquarters. This workshop generated a common understanding of IDDA III and of the way forward to enhance its implementation.

5. An “IDDA III Champions” initiative was created to leverage high-level political leadership for the promotion and visibility of IDDA III. It was formally launched at a high-level event held in September 2018, in the margins of the 73rd session of the General Assembly in New York. Eight heads of state agreed to become IDDA III Champions for the period 2018–2020, namely the Presidents of Côte d’Ivoire, Egypt, Kenya, Malta, Niger, Senegal, South Africa, and Zambia.

6. In terms of technical assistance, UNIDO continued to implement various programmes and projects at the country and regional levels. For example, through its Programme for Country Partnership (PCP) in Ethiopia, UNIDO provided support towards the establishment and operationalization of the Modjo Leather City and of four agro-industrial parks. These are expected to significantly contribute to adding value to locally-sourced agricultural products. In Senegal, UNIDO provided technical assistance for the development and management of the Diamniadio Industrial Park, and the mobilization of development financial institutions. Feasibility studies were also conducted for the establishment of three agropoles. A new PCP was also developed and launched in Morocco. In addition, four African countries (Côte d’Ivoire, Egypt, Rwanda, and Zambia) were approved for PCP implementation.

7. UNIDO also continued to strengthen its engagement at the regional level. For example, working with the ECOWAS Secretariat, UNIDO continued to successfully implement the West Africa regional quality infrastructure project with the ECOWAS Secretariat. A similar project was implemented in the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) region. In the Southern African Development Community (SADC), the first phase of the project “SADC Sustainable Quality Infrastructure” was implemented, with the second phase currently being planned. UNIDO also supported the establishment of the SADC Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (SACREEE), which was launched in October 2018. This was the latest addition to other similar centres already established in the ECOWAS and (EAC) regions.

8. UNIDO also enhanced its cooperation with the AUC. A new memorandum of understanding was signed between the two organizations in March 2018. It takes into account objectives outlined in the 2030 Agenda, the Agenda 2063 of the African Union and IDDA III. UNIDO also supported the establishment of an Implementation Coordination Unit (ICU), to help strengthen the capacity of the Department of Trade and Industry to implement the Action Plan for the Accelerated Industrial Development of Africa (AIDA) and other related initiatives, including the African Agribusiness and Agro-industries Development Initiative and the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Plan for Africa (PMPA). In January 2019, UNIDO participated in and supported the organization of the second Ordinary African Union Ministerial Conference of the Specialized Technical Committee on Trade, Industry and Minerals.

9. UNIDO intensified its cooperation with key development partners, such as the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank). UNIDO and AfDB signed a memorandum of understanding in May 2018 to collaborate more closely on key IDDA III priority areas. These include agro-industry development; circular economy; eco-industrial parks; investment in innovation and technology; enterprise development; trade and capacity-building; and access to finance. In December 2018, UNIDO and Afreximbank signed a joint declaration on joint cooperation in the areas of value addition, trade linkages and market access for African industries. The declaration also calls for an enhanced partnership in the coming years.

10. In terms of global forums, UNIDO co-organized various events supporting implementation of IDDA III. A high-level event on “Enhancing global partnerships for IDDA III – Key for successful implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA)” was co-organized with the AUC, UNECA, the AfDB and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in the margins of the 73rd session of the General Assembly on 26 September 2018 in New York. Considering the importance of the new and continent-wide African trade arrangement, the event focused on exploring key features of the IDDA III initiative and the AfCFTA, and how their implementation supports integration and synergies.

11. UNIDO, the AUC and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development organized a panel on “Mobilizing investment for inclusive and sustainable industrial development in Africa” in the margins of the World Investment Forum held in Geneva in October 2018. The event highlighted new approaches to mobilizing investment for Africa’s manufacturing sector to strengthen productive capacity development, and the way forward for the implementation of IDDA III and the African Continental Free Trade Area.

12. UNIDO worked with various stakeholders to celebrate Africa Industrialization Day under the theme “Promoting Regional Value Chains in Africa: A pathway for accelerating Africa’s structural transformation, industrialization and pharmaceutical production”. UNIDO also worked with the AUC to organize the Africa Industrialization Week from 19 to 23 November 2018 at the AUC headquarters in Addis Ababa. Events were held on various topics, including the development of pharmaceuticals, Special Economic Zones and small and medium-sized enterprises.

13. The European Investment Bank and UNIDO co-organized “EIB-Africa Day” on 22 November 2018, in Addis Ababa. The event highlighted the need for sustainable industrialization in Africa. The UNIDO-led panel “From words to action – implementing industrialization in Africa” focused on the role of multilateral, regional, and bilateral cooperation in fostering Africa’s sustainable industrial development.

### III. Outlook

14. *Development and implementation of a joint roadmap and related joint IDDA III projects and programmes:* The implementation of joint projects and programmes aims to increase the development impact of industrial initiatives.

15. *Preparation of a comprehensive overview of Africa-centred programmes and projects* of all international organizations and donors, as requested by the Industrial Development Board (IDB.46/Dec.13).

16. *Operationalization of the “IDDA III Champions” initiative:* The initiative is expected to leverage the political leadership of the Champions to promote IDDA III initiatives.

17. *Development and operationalization of a strategy for communication and advocacy:* The strategy will contain strategic actions focused on raising the visibility of IDDA III to leverage support from other key stakeholders.

18. *Development and implementation of innovative resource mobilization approaches:* UNIDO will work with key partners on this issue, including through the established focal point mechanism.

19. *Organization of key global forums for the implementation of IDDA III:* A number of key events are planned to further promote partnerships for IDDA III implementation. These will include the IDDA III high-level event in September 2019 in New York; a TICAD 7 side event on IDDA III in August 2019 in the margins of TICAD 7 in Yokohama, Japan. These global forums on IDDA III will intensify on-going partnerships and leverage new ones, mobilizing technical and financial resources for the implementation of IDDA III.

#### **IV. Action required of the Committee**

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

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