

11 July 2021

**Statement of Pakistan for the
49th Session of the Industrial Development Board of UNIDO
(12-15 July 2021, Vienna)**

(Agenda Item 3: Annual Report of the Director General for 2020)

Madam President,

Pakistan aligns itself with the statement of G77 and China under this agenda item.

We thank the Director General for the Annual Report for 2020 highlighting activities and achievements of UNIDO and the challenges faced by the organization during the past year.

Pakistan appreciates the outgoing Director General, the Secretariat and the field offices of UNIDO for continuation of industrial development programmes, despite the challenges of COVID-19 pandemic.

We agree with the Director General that the progress made in the field of development over decades is likely to be undone due to repercussions of COVID-19, as hundreds of millions of people revert into poverty.

We also agree with the Director General that the institutions like UNIDO are critical to address global challenges like COVID-19 which has exposed new forms of inequalities, including the digital divide.

We believe that the role of UNIDO has become even more important for inclusive and sustainable industrial development of developing countries to build environmentally sustainable, carbon-neutral and resilient planet.

Madam President,

We acknowledge UNIDO's technical assistance and capacity-building initiatives both in the public and private sector in Pakistan. UNIDO has been actively working in Pakistan to improve the country's trade capacity, access to renewable energy, environmental protection and industrial development.

With the assistance of UNIDO, we have reduced our greenhouse gas emissions. UNIDO has also helped Pakistan in development of Industrial Clusters and their further integration into global value chains.

We also appreciate UNIDO's support for development of the Country Programme of Pakistan and its implementation for enhancing the competitiveness of industrial enterprises.

We are looking forward to enhance our cooperation with UNIDO for establishment of Investment and Technology Promotion Office (ITPO), Industrial Intelligence and Governance Unit and Medical Waste Management project in Pakistan.

I thank you Madam President.