



Issue No. 10

5 November 2014

UN Secretary-General Ban underscores sustainable industrial development as key to planet's future

Advancing inclusive and sustainable industrial development, both on its own and as part of a broader campaign to protect the planet and all people in the future, is the moral and political responsibility of all governments, the private sector and financial institutions, said Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, who opened the second ISID Forum.

He emphasized the importance of sustainable development as the UN and its partners strive to address the underlying causes of crises, including poverty and environmental degradation. "The overarching imperative for our planet's future is sustainable development," he said. "We have a vision of a just world where resources are optimized for the good of people. A world where we do not exploit our environment for immediate gain – we protect it for generations to come."



The forum aims to pilot the establishment of innovative partnership-based business models to implement strategies for inclusive and sustainable industrial development. It brought together around 440 participants from 93 countries, including Heads of State and government, Ministers, Representatives of bilateral and multilateral development partners, the United Nations system, the private sector, non-governmental organizations and academia.

Director General LI Yong said that "technical assistance cannot remain isolated from the main forces that shape the course of progress in your countries." He urged participants to transform the Forum's "multi-stakeholder attendance" to "multi-stakeholder partnerships" between trusted partners to scale-up investment for industrial development.

Hailemariam Desalegn, the Prime Minister of Ethiopia, said his country "stands to gain from UNIDO's sound technical cooperation experience and expertise in the implementation of industrial development programmes and projects. The Cooperation with UNIDO within the new ISID mandate could not have come at a more timely moment".

Mahammed Dionne, Prime Minister of Senegal, said that his country "has requested UNIDO's support as its technical assistance is acclaimed in the entire world for its professionalism and experience".

Other speakers in the opening session included Neven Mimica, Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development of the European Commission; José Graziano da Silva, Director General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO); Fatima Haram Acyl, Commissioner for Trade and Industry, African Union Commission; Erik Solheim, Chair of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development OECD-Development Assistance Committee (OECD-DAC); Petko Draganov, Deputy Secretary-General, UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD); and Alhaju Muhammad Mumuni, Secretary General of the African, Caribbean, and Pacific Group of States (ACP).



UNIDO's Programme for Country Partnership

The main features of UNIDO's partnership approach to pilot country programme was presented by Philippe Scholtès, Managing Director of UNIDO's Programme Development and Technical Cooperation Division. He highlighted in this respect the importance of partnerships with the private sector and international financial institutions. He also noted that UNIDO had some 300 experts working on diverse aspects of inclusive and sustainable industrial development and over 1,000 project personnel spread all over the world.



Partnering for ISID: the case of Ethiopia

Participants in this session agreed that Ethiopia was on the path to achieving economic growth through inclusive and sustainable industrial development. Ahmed Abtew, Minister of Industry of Ethiopia, said that no country has achieved well-being for its people without a development strategy. Mebrahtu Meles, State Minister of Industry, emphasized industrialization can be accelerated through new industrial zones.

To see the agenda of the second Forum, please go here:

http://www.unido.org/fileadmin/user_media_upgrade/Media_center/2014/Events/Agenda_ISID_Second_Forum_311014.pdf

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Please view on YouTube the speeches from the opening session of the Forum:

UNSG Ban Ki-moon
<http://youtu.be/kVIXLS-tCTU>

Ethiopia PM Hailemariam Desalegn
<http://youtu.be/9cHTFWNufBk>

Senegal PM Mohammed Dionne
<http://youtu.be/7pklyBUE7bc>

UNIDO DG LI Yong
<http://youtu.be/rMIVYTqJuM0>

For more information on the second Forum, please visit www.unido.org