

25 November 2014

STATEMENT BY TURKEY

UNIDO INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD / 42ND SESSION

(ON AGENDA ITEM 3, 4 AND 5)

Director General Li Yong,
Mr. President,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

As my Delegation is taking the floor for the first time, I would like to join other speakers in congratulating you on your election as the President of the Board. I also congratulate the members of the Bureau. We are confident that under your able leadership this session will achieve a successful conclusion. Moreover, I would like to express our sincere appreciation for the leadership of the outgoing President, Ambassador Azeez of Sri Lanka. On this occasion we also extend our thanks to the Secretariat staff for their efforts in preparing these substantial documents for this IDB session.

We associate ourselves with the statement made by the distinguished representative of Italy on behalf of the European Union. I would, however, like to add some additional remarks from a national perspective.

Mr. President,

Industry is of vital importance for creating sustainable development based on cooperation between all stakeholders within the three pillars of economic, environmental and social sustainability. Therefore, we believe that the new mandate UNIDO has assumed with the Lima Declaration, which is to work “towards partnerships for a new industrial revolution for inclusive and sustainable growth” has not only supported the Organization’s position as the leading UN agency in the field of industrial development but also empowered UNIDO in its engagement to put sustainable development at the core of the deliberations on the post-2015 development agenda.

Taking this opportunity, I would like to reiterate that Turkey attaches great importance to post-2015 development planning efforts within the UN and stands ready to contribute to these efforts to the best of its abilities.

Mr. President,

We recognize the financial challenges UNIDO has faced during the past few years. The serious budgetary constraints in many member states and the withdrawal of some states with significant contribution to the organization’s budget forced UNIDO to reconsider its budgetary requirements. However, we would like to underline the fact that one of the most

important goals of the international community remains to be the sustainable industrial development and that falls in the advisory and technical competence of UNIDO.

Therefore we need to find the delicate balance between our priorities and the necessity to address the fundamental developmental problems of the countries in need. In fact, we should not lose sight of the fact that in our globalized world, prosperity and security related issues in different parts of the globe become more and more interlinked.

Mr. President,

We are looking forward to the introduction of the provisional outline of the Medium-term Programme framework for the period 2016-2019 which should set a broad yet clear basis to strengthen the future activities of UNIDO. We shall like to see the discussions and the deliberations on the Framework from which, in our view, all the delegations and the Secretariat will benefit immensely.

We also appreciate the report by the General Director regarding the efficiency gains achieved through the implementation of the Programme for Change and Organizational Renewal, as well as all the other efforts led by the Director General to minimise the impact of budgetary cutbacks on programmatic and technical cooperation activities.

Moreover, we are of the view that Technical Cooperation services and projects are at the core of UNIDO activities and despite all the constraints that are in place, this principle should be taken into consideration in the preparations of the programme and budget for 2016-2017.

Mr. President,

Turkey is emerging as a hub for the UNIDO's activities in its neighborhood and beyond. Since the establishment of the UNIDO Turkey Office in 1967, Turkey's cooperation with UNIDO has gone from strength to strength and with the signing of a new agreement between UNIDO and the Government of Turkey in 2000, the Office started serving as the UNIDO Centre for Regional Cooperation.

In 2013, Turkey has continued its programmes in the field of textile, food processing and nano technology in collaboration with UNIDO Centre for Regional Cooperation, and contributed 196.394,00 US Dollars to UNIDO Industrial Development Fund for their implementation. We would like to state here that these programmes are directed to the participants from the countries of Central Asia, Eastern Europe and Africa. In this framework, Turkey is also pleased to assist UNIDO in extending training programs towards above-mentioned regions and we would like to continue and expand these exercises.

Mr. President,

Before closing my remarks, I would like to reiterate Turkey's commitment to work closely with UNIDO and its member states to promote sustainable development, particularly in the Least Developed Countries and the developing states.

I thank you for your kind attention.