

STATEMENT BY HON. ADAN MOHAMMED, CABINET SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIALIZATION AND ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT DURING THE UNIDO GENERAL CONFERENCE IN LIMA, PERU, FROM 2 TO 6 DECEMBER 2013

Madam President,
Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. It gives me great pleasure, on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Kenya and my delegation, to congratulate you Madam President on your election as the president of the 15th Session of UNIDO General Conference. I also take this opportunity to congratulate the rest of the Bureau members on their appointment. I assure you of the full support of my delegation. I am confident that your wise and distinguished leadership will lead to fruitful deliberations and successful outcomes.
2. I also take this opportunity to congratulate Mr. LI Yong on his appointment as the Director-General of UNIDO in June 2013 and to convey best wishes for success as he steers this important Organisation. I welcome his dedicated focus on Africa with much appreciation.

Madam President,

3. Sustainable industrial development requires an interplay of diverse actors in an environment of mutually beneficial partnerships. The overarching theme of this General Conference, *UNIDO: towards partnerships for a new industrial revolution for inclusive and sustainable growth* is, therefore, very timely. I congratulate the Director-General and the Secretariat for the theme as well as for organizing the forum on industrial development issues, with eight forum events lined up for this week. This platform has not only brought together high-level policy makers and experts but also leading practitioners on industrial development issues. It is my sincere hope and anticipation that solutions, experiences and recommendations shared on this high-level platform will go beyond dialogue and translate into concrete actions and partnerships immediately after this conference and beyond.

4. It is such positive outcomes that will continue to emphasize the importance and value of UNIDO as a reliable partner in the quest for sustainable industrial development.

Madam President,

5. Economic growth is vital for the creation of sustainable job opportunities for all. Industrialization is critical for the sustainable growth of the economy, thereby creating wealth and employment opportunities. The ongoing implementation of the economic blueprint “Kenya Vision 2030”, by the Kenya Government, places great emphasis on industrial development as one of the key drivers of sustainable economic growth and wealth creation, and is evidence of our commitment in this area.
6. My delegation recognizes the critical contribution UNIDO makes to industrial development. As Kenya and Africa undertake to journey effectively and efficiently towards sustainable industrial development, building capacities of national stakeholders is important to ensure adequate skilled human resources to manage the industries. We note with appreciation that UNIDO has expanded activities to build up technical and entrepreneurial skills, both through its Training Institute as well as through its collaborating partners.
7. Further, Kenya takes note of UNIDO technical cooperation activities and invites the Secretariat to consider replicating the successful pilot projects at a larger scale, incorporating the concept of industrial parks and including national stakeholder participation in project design and implementation, for greater impact.

Madam President,

8. UNIDO has been an important partner in the process of Industrialization in Africa. This demonstrates the commitment and clear recognition of the unique mandate of UNIDO to promote and accelerate industrialization in developing countries and countries in transition.
9. The African Union Commission, through the support of UNIDO, developed the plan of action on Accelerated Industrial Development of Africa (AIDA), to fast track Africa’s Industrialization process. We look forward to UNIDO’s assistance to make it operational. At country level, Kenya in its quest to implement AIDA has already finalized the national

industrialization framework based on cluster one on industrial policy and institutional direction and is in the process of initiating the implementation of other clusters in the document. At the regional level, Kenya participated in the development of the East African Community Industrialization Strategy and Action Plan.

10. In collaboration with the African Union Commission and UNIDO, Kenya hosted the 20th Session of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry (CAMI-20) in June 2013, in Nairobi, under the theme "*Accelerating Industrialization for Africa within the Post-2015 Development Agenda*". Kenya reaffirms its commitment to continued cooperation with UNIDO in its noble endeavours in Africa and other developing countries.
11. Industrialization is critical for the sustainable growth of the economy, thereby creating wealth and employment opportunities. As recently observed in a number of African Countries, the growing population is increasingly demanding services and with the advent of technology advancement, the youth in particular are demanding for jobs. This requires us to double our efforts, refine and implement strategies that will lead our countries to accelerated development.
12. The Government of Kenya, through the Ministry of Industrialization and Enterprise Development recently launched Kenya's Industrialization Roadmap during this year's Africa Industrialization. This roadmap is set up against the backdrop of Kenya's Industrialization Policy which has identified the priority sectors that will drive Kenya's rapid industrialization agenda. Kenya hopes to partner with UNIDO in the implementation of this roadmap.

Madam President,

13. As I conclude, my delegation looks forward to the adoption of the Lima Declaration on Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development and to the implementation of its provisions.

14. Finally I wish to extend my sincere appreciation to the Government of Peru for the warm welcome and generous courtesies extended to my delegation since our arrival in Lima.

I wish you all fruitful deliberations during this Conference.

Thank you.