

Madam President
Excellences'
Distinguished Delegates
Ladies and Gentlemen!

I bring with me the warm greetings on behalf of Government of Nepal to the distinguished delegates and best wishes for the success of the 16th session.

I congratulate Her Excellency Ms. Christine Stix-Hackl on her unanimous election to the Presidency of the 16th session of the UNIDO. With her proven experience and skill, we are confident that she will guide our deliberations to a fruitful conclusion.

I wish to extend sincere gratitude to outgoing President His Excellency Mr. Alfredo Chuquihuara Chil of Peru, for successfully guiding the business of the session, particularly carrying out the ISID agenda to this point.

Madam President,

The theme of the session **Inclusive sustainable industrial Development'** appropriately reflects our innate and collective desire for development and prosperity that continues to constitute the focus of our national priorities, regional initiatives, and international engagement.

I am pleased to remind with this august Assembly that Nepal has recently promulgated an inclusive democratic constitution, which opens up new avenues of empowerment, progress and wellbeing for all disadvantaged group by ending all discriminations. I am confident that it leads us on the way to Inclusive Sustainable Industrial Development.

Madam President,

Since the categorization of the LDCs in 1971, the number of LDCs has grown from 25 to 48. Their struggle has been unfairly long and has also been at the cost of dignity of their people. The reasons behind this are domestic socio- political problems as well as funding-gap, lack of appropriate technologies and lack of innovation. I reiterate that an enhanced level of support, partnership and collaboration is the key to address these challenges.

We look forward to an effective implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action to make a difference in the lives of about 450 million people living in LLDCs. As a member of this group, we stress that the freedom of transit of LLDCs should be ensured to take a path to industrialization.

Madam President,

Nobelist Mr. Joseph Stiglitz during his keynote, also emphasized on how LDCs are back behind to enjoy the WTO's instrumental benefits. Therefore, we have to look for opportunities based on our respective advantages in areas such as trade, investment, technology, innovation and more, to take a leap into industrialization.

Green productivity and climate change are the key issues towards sustainable industrialization. These areas further demand appropriate technology and also raises the cost of production for LDCs. In this context, I look forward to having support to LDCs like Nepal, with a greater hope.

To conclude, the deliberations here truly reflect the inherent challenges, common commitment as well as resolve of the LDCs. I am confident that this meeting will come out with productive and valuable outcome to prosperous world through its ISID agenda.

Thank You.