

African Group Statement  
Delivered at the second special session  
of the UNIDO General Conference  
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by H.E. Ambassador Khaled Shamaa  
Permanent Representative of Egypt

Mr. President, H.E. Ambassador Stacey Moreno,

On behalf of the African Group, it give me great pleasure to welcome your efforts, and the efforts of the bureau, presiding over this historical special session of the General Conference.

Unido is entering into a new phase, building into a strong legacy, and the prominence it received under the able management of Mr. Kande Yumkella. It enters into the new phase in a spirit of consensus, manifested in the very competitive election process we have taken part in.

The African Group trusts that Director General Li Young will exert his utmost efforts, and make use of his extensive experience, in leading the UNIDO organization towards fulfilling its unique mandate in the development agenda worldwide.

The African Group believes that the relevance of the organization is proven everyday by the projects implemented in our countries. What Mr. Yumeklla has made clear over the years, and what our countries looks forward to its implementation, is that Industrialization is essential for Africa to create jobs, especially for the well educated youth, reduce poverty and create wealth.

We believe Mr. Li would can guide the organization into stating the importance of its mandate within the Post 2015 development goals, as well as into creating more real impact, with sustainable industrial development for job creation, capacity building, energy efficiency and private sector development, to name a few, on the actual field of development, which is within the developing countries.