

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

First of all, please let me express our deepest appreciation for the support UNIDO is providing to the government of Egypt and the initiation of the PCP Egypt which is a flagship Programme to the government.

I would like to thank everybody for being here today to exchange views and share experiences on how we could advance the PCP in order to achieve inclusive and sustainable industrial development.

Also, I would like to deeply thank the government of china for the fund allocated for the programming phase of PCP Egypt, and for the continuous support it provides beyond the financial contribution.

PCP Egypt will help the government of Egypt achieving its vision 2030, the trade and industry development strategy and the MSMEs and Entrepreneurship National Strategy (2020-2025). PCP Egypt approach is very unique as it follows the whole-of-government approach to enable horizontal coordination within the public sector and with the private sector. PCP Egypt was designed in a very innovative way that addresses the structural and policy barriers common to all manufacturing sectors as well as specific sectors to unlock local and foreign investment in building the next generation of manufacturing. It also follows an integrated framework to enable the green transition of the manufacturing sector combining regulation, firm level support, new technologies, and skills enhancement for sustainable manufacturing.

Moreover, PCP Egypt will mainstream Industry 4.0 in all aspects of industrial development with a particular emphasis on competitive sectors.

Also, we are pleased that the PCP Egypt focuses on inclusive and sustainable industrial zones and parks. In this regard, UNIDO strategy is feasible, innovative and integrated, which will support Egypt in accelerating the structural transformation of Egypt industrial zones. PCP Egypt will develop industrial parks through overcoming business infrastructure challenges and barriers to firm entry into the markets.

The importance of PCP Egypt stands mainly in its approach to facilitate the transition from zones to regional value-chains. This focus area depicts the regional approach for manufacturing enhancement by adapting support strategies to the specific needs and capabilities of regions while leveraging their complementarity to support the transition toward regional value chains. The focus area will also utilize infrastructure to enhance regional industrialization and enable green and digital transitions at the regional level.

At the same time, we would like to thank UNIDO for starting the execution of eight projects, under the PCP, which really respond to our priorities. For example, the Global Eco-Industrial Parks Programme that will demonstrate the viability and benefits of Eco-Industrial Park approaches in scaling up resource productivity and improving economic, environmental and social performances of businesses and thereby contributing to industrial development in Egypt.

There are a lot of lessons learned from our previous cooperation with UNIDO, specifically the Damietta Furniture City, Mergham Plastic Complex, and Agro industries in Qaliubia. They will inform our upcoming projects to achieve the intended results of the PCP.

As you may know, the PCP Egypt components are much diversified and includes a lot of expected interventions. In this context, I would like to share with you three ongoing national initiatives and mega projects that we plan to coordinate and leverage PCP support in their execution.

The **first initiative is the Industrial Complexes of Small Enterprises** which is being implemented by the Industrial Development Authority and the MSMEs Development Agency. This project aims at fostering SMEs contribution to the manufacturing value added. In 2020, we have offered 1657 units for young and small investors. They are located in 7 industrial complexes in Alexandria, Red Sea, Gharbyia, Beni Sweif, Menia, Sohag and Luxor. The units offered are fully finished, and the government will support the investors in fostering licenses issuance and accessing finance. This offering is part of the Ministry of Trade and Industry strategic plan to establish 4307 units in 13 industrial complexes.

The **second initiative is the investment map**. As part of the Egyptian government keenness on developing the industrial sector and building strategic partnerships between the state and the investors, the industrial investment map was launched to promote the Egyptian industry and enable Egypt to become a leading industrial country in the Middle East and Africa. This is achieved through making industrial lands available to

investors via Egypt's online investment portal that works to facilitate the procedures of land reservation and help investors communicate electronically with the Industrial Development Authority making it easier for investors to get information about industrial zones.

The **third project is the Suez Canal Economic Zone** which utilizes the huge potential of the Suez Canal and the surrounding land, to develop an efficient, competitive & eco-friendly business environment. During the first five-year plan 2015-2020, with the great support of political leadership, the SCZONE achieved many successes in the field of infrastructure to fulfil the requirements of investors aiming to invest in the region, aiming to become a leading world-class economic hub and a preferred destination for investment.

Those three national projects are very important to the government of Egypt. Thus, we are very keen to align them with PCP-Egypt implementation, and we do expect to receive a lot of support and technical assistance from UNIDO in this regard.

To conclude, please let me express our appreciation for the contribution of the PCP to Egypt, and I am sure that our strategic collaboration and synergies will accelerate the inclusive and sustainable industrial development in Egypt.

Once again, I thank all of you and hope you a successful discussion.