



Luncheon event of the Global Manufacturing and Industrialisation Summit (GMIS) at the 74th Session of the United Nations General Assembly

“Standards for the digitalization of inclusive and sustainable value chains”

Date: 25 September 2019

Time: 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Venue: South Dining Room, Level 4 South, Conference Building, United Nations HQs

Hosted By: The Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates in New York, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the GMIS Organising Committee

INTRODUCTION

Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) technologies such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), Robotics, Machine Learning (ML), and Internet-of-Things (IoT) are transforming the way we live, work and organize our daily lives. However, the disruptive nature of these technological innovations, the rapid pace of the transformation, and the increased complexity and interdependence of today's economies and societies, create difficulties in planning for and predicting the future.

The increasing digitalization of global value chains also has significant implications for relations between policymakers and regulators, and the private sector, on the one hand, and between companies in different countries, on the other. Standards and regulatory systems are increasingly confronted with a situation in which they struggle to keep pace with the rate of innovation. In the same vein, policymakers have to perform a delicate balancing act between driving the rapid adoption of innovative technologies, while at the same time solving a number of legal, ethical, technical and safety-related issues. Companies, in particular suppliers in developing countries, may find it difficult to produce inputs that meet the increasingly high standards necessary for digitalized production.

In this increasingly connected world, it is of critical importance that we, as governments, companies, communities and global citizens, embrace the spirit of collaboration and international cooperation, steering policies and mobilizing technologies in a way that reflects emerging best practice for the benefit of global economies and society as a whole, without stopping innovation or erecting unnecessary barriers to the private sector. Intelligent standard setting acts as an enabler by establishing certainty at all stages of the value chain and supporting the smooth integration of all actors, including those of developing countries and SMEs, and ultimately also contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

This session will bring together a panel of policymakers discussing not only the importance of international cooperation in developing sustainable, inclusive, forward-looking practices but also to provide a deeper understanding of the importance of global standards. Establishing reliable standards will help guide the use of advanced technologies in an age of rapid digital transformation.



AGENDA

- 12:45 – 1:15 p.m. Arrival**
- 1:15 – 1:20 p.m. Opening Remarks**
- 1:20 – 1:30 p.m. Welcome Address**
UAE representative (TBC)
- 1:30 – 1:40 p.m. Welcome Address**
Mr. LI Yong, Director General, UNIDO
- 1:40 – 1:50 p.m. Welcome Address**
Mr. Badr Al-Olama, Head of the GMIS Organising Committee
- 1:50 – 2:00 p.m. Flash of Insight: “Is standardization a key to achieving the SDGs?”**
Mr. Bernardo Calzadilla-Sarmiento, Director, Department of Trade, Investment and Innovation, UNIDO
- 2:00 – 2:45 p.m. Ministerial Panel “Standards for the digitalization of inclusive and sustainable value chains”**

Moderator: Mr. Bernardo Calzadilla-Sarmiento, Director, Department of Trade, Investment and Innovation, UNIDO

Panellists:

Hon. Mr. Alan Kyerematen, Minister of Trade and Industry, Ghana
H.E. Ms. Rocío Ingrid Barrios, Minister of Production, Peru
H.E. Mr. Péter Szijjártó, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Hungary

Questions include:

1. What opportunities are being presented by the emergence of 4IR technologies?
2. How are these technologies being adopted across developed and developing countries in increasingly digitalized value chains?
3. Is digitalization introducing barriers to the integration of actors along digitalized value chains and how can standards help to overcome them?
4. How can we create the “intelligent value chain” of the future that is built on the interoperability of systems and universal standards that enable the exchange of data and information across all borders?
5. What new risks and challenges are emerging related to the proliferation of 4IR technologies and are “new” standards needed to reduce these?
6. What would be the role of the international community in establishing a global set of standards related to emerging best practice around the adoption and scaling of 4IR technologies in industry?



7. How can establishing global standards contribute to the greater good for society and inclusive, sustainable industrial development?

2:45 – 2:55 p.m. Announcing the Second Cohort of the Mohammed Bin Rashid (MBR) Initiative for Global Prosperity Challenges

Mr. Badr Al-Olama, Head of the GMIS Organising Committee

2:55 – 3:00 p.m. Closing remarks

© Copyright GMOL 2019. Please note this is a draft version and as such is subject to change; speakers and sessions are suggestions only and are not confirmed.