

SPEECH
of the Head of the Delegation of the Eurasian Economic Commission,
Member of the Board – Minister in charge of Industry and
Agroindustrial Complex
S. S. Sidorskiy

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Madam Chair,
Mr. Director General,
Your Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Eurasian Economic Union is an international organisation of regional economic integration between the Republic of Armenia, the Republic of Belarus, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic and the Russian Federation, established in May 2014 and operating since January 1, 2015.

The advantages of the Union are clear. This is a market with a population of 185 million people, cheap energy resources, skilled labour force, well-developed transport infrastructure and unique geographic location that allows you to forge connections with and strengthen ties between Europe and Asia with minimal logistical costs. And we can offer all this to both our Western and Eastern partners.

Our Union provides for the freedom of movement of goods, services, capital and labour, as well as conducts a coordinated, agreed and single policy in various sectors of the economy.

The Eurasian Economic Commission is the permanent governing Body of the Union. Its basic objectives are enabling the functioning and development of the Union, as well as developing proposals in the sphere of economic integration within the Union.

The Commission carries out its activities while strictly adhering to the principles of the mutual benefit and interests of the Union member states. The decisions we make are guided purely by sound economic tenability and are not politically motivated.

In addition, the Commission actively promotes the strengthening of international relations in the field of trade policy, opening up new markets, creating the conditions for investment in the Union's single market and expanding cooperation with other countries and international organisations.

The key objectives of industrial cooperation within our association are increasing the growth rate of industrial production in the Union member states, developing cooperative collaboration, increasing the share of mutual trade, and eliminating social inequality in all its forms.

To achieve the objectives set forth, we prepared a strategic document - the Main Directions of Industrial Cooperation within the Eurasian Union, which was adopted by our heads of government.

The implementation of this document will facilitate, inter alia, the development of production of new competitive export-oriented products; the modernisation of existing production with the creation of new innovative

industrial sectors in our states, as well as increasing the availability of financial resources for industrial enterprises.

The Eurasian Economic Commission attaches great importance to the work carried out by the UNIDO international experts who participated in the assessment of the draft Main Directions of Industrial Cooperation.

In October 2014 the Eurasian Economic Commission and UNIDO signed a joint statement on cooperation, which opens up new possibilities for greater cooperation in the area of comprehensive and stable industrial development.

This document outlines specific directions of cooperation, including entrepreneurship, innovation, technology transfer, expansion of trade potential, environmental protection and energy efficiency.

UNIDO is currently implementing a number of joint projects and programs with the Union member states on a bilateral basis related to the establishment of science-based, high-tech, innovative industries, the development of "green" industry, increasing energy efficiency, clean technology transfer, and the development of agriculture and agribusiness, etc.

The Eurasian Economic Commission welcomes the active growth in the role UNIDO is playing in providing technical assistance and improving the quality of services.

We expect that such practice will gain momentum in the format of cooperation between the Eurasian Economic Commission and UNIDO with the possibility of attracting other interested states and international organisations in order to develop industrial, scientific and technical cooperation and cooperation in innovation.

UNIDO's great experience is of particular practical interest to us. In this regard, we would like to make use of UNIDO's knowledge to ensure accelerated and stable industrial development, increase the competitiveness and innovation activities in the industry of the Eurasian Union.

Thank you for your attention.