



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

Eighth Ministerial Conference of the Least Developed Countries

Theme

***Accelerating industrialization in LDCs:
Lessons learned and innovative approaches***

Closing Remarks

***2 November 2019 – Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
The Emirates Palace***

Madame Chairperson,
Ministers,
Excellencies,
Madam Under-Secretary-General,
Distinguished participants,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is an honour for me to deliver the closing remarks during the concluding session of the Eighth LDC Ministerial Conference.

We have heard many thought-provoking ideas during the intensive interactions today, and I would like to thank participants, panelists, speakers for their important contributions.

In thinking about new ways of how LDCs can thrive in an internationally competitive environment, LDCs should make best use of and benefit from innovative ideas, which will serve as new growth impulse.

I am pleased to take note of the panel discussions on effective industrial policy instruments, innovative financing and partnership mechanisms, as well as the consultations that have been conducted to reach consensus on the text of the Ministerial Declaration.

Thinking globally and acting locally is critical for LDCs. Collective actions are required to achieve inclusive and sustainable industrial development.

To enable LDCs to graduate, several new approaches will have to be conceptualized for the effective implementation in close cooperation with the

governments of LDCs and private stakeholders.

This conference focused on concrete case studies and experiences, which can be replicated and scaled up for greater impact. I am pleased that the deliberations of today will feature in our contributions to the next Programme of Action and the Fifth LDC Conference.

To this effect, the Ministerial Declaration that has just been adopted will be submitted to UNIDO Members States for consideration at the 18th General Conference.

Let me conclude by thanking all of you for your active participation and valuable contributions.

I would like to thank our co-organizers, UN-OHRLLS, for once again standing side-by-side UNIDO during the organization of this important event and for all the efforts towards the preparations of the new Programme of Action.

Many thanks go to the Chair and Vice-Chair of the conference for their excellent work in overseeing the proceedings and for facilitating the agreement of a new ministerial declaration.

We also appreciate the work of the moderators who kept us focused and steered us so smoothly through the agenda.

Last but not least, I would like to reiterate my sincere appreciation to host-country, the United Arab Emirates, for hosting us here and contributing greatly to making this event a success.

I thank you all, once again, for your active participation today and look forward to your contributions to the General Conference starting tomorrow.

Thank you.