

Sixteenth Session of the General Conference of UNIDO,  
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Statement by

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Leader of the Delegation  
Islamic Republic of Pakistan

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Mr. President,  
Excellencies,  
Distinguished Delegates,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the outset, Mr. President, let me felicitate you on your election as the President of the 16<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Conference of UNIDO. I would also like to congratulate the Vice Presidents and other elected officers. I assure you of my delegation's unequivocal support and cooperation. My delegation firmly believes that this Conference will facilitate UNIDO, its partners, and the Member States in achieving goals and targets set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular Goal 9 of the Sustainable Development Goals, adopted by the UN General Assembly on 25 September 2015.

I take this opportunity to express my country's gratitude to H.E. Ms. Gladys Triveño Chan Jan, Minister of Production of Peru, for her able guidance and contributions as the distinguished Chair at the previous session of the Conference. This resulted in the landmark Lima Declaration of 2013 defining UNIDO's mandate of Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development (ISID), and setting new pace, standards and direction for our common aspirations.

Pakistan welcomes the membership of Marshall Islands and hopes that other countries, realising the importance of inclusive and sustainable development, will also join UNIDO in achieving our common goals and targets.

**Mr. President,**

My delegation associates itself with the statements of the Group of 77 & China and the Asian Group made during the General Conference and the sixth edition of UNIDO's Least Developed Countries' (LDC) Ministerial Conference. Pakistan endorses the resolutions under items 14 and 15 and takes note of documents of the General Conference.

**Mr. President,**

Pakistan appreciates the tireless work of H.E. Mr Li Yong since assuming office of the Director General of UNIDO in June 2013, and the dedication of the entire staff at UNIDO. The visit of the Director General to Pakistan in February 2015 resulted in several productive meetings with high-level government officials. The Director General reaffirmed UNIDO's full support to Pakistan with a major focus on SMEs, innovation in technology and resolving our energy crisis.

We recognise the contribution of UNIDO since its operations began in Pakistan in 1968. Pakistan foresees UNIDO's role to be further strengthened and we hope that the current restructuring of UNIDO Field Office network will not have any negative impact on its ongoing and future programmes and projects in Pakistan. We understand that in order to make UNIDO's contributions more effective and productive, UNIDO's presence in Pakistan will not only be maintained at its present level but also further strengthened. We also hope that the new initiative of Programmes for Country Partnership (PCP) will augment UNIDO's existing programmes and projects in Pakistan.

Pakistan welcomes UNIDO's programmes and projects aimed at increasing institutional capacity, economic empowerment of women and youth, biomass gasification and combined treatment plants, entrepreneurship in the field of clean technology and technical assistance in value addition.

**Mr President,**

Pakistan is grateful to UNIDO for implementing the EU-funded Trade Related Technical Assistance (TRTA) Programmes for more than ten years, which have resulted in international recognition of the Pakistani quality infrastructure and

opened doors to global markets. We welcome the expansion of TRTA Programmes beyond horticulture products, such as mangoes and kinnows, to the industrial sector, in particular, electric fans and surgical instruments.

Pakistan is deeply appreciative of UNIDO's valuable technical assistance and support in the fields of fisheries, trade and investment. UNIDO's support in trade policy formulation, National Export Growth Strategy, Codes of Practices for Kinnow and Mango Farming and Processing, Guides for Manufacturers for protective clothing and electric appliances and equipment have contributed positively to the overall economic growth of Pakistan.

UNIDO's capacity-building programmes and projects for the Competition Commission of Pakistan, Trade and Development Authority of Pakistan, and Intellectual Property Organisation of Pakistan have been invaluable.

**Mr President,**

Pakistan has benefitted from UNIDO's 50 programmes and projects since 1968. We appreciate UNIDO's expanding portfolio in Pakistan and hope to continue benefitting from UNIDO's technical cooperation. With six projects and expenditure of over US\$ two million in 2015, Pakistan ranks number two in UNIDO's top implementation countries for ongoing projects.

We look forward to enhancing our partnership with UNIDO in future in the areas of energy, renewable energy technology, eco industries, agribusiness, waste-management, stones and gems. We urge UNIDO to utilise the Global Environment Facility (GEF) funds for its renewable energy projects in Pakistan.

**Mr President,**

The Government of Pakistan sees greater opportunities for intensifying UNIDO's efforts in the country, especially with the launching of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor that will have a far-reaching impact on the regional economy. Implementation of this economic corridor will involve a large number of energy and infrastructure development projects that will facilitate development of industrial zones so that we can set up state-of-the-art industries, large and small. These shall require comprehensive strategic planning, such as

developing master plans, restricting industrial emissions, and managing disposal of industrial waste. We would seek UNIDO's expertise and strategic support in this behalf.

**Mr. President,**

To conclude, I would like to reiterate Pakistan's deep appreciation for the positive role of UNIDO that it has played in achieving the Millennium Development Goals and convey Pakistan's support to UNIDO's future role in accomplishing the challenging task of achieving Sustainable Development Goals to eradicate poverty, achieve food and energy security, ensure gender parity, and enhance employment opportunities in order to build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation.

We look forward to enhanced cooperation between Pakistan and UNIDO. We believe that the milestones we have achieved owe to the excellent team work of UNIDO in Pakistan and the close partnership that we have developed over the years. We wish to continue with the same spirit.

Thank you Mr. President.

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