



**Association of Former United Nations
Industry and Development Experts**

“NGO with special consultative status with ECOSOC
observer status with UNIDO and accredited to GEF Council

Postal address: Room E- 0471 , VIC , Wagramer Strasse 5
, A1400 Vienna , Austria

Tel: (+43 1) 26026 ext 5204 , (0043-1) 9610 4081 and (431) 505 5502

Fax:(+43 1) 9610 4088 and (431) 505 5502

E-Mail: info@afide. Website :www.afide.at

AFIDE STATEMENT AT THE THIRTY-SEVENTH SESSION

UNIDO INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD

VIENNA, 10 -12 May 2010

Kamal AHMED

Mr. President ,

Your Excellencies, distinguished delegates ,

Ladies and Gentlemen .

Mr. President .

It gives me pleasure to congratulate you on behalf of the Association of Former United Nations Industry and Development Experts (AFIDE) for your election for the leadership of UNIDO IDB.

AFIDE took note with great interest of the information presented in UNIDO Annual Report 2009 and the analyses of the major issues presented in the Opening Statement of Dr. Yumkella , the Director-General at this session .

Mr. President ,

The economic and financial crisis has negatively affected the development of the industrial sector in most of the developing countries , specially the least developed Countries and thus slowing the process of effective contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Goals. The great challenge facing the Developing Countries increased their expectation for support of UNIDO for development of the required priority industries which would have effective impact in the development process of these countries .

The Annual Report 2009 contains several important programmes developed and implemented by UNIDO in response to the adopted resolutions of its governing bodies . One of the Cross - Cutting Programmes which aims at strengthening the capabilities of the developing countries is the South-South cooperation . Indeed nowadays even the industrialized countries , in addition to the efforts of each of them to find stand -alone solutions for facing the economic and financial crises , they are currently developing and introducing new collective measures to confront the economic and financial crisis . The most recent ~~domestic~~ action of the Euro-zone countries supported by the International Fund for the bail out and rescue of the economy of Greece provide an important lesson and example for the developing countries in their efforts to enhance their cooperation .

→ will be North-North cooperation frame work

UNIDO recognition of the importance of south-south cooperation five years ago and the steps taken by it are in the right direction . The statements of the Group of 77 and China and the representatives of the regional groups of the developing countries and other representatives of member states, at the thirty -seventh session, emphasized the importance of this programme and its role in the transfer of resources , technology and benefit from the experiences of the more advanced developing economies . It is most encouraging to note that after the establishment of the first two UNIDO Centres for

South-South Industrial Cooperation in India and China three years ago, more new centres are being established in other developing countries.

To maximize the benefit from the established south-south cooperation centres, it is suggested that UNIDO prepares a survey of the needs of the industrial sector in the Least Developed Countries as a base for the preparation and implementation of the required priority programmes and projects for the well coordinated implementation by the south-south cooperation centres.

Finally, AFIDE would also like to suggest the introduction of a third dimension to the current south-south cooperation by having the partnership of the development and financial aid institutions such as African Development Bank, OPEC Fund and other relevant institutions.

AFIDE stands ready to cooperate with UNIDO in its endeavor to develop and maximize the benefit of the south-south cooperation programme.

Thank you Mr. President.

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