

PHILIPPINE STATEMENT
2ND Special Session of the General Conference of UNIDO
28 June 2013, Vienna, Austria

Mister President,

The Philippine Delegation is pleased to see you presiding over the 2nd Special Session of the General Conference.

We wish to convey the Philippine Government's appreciation and congratulations to Mr. Kandeh Yumkella for his able stewardship of UNIDO for almost eight years. With his vision, dedication, enthusiasm and commitment, Mr. Yumkella has elevated the tone and substance of our work at UNIDO.

In a period of global financial difficulties, Member States see continuing growth in UNIDO's programmes, with technical cooperation delivery doubling between 2005 and 2012. Such growth has been achieved with lean staff resources, highlighting the efficiency of the Organization.

As it worked to build partnerships with countries, intergovernmental organizations and the private sector, UNIDO has achieved substantial increase in resource mobilization in recent years. This is also a reflection of the growing recognition in the international development community of the importance of industry as a driver of development, and UNIDO as the agency that is better placed and better equipped to promote sustainable industrial development.

We wish you well, Mr Yumkella, in your future endeavors. We trust you remain a friend of UNIDO as you assume your new role as Special Representative of the Sustainable Energy for all Initiative, as sustainable industrial energy strategies are of interest to UNIDO.

Mr President,

The Philippines congratulates Mr Li Yong of the People's Republic of China on his appointment as the new Director-General of UNIDO. His assumption to the post comes at a time when the Organization faces many challenges, notably the decreased membership, as well as opportunities, such as building on the strengths of UNIDO to place sustainable industrial development in the heart of the post-2015 development agenda.

Much is expected of the new DG in meeting these challenges and making the most of the opportunities to strengthen UNIDO. We are confident that he will lead UNIDO with a clear vision and a steady hand. The Philippines joins other Member States in assuring him of our full support and cooperation.

Thank you, Mr President.