

Statement
by
Representative of the Republic of Korea
at
the 40th Session of the Industrial Development Board of UNIDO
Vienna, 20 November 2012

Mr. President,

At the outset, I would like to congratulate you on your election as President of this session. I am confident that your vast experience and able leadership will guide our deliberations to a fruitful outcome. You can be assured of my delegation's full support and cooperation in your efforts to make this session a success.

Mr. President,

We have the Annual Report of the Director-General for 2011 before us. My delegation is pleased to recognize the convergence of encouraging factors that resulted in an all-time high level of funds mobilized, a record increase in the portfolio of available projects and programs, and the highest-ever volume of project services delivered in UNIDO's history. We also note the Report's indications that the implementation of UNIDO's change management program is bearing first fruits, and look forward to the outcome of the full-scale review in next year's report.

While the stage has been set for a significant increase in the volume of technical cooperation services of UNIDO for future delivery, we share the Director-General's caution that these achievements are no grounds for complacency. We have every expectation that the increased resources will be deployed efficiently and effectively to improve the quality of UNIDO's services and enhance their impact on poverty eradication, economic growth and sustainable development.

In this connection, I would like to emphasize the value of public-private partnerships (PPP) as an indispensable element of successful policy implementation, and urge the Organization to continue developing strong strategic partnerships with its Member States, development agencies and donors, alike.

Mr. President,

Productive activity is the primary driver of economic growth and employment creation. By the same token, job creation, particularly among the most marginalized groups in society, contributes to poverty reduction substantially and visibly. My delegation therefore welcomes the Organization's emphasis on women and youth in productive activities with programs focused on economic empowerment, and channeling previously untapped capacities towards peace, stability and sustainable socio-economic and industrial development.

UNIDO's work in the field of green industry and clean energy is likewise an important contribution to sustainable development. My delegation appreciates the forward-looking orientation and careful attention the Organization pays to balancing development objectives such as global economic growth, universal energy access and poverty reduction with the need for environmental sustainability.

Given the priority Korea attaches to green growth and clean energy as a means of achieving a sustainable development, we are pleased to support UNIDO's initiative in green industry and have partnered with the Organization in implementing a range of related projects.

Within the scope of my government's East Asia Climate Partnership initiative, for example, the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) and Samsung Electronics have teamed up with UNIDO to implement the "New E-waste management project in Cambodia." My government views this project as a demonstration of how public-private partnerships (PPPs) can be harnessed to

transform existing environmental challenges into business opportunities and income increase by job creation. In addition, Korea and UNIDO launched a project with 1.3 million Euros in Ghana last month which will make Korean clean energy know-how available to Ghana to promote biogas technologies and thus sustainable growth.

Furthermore, in May this year, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of Korea and UNIDO strengthened this productive partnership by signing an Agreement on the use of special-purpose contributions to the Industrial Development Fund. I am confident that the Agreement, signed by the Korean Foreign Minister and the Director-General of UNIDO, will serve as a good basis of a strategic partnership and further promote our joint efforts in the areas of common interest.

In closing, reiterating its firm commitment to our common objective of reducing poverty through sustainable industrial development, the government of the Republic of Korea stands ready to cooperate with its partners to this end.

Thank you, Mr. President. /END/