

**Agenda Item 3: Annual Report of the Director General for 2015**

**Madam PRESIDENT**

6. The African Group takes note of the Annual Report of the Director General for 2015 contained in document IDB 44/2 highlighting the initiatives, activities and major programs planned and implemented in 2015;
7. The Group commends the efforts of the organization to promote Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development (ISID) despite the challenges that faces UNIDO and we look forward to future cooperation to ensure the operationalization of this mandate as given by the Lima Conference ;
8. The Group welcomes the efforts to incorporate ISID together with resilient infrastructure and innovation, as part of Goal-9 in the 2030 agenda for sustainable development and commends the Organization's efforts to undertake activities focused in these areas. We also welcome the activities organized under the COP21 as well as the adoption of the Joint Communiqué by African Leaders; such activities demonstrate the central role of the Organization to achieve industrial development;
9. The African Group welcomes the partnership-based modality introduced by the Director General aimed at the Operationalization of the ISID through the Country Programme Partnerships (PCP);
10. The Group also acknowledges the efforts towards the implementation of PCP launched in 2014 in both Ethiopia and Senegal and calls for the replication of this initiative in other countries without jeopardizing the efforts and assistance toward effective and efficient management of resources for technical cooperation. The Secretariat should, therefore, embed internal mechanisms that would ensure an equal and optimal utilization of resources;
11. In this Context, the Group takes note with appreciation the organization of the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on Financing for Development in Addis Ababa last July and the 3<sup>rd</sup> ISID Forum on harnessing partnerships for Industrial Development. Those events have known the participation of a large number of high-level representatives from Member states, international and regional organizations, providing a platform for dialogue on how to pursue inclusive and sustainable industrialization and to leverage multi stakeholder resources through the innovative PCP ;
12. It also takes note with appreciation the organization of the First International Agro-industry Investment Forum, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in October 2015 as well the

co-organization of the Sixth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD-VI), including the side event on “Technology enabling innovation and industrialization in Africa”, jointly with the governments of Japan and Kenya, in Nairobi, Kenya, in August 2016;

**13.** The Industrialization and Innovation Forum held in Khartoum during the period 19-20 July 2016, organized by The Republic of Sudan and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), and focused on the development of agro-industries and mineral processing is also noted;

**14.** The Group takes note of the Organization’s strategy of Differentiated Focus regarding normative, programmatic and technical cooperation functions which will, with no doubts, add impetus to the industrialization process in Africa and avoid the risk to be left behind. The group, therefore, calls for continued assistance for recipient countries aimed at the implementation of effective industrial development policies. To this end the Group urges donors to continue supporting UNIDO’s work;