



OPENING REMARKS BY MR. ZOU CIYONG, MANAGING DIRECTOR, DIRECTORATE OF PROGRAMMES, PARTNERSHIPS AND FIELD COORDINATION (PFC)

PROGRAMME FOR COUNTRY PARTNERSHIP (PCP) PEER LEARNING SESSION,
2 FEBRUARY 2021

Excellencies,

Distinguished delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my honor to address you today for this first PCP peer learning session. As the Director-General mentioned in his speech, this is the first time such a session is taking place. Today's workshop is a direct response to the call of Member States to share experiences and best practices among current and prospective PCP countries and I want to thank our distinguished guests and speakers for joining us on this occasion.

Since its initial conception, the PCP has matured and many lessons were learned during its development and implementation. UNIDO, over the past years, has continuously improved the PCP by strengthened its country level capacities and coordination, as well as the ability to mobilize private and public resources for large-scale industrial projects. The PCP has many facets that make the Programmatic approach a unique success. We are proud of the progress we have achieved, which is reflected by a growing number of Member States' requests for a PCP.

Let me briefly touch on the key factors for the Programme's continued success. The combination of strong ownership of the PCP from our Member States and the strengths provided by the multi-stakeholder partnership approach have proven to be an effective tool for inclusive and sustainable industrial development.

The nature of the PCP as a multi-stakeholder partnership allows for greater synergies between United Nations entities, development partners, financial institutions, the business sector, academia and civil society. Today we will exchange views and experience on how these synergies can be leveraged for a continued inclusive and sustainable industrial development, and how various partners can bring unique strengths to support ISID in PCP countries.

To support our Member States' industrial development priorities, mobilization of private sector investment is essential. The PCP is combining three streams of funds: development assistance, public finance, and business sector investment under the leadership of the host government. Today's workshop will allow us to share successful experiences for resource mobilization, mobilizing support from development finance institutions and opportunities to leverage private sector investment.

The development of industrial parks is another core component of many PCPs. Today's workshop will allow us to gain some insight into the opportunities the development of sustainable industrial parks and special economic zones provide for national development.

I would like to thank our colleagues from the Department of Policy Research and Statistics, who have the essential task of conducting the country diagnostic during the inception of each PCP. Identifying bottlenecks and opportunities for industrialization and thus charting a course for ISID in PCP countries constitutes a backbone of the programme.

Once again, I want to thank everyone who made today's workshop possible. I would also like to thank our distinguished guests and audience for their participation. I wish the session a productive and insightful one, which could set example for our similar efforts in the future.

Thank you for your attention.