

PHILIPPINES

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**STATEMENT OF THE PHILIPPINES**  
15<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF UNIDO  
2-6 December 2013, Lima, Peru

**Delivered by H.E. LIBRAN N. CABACTULAN**  
**Ambassador and Permanent Representative to UN New York**

Madame President,

The Philippine Delegation extends its sincerest appreciation for the warm welcome and excellent arrangements offered by the Government and People of Peru in hosting the 15<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Conference of UNIDO.

We congratulate you on your election and offer the Philippines' full support to your leadership.

Madame President,

My Delegation joins this 15<sup>th</sup> Session during one of the most difficult times for my country. Our country and people are no strangers to natural disasters and yet the magnitude of the destruction wrought by typhoon Yolanda, internationally known as Haiyan, in the central Philippines, is in a scale so massive from both a humanitarian and financial standpoint.

As massive as Typhoon Yolanda was, so has been the international response in terms of assistance, both financially and logistically. The Philippines is very grateful for the outpouring of support from the international community -- Governments, United Nations, international organizations, NGOs and the private sector. With the support of our partners in the international community, and with the proven strength and resiliency of the Filipino people, the Philippines shall overcome this national tragedy and move the recovery and rebuilding swiftly forward.

Madame President,

The Philippines associates itself with the statement of the Group of 77 and China, and with the Statement of the Asian Group. In addition, we wish to make the following remarks.

The Philippine Delegation congratulates Mr. LI Yong on his appointment as Director General UNIDO. We are confident that UNIDO has a leader that will steer the organization in meeting its challenges and seizing the opportunities that will strengthen it.

UNIDO is at a juncture that demands optimism and action. Hence, it is but fitting that UNIDO celebrates its 15<sup>th</sup> General Conference in Lima, Peru, where thirty eight years ago, Member States affirmed the role of industry as an instrument of growth essential to economic and social development.

The performance of dynamic economies in different parts of the world is a strong evidence of the importance of industrialization in driving economic expansion and the development process. We therefore welcome the adoption of the Lima Declaration by this 15<sup>th</sup> Session, to further advance inclusive and sustainable industrial development, with UNIDO playing a key role, including within the ongoing discourse on the post-2015 development agenda.

Madame President,

The Philippines is one of the countries invited to participate in the consultative process on the post-2015 development agenda, which requires that the voices of the poor, marginalized , vulnerable and civil society are heard.

Our national consultations identified five pillars in addressing our national development challenges, these are: 1) poverty reduction and social inclusion; b)

environmental sustainability, climate change and disaster risk management; c) accountable, responsive and participatory governance; d) a fair and stable order based on the international rule of law; and e) peace and security.

In the last four quarters, the Philippine economy experienced unprecedented growth of over 7 per cent. This year, the Philippines won three (3) investment – grade ratings, and is now considered a “growth engine “ in the region. These alone do not constitute success, as we continue our work, particularly in ensuring that our growth is inclusive, resilient and sustainable.

The Philippines values UNIDO as a highly relevant and efficient provider of specialized services in support of the inclusive and sustainable industrial development. We intend to further widen our long-standing and fruitful partnership with UNIDO.

Recently, our Department of Trade and Industry launched the Industry Development Program to encourage different sectors to come up with roadmaps, in collaboration with government, academe, and civil society, to chart the goals and strategies for key industries, in order to enhance competitiveness and sustain inclusive growth. We look forward to a possible cooperation with UNIDO on this initiative.

An important aspect of our ongoing cooperation with UNIDO is within the thematic priority of sustainable production and industrial resource efficiency. For instance, UNIDO is a partner in our Industrial Energy Efficiency Program, through the introduction of ISO 50001 energy management standard. And as part of our obligations under the Montreal Protocol, we are winding down the activities related to the CFC phase-out and we continue to implement the Hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFC) Phase-out Management Program (HPMP). This year, we commence the implementation of the project “ Improve the health and environment of artisanal gold mining communities in the Philippines by reducing

mercury”, with support from the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) and in partnership with Ban Toxics, a non-governmental organization.

UNIDO has the expertise in industrial environmental management, industrial energy and resource use, through its support in the implementation of multilateral environmental agreements as well as through platforms such as the Green Industry Platform. UNIDO’s activities could help Member States address the environmental hazards associated with industry, and in the process contribute, among others, to the global efforts addressing climate change.

Through UNIDO’s flagship Green Industry Initiative, UNIDO is helping global industry to improve its environmental performance and establish new industries delivering environmental good and industries. The Philippines is proud to be one of the earliest supporters of the Green Industry Initiative and Platform, and is pleased to note that the success of the first Green Industry Conference, held in Manila in 2009, has been continued at the Green Industry Conference 2013, recently held in Guangzhou, China.

Madame President,

Globally, progress has been uneven, continuing gaps on poverty, hunger, health, gender equality, climate change and many other issues still need attention after 2015.

We believe that our deliberations at this Session could provide building blocks for the post-2015 development agenda, as we remain faithful to the principle of inclusive and sustainable development, including inclusive and sustainable industrial development.

Thank you.