



**Statement of Mr. Taizo Nishikawa  
Deputy to the Director General  
United Nations Industrial Development Organization**

**at the**

**Closing of the  
16th Session of the  
General Conference**

**3 December 2014  
Vienna, Austria**

*Madame President of the General Conference,*

*Honourable guests,*

*Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,*

*Colleagues and friends,*

As the curtain falls on this 16th Session of the General Conference, kindly allow me to address you briefly to summarize the main outcomes of this assembly - and to thank you for your continued commitment and support for UNIDO.

In doing so, let me start by congratulating you, Madame President and your colleagues of the Bureau. Your exemplary leadership in conducting this Conference during the past four days has allowed its deliberations to be brought to a fruitful conclusion one day ahead of schedule.

I also wish to thank the delegations for their important contributions to these deliberations, and for the spirit of consensus that has led to the adoption of a number of important decisions and resolutions which will guide us in the years to come.

I would also like to convey the sincere regret of the Director General that he is unable to be with us today, but in view of the large number of important meetings taking place around the globe at this time, he felt it important to be present at those meetings in order to be able to fully represent UNIDO and ensure that our voice is heard in the decision-making processes that are taking place there.

Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Two years after the adoption of the Lima Declaration, UNIDO has achieved great progress in sharpening its tools and approaches to fulfil its mandate to promote inclusive and sustainable industrial development.

Our commitment to ISID has already yielded extraordinary results, in the policy, operational and management objectives set soon after the Lima Conference two years ago. At this General Conference we have sought to show you, in word and deed, the strenuous efforts we have made and the results we have achieved over the past two years.

We have done this through the Fourth ISID Forum, the Second Donor Meeting and the Launch of the 2016 Industrial Development Report, which were integrated into the plenary sessions of the General Conference, and through a variety of special events and exhibitions organized on the margins of the Conference. We are very pleased with your positive response, and the guidance that we have received from you.

Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development is now fully recognized in the new United Nations framework for development, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. We are honoured to see UNIDO's mandate enshrined in Sustainable Development Goal 9 and echoed in many other Goals of the new development framework, as well as in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda.

Thanks to the strong support of its Member States, UNIDO is now on the right track to make a powerful and effective contribution to achieving a world of sustainable and shared prosperity. The discussions that have taken place at this General Conference on the role of ISID to advance sustainable development, including the words of our keynote speaker, the Nobel prize winning economist, Professor Joseph Stiglitz, validate our convictions and reinforce UNIDO's new mandate.

Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The 16<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Conference will be remembered as the occasion on which UNIDO completed the alignment of its strategic planning framework to the 2030 Agenda. We thus welcome the adoption of the Medium-term Programme Framework 2016-2019, and of the programme and budget document for the next biennium. These will allow us to make significant progress in the early implementation of SDG 9 and other industry-related targets across the SDG framework. We thank you for your leadership in guiding us in the right direction.

This same leadership will also allow us to fulfil our responsibilities in supporting Member States in the follow up and review of progress made in industry-related goals and targets in the next fifteen years. In this context I welcome the resolution adopted by this Conference on the future contribution of UNIDO to both the implementation and the follow-up and review mechanisms of the 2030 Agenda.

Distinguished delegates,

The Secretariat takes note of the resolution adopted today reinforcing UNIDO's commitment to least-developed countries. While the Organization strives to provide its services to assist all its Member States in realizing ISID, we acknowledge the need to pay special attention to the countries that most urgently need inclusive and sustainable industrialization.

The General Conference was also presented with a document on the new field policy action plan for UNIDO. Through consultations with Member States and the operationalization of this plan, we will optimize our operations in the field to ensure effective interaction with governments, local partners and stakeholders in the framework of the 2030 Agenda and UN system-wide coherence.

The Transparency initiative, with its associated Open Data platform, is yet another step towards excellence and shows the Organization's commitment to greater efficiency, effectiveness and accountability. We are encouraged by the words of support for this new system that we heard from you during the past few days.

Before I conclude my remarks, I would like to stress my appreciation for the adoption of a particularly important resolution, which marks the entry into force of our new policy for gender equality and the empowerment of women. This resolution recognizes the significant positive impact of gender equality on inclusive and sustainable industrial development, poverty reduction, social integration and environmental sustainability.

We also take note of the decision to extend the appointment of the Supreme Audit Institution of Germany as UNIDO's external auditor until 30 June 2018. The Secretariat looks forward to continuing its positive collaboration with the SAI.

Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

In conclusion, I would like to take note of the many statements of appreciation given at this Conference for our new approach for the implementation of high-impact ISID activities: our Programme for Country Partnerships. The 4<sup>th</sup> ISID Forum, which once again drew the attention and interest of all delegations, demonstrated the achievements made in the first year since the inception of the pilot PCP programmes in Ethiopia and Senegal, and provided a platform to announce the extension of the pilot phase to a third pilot country, Peru.

This marks a particularly important transition as we expand this approach from Africa to the Latin American and Caribbean region. In times of considerable financial constraints, UNIDO is showing its commitment to take the necessary steps to support its Member States in their quest towards inclusive and sustainable industrial development.

Distinguished delegates,

In concluding this General Conference I would like to thank you once again for your strong support and encouragement during the past few days. Your support and guidance in these challenging times reassures us that we are on the right track to fulfil our mandate of ISID.

We can now look at the challenges ahead with renewed conviction and be confident that UNIDO will fully meet the important responsibilities it has been given in the 2030 Agenda. Allow me to assure you, on behalf of the Director General and all my colleagues at UNIDO, of our firm commitment to fulfil the expectations, trust and support that you have extended to us at this General Conference.

Thank you very much.