

**CHECK AGAINST
DELIVERY**

**Statement of H.E. Arman Kirakossian, Ambassador and Permanent
Representative of the Republic of Armenia to UNIDO at the 43rd
Session of UNIDO Industrial Development Board**

23-25 June 2015, Vienna

Honorable Mr. President, Honorable Director General Li Yong,
Distinguished colleagues,

From the outset I would like to congratulate you Mr. President and other Members of the Bureau on your election and extend our delegation's support for the fulfillment of your important duties.

In my brief statement I will touch upon issues related to the following interlinked agenda items:

3: Annual report of the Director-General for 2014

and

5: Programme and budgets, 2016- 2017.

The Annual Report 2014 presents the work of the Organization in a focused, clear and concise manner. I would like to commend the Director-General and UNIDO Secretariat for this report presenting UNIDO's activities in 2014, the first full year under Director-General Li Yong.

In particular, we are very much impressed by the fact that the overall volume of voluntary contributions for UNIDO services in 2014 reached a total value of about 200 million USD while funds available for future programs and projects have amounted to an unprecedented volume of about 500 million USD. This is a clear recognition of Director-General's and Secretariat's efforts to realize a concept of inclusive and sustainable industrial development in line with the Lima Declaration.

In this context we consider it at the utmost importance not only to preserve existing capacities of the Organization, but also to expand them to enable UNIDO to implement

programs specified in the Medium-Term Framework, 2016-2019 which are expected to be incorporated into the post-2015 development agenda towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

As the country, recipient of UNIDO technical assistance Republic of Armenia expects that more resources could be made available for UNIDO technical assistance leading to increased volume and further improved quality of UNIDO projects in our country.

In this regards I should like to express our gratitude to UNIDO Secretariat for continuously growing total volume of UNIDO projects and hope that this quantitative growth will be transformed into tangible results in terms of economic growth, employment and environmental sustainability.

As far as the impact of UNIDO projects is concerned a newly initiated UNIDO Programme for Country Partnerships (PCP) deserves our special attention. The matter is that UNIDO on-going projects in Armenia are being often implemented in isolation from each other which considerably diminishes their combined impact. On the other hand, PCP stipulates all local and international development partners not only to cooperate, but also to raise financial resources that are needed to make ISID approach work at the country level and to achieve desired combined impact of international assistance.

We appreciate very much recent UNIDO practice to brief Member States on programs and new initiatives and hope that it will continue. In particular, we learned with great interest of the current status of the implementation of PCP in two pilot countries Ethiopia and Senegal and of UNIDO's intentions to gradually expand this approach to other geographic areas.

Taking this opportunity I would like to request UNIDO to consider Republic of Armenia as a candidate to host the PCP. We are willing and ready to start consultations for launching this approach.

In our view these consultations should also focus on issues related to the foreseen transformations in UNIDO field network, in particular, the conversion of UNIDO Desk in Armenia into a full country office.

We consider streamlining of UNIDO field network as a step in the right direction. We do hope that this will lead to considerable decrease of non-productive administrative expenditures thereby increasing efficiency of UNIDO's operations.

Another matter of our concern is the sustainability of project results in terms of up-scaling, dissemination of knowledge and methodologies after their completion. It can be achieved by involving more local institutional target beneficiaries, especially universities and academia, instead of individual international and local experts migrating from one project to another.

At the end of my statement I would like to express our hope that by further streamlining and strengthening its delivery capacities UNIDO will be able to realize ISID approach and that it will find its place in the post-2015 development agenda in line with the Lima Declaration.

We wish the Director-General Li Yong to achieve all goals as presented in his Annual Report 2014 and in his statement today.

Thank you, Mr. President.

