



STATEMENT MADE BY H.E AMBASSADOR MODEST JONATHAN MERO,
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE UNITED
REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA TO THE UN AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL
ORGANISATIONS IN GENEVA AND VIENNA, DURING THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF
THE UNIDO 16TH GENERAL CONFERENCE HELD IN VIENNA, AUSTRIA FROM
30 DECEMBER, 2015

**Madam President,
Excellences,
Distinguished Delegates,**

Madam President;

At the outset, my Delegation would like to congratulate you, for being elected, to chair this 16th UNIDO General Conference. In the same vein, I would also like to congratulate the elected Vice Presidents. We are confident that under your able leadership, we will conduct successful deliberations and conclusion.

My Delegation would also like to congratulate the Director General, Dr. Li Yong, and the entire Secretariat, for their good work particularly that of supporting industrial development in the least developed countries. We would like to assure the Director General our full support and cooperation in his leadership.

I wish to align my self with statements made by African Group and G 77& China. At the same time, we welcome Marshal Island as a new member of the Organization.

Madam President,

Tanzania is currently aiming to achieve higher standard of living for our people through industrialization. In order to achieve this goal, we are undertaking structural and policy measures to boost industrialization based on lessons learned from public and private investments in the national economy.

Currently we are reviewing our Five Year Development Plan Phase I (FYDP I) and preparing the second phase (FYDP II) whereby the industrial sector is given the highest priority.

The Five Year Development Plan Phase II will be implemented from 2016/2017 to 2020/2021 under the theme of 'Nurturing Industrialization for Economic Transformation'. The plan gives more emphasis to the industrial development, as an engine for economic growth and prosperity. Our theme goes hand in hand with the 16th General Conference theme "Sustainable Industrialization for Shared Prosperity".

Madam President,

It is our expectation that, the sustainable industrialization will help Tanzania to mirror the development paradigms ahead of us and how we can continue working together to fulfill our goals of promoting value addition, realizing productivity and returns to scale, creating jobs and income, enhancing international competitiveness and trade, building efficient and effective productive capacity, supporting economic diversification and hence eradicating poverty.

Madam President, in 2014, Tanzania experienced an industrial growth of about 6.8% in 2014 as compared to 6.5% in 2013 thus demonstrating a recovery of the sector. We are looking forward for more positive contributions of industrial sector to our economy.

The structure of employment in Tanzania indicates that about 15% of the active labour-force is engaged with small and medium economic activities which contribute about 28% of the country's GDP. This is an apparent indication that, SMEs have a major role to play in the economic development of Tanzania, and thus is expected to provide strong linkages, within the domestic economy through job creation and efficient use of local resources. In this regards, it is our high expectations that, UNIDO will continue supporting the development of SME sector in Tanzania.

Madam President,

Support of UNIDO to Tanzania is highly appreciated. UNIDO has been in forefront in supporting industrial development in Tanzania by providing technical assistance in several areas like renewable energy, Industrial Upgrading and Modernization, Cleaner Production

Technologies and Value Addition in agricultural produce. Specifically, UNIDO's support to Tanzania in implementing the "Accelerated Agribusiness and Agro-Industries Development (3ADI) programme through the Upgrading and Modernization programme has helped in the formation of industrial clusters in sunflower processing which is done by SMEs. Other ongoing programmes in the country under the auspices of UNIDO include capacity building and innovation.

Madam President,

This UNIDO General Conference is being held at time coinciding with various international agenda including the just concluded Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the United Nations General Assembly in New York in 2015 where by Sustainable Industrial Development is clearly spelt in Goal 9 (SDG 9) which aim at building the resilient infrastructure, promoting inclusive development and fostering innovation.

Yet we have ongoing Conference of Parties-COP 21 in Paris that is addressing climate systems and how the phenomenon of climate change has a nexus with sustainable Industrialization that can mitigate carbon footprint. Still in December 2015 second week, we will have a World Trade Organization Tenth Ministerial Meeting (MC10) to be held in Nairobi Kenya, where major WTO decisions will be made with regards to the Doha Development Agenda.

Madam President,

While we repeat this year's theme of 'sustainable Industrialization for Shared Prosperity', we look forward to increased support from UNIDO, and other development partners in order to meet the Istanbul Programme of Action for graduation from LDCs by 2020. My Government will continue to support the Leadership of UNIDO in implementation of ISID.

Thank you all for kind attention.