

**STATEMENT DELIVERED BY THE LEADER OF PAKISTAN
DELEGATION AT THE 13TH SESSION OF THE GENERAL
CONFERENCE (GC) OF THE UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (UNIDO)**

VIENNA, 07 – 11 DECEMBER, 2009

Mr. President, Director General,
Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,

At the outset I would like to congratulate Ambassador Ali Asghar Soltanieh on his election as the President of the current session of the General Conference. I would also like to extend warm felicitations to the other Officers of the session on their election. In view of your experience and skills, we look forward to productive deliberations under your leadership. At the same time, I assure you of my delegation's full support and cooperation in the work of this session.

2. My delegation would like to associate itself with the statements delivered on behalf of the Group of 77 & China and the Asian Group.

Mr. President,

3. I extend my heartiest congratulations to Dr. Kandeh K Yumkella on his appointment as the Director General for a second term. He has made commendable contributions to promoting UNIDO's aims and objectives. After listening to his fruitful and inspiring speech coupled with his leadership and extra-ordinary qualities, it is hoped that his second term will be even more productive and result-oriented.

4. My delegation believes that various initiatives undertaken by Mr. Yumkella under his energetic and dynamic leadership over the last four years have put UNIDO on a sound footing for effectively and efficiently fulfilling its vision and mission in the global World. While assuring him of Pakistan's full support and cooperation, we wish him all success in the future challenges which include Energy Efficiency, Climate Change, Trade capacity building, Greening Industrial Policy, Renewable energy including Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Mr. President,

5. My delegation believes that one of the greatest challenges facing the world today is the uneven and lopsided development. The seriousness of this challenge has multiplied over the years and the international community must address this issue in a forthright manner. With its mandate for promoting and

accelerating sustainable industrial development, UNIDO has contributed positively to narrowing the gap between the developed and developing countries but lot more needs to be done.

6. The Organization was conceived originally for such a helping role. Its status and standing, practices, approach and methods have evolved into an effective mechanism to facilitate development. It is satisfying to note that the Organization is marching ahead towards the higher and nobler goal “Development for All”.

Mr. President,

7. The member states have to be more generous and more proactive. Member States must fulfill their obligations to this end. In particular, the donor countries, with greater capacity to pay, should help address this issue more appropriately and rationally.

8. My delegation has greater appreciation for the UNIDO’s specific role as a global forum. It has so far, in this capacity, helped disseminate relevant information, encouraged discussion on industrial development issues and, in the process, has contributed towards capacity building and human resource development of the member countries. A number of conferences were convened during 2008 and 2009. These were fruitful and rewarding as is evident from the themes of discussion, the

breadth and scope of issues as well as the level of interest they drew. These conferences have enhanced UNIDO's visibility and vitality.

9. In line with the General Conference resolution GC.10/Res.2, my delegation supports UNIDO's efforts to achieve greater synergy between its global forum and technical cooperation activities. The outcome and the lessons learnt from such conferences will surely widen the circumstances of Organization's reach and help attain the higher levels of efficiency.

Mr. President,

10. Pakistan accords high priority to a meaningful decentralization process. Such a process must lead to enhanced field representation of the Organization in order to promote greater technical cooperation. UNIDO has since long acknowledged the need for such decentralization. It was envisioned in the 1997 Business Plan on the Future Role and Functions of UNIDO. It was part of the 2005 Strategic Long-Term Vision Statement. It was against this background that the UNIDO-UNDP Cooperation Agreement was signed in 2004. The Agreement has already completed its five-year term. Its Joint Terminal Evaluation carried out by the UNIDO Evaluation Group and UNDP Evaluation Office in collaboration with independent consultants is in front of this august session. My delegation thanks the Joint Evaluation Team for their comprehensive report

which contains useful findings and recommendations. After the termination of the UNIDO-UNDP Cooperation Agreement, one of the urgent questions to address is the status of the UNIDO Desks inside UNDP premises. Practicable modalities need to be worked out for their smooth and uninterrupted functioning.

Mr. President

11. During the previous session of the General Conference, my delegation had welcomed the Director General's decision to maintain the existing Organizational field structure intact until the outcome of Cooperation Agreement had been evaluated. That decision has been proved correct by the report before us.

12. My delegation has noted that the Terminal Evaluation does not recommend the renewal of the UNIDO-UNDP Cooperation Agreement. Yet the underlying concepts of effective decentralization, enhanced field representation and greater cooperation between UN agencies remain valid and useful. Accordingly, my delegation recommends that :

- (i) Effective decentralization and enhanced field representation should remain high among the organizational goals of UNIDO. The Director General has already introduced certain measures, including field mobility policy contributing to decentralization. Since it is the field offices that undertake TC activities and deliver in the field, decentralization and delegation of powers would enhance the Organization's output and performance.

- (ii) Given its mandate and the ongoing Delivering as One initiative, UNIDO must not confine its field representation to a limited number of countries. Field representation must be expanded in a planned, and phased manner in the light of the recommendations of the Evaluation Team. This would allow for fine-tuning and evolution of best practices for subsequent cases. Also this strategy will not over-stretch the organization's resources.

- (iii) As regards the third target of the UNIDO-UNDP Cooperation Agreement i.e., inter-agency cooperation, it is reassuring that UNIDO is already taking part in the Delivering as One initiative in all the eight pilot countries. Pakistan being one of them, we are happy to report that the process is moving ahead. My delegation hopes that mutual cooperation, support and synergies will lead to cost savings and greater fund mobilization on the one hand and higher efficiency and output on the other. We are confident that this initiative would be a success and would produce the desired results.

Mr. President,

13. Before I conclude, I must acknowledge the role that UNIDO has been playing in the industrial development of Pakistan. Our relations go back more than four decades to the establishment of UNIDO office in Islamabad in 1968. The

Organization has since completed one hundred and thirty one (131) projects in Pakistan. Another sixteen (16) projects are underway in the areas of Trade Related Technical Assistance (TRTA), Small and Medium Enterprises Cluster Development, Technology Foresight, Phasing out of Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS), and Women Entrepreneurship Development. An Integrated Programme is also under implementation. We appreciate all this and hope that this cooperation will give further momentum and substance in the months ahead.

14. My delegation wishes you, Mr. President and all the distinguished delegates health and happiness, and we wish the Organization all success ahead.

Thank you, Mr. President.