

ITALY

Statement by H.E. Ambassador Maria Assunta Accili

Head of the Italian delegation to
the 44th Session of UNIDO Industrial Development Board
Vienna, 22-24 November 2016

Agenda item 3 et al.

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Thank you, Mr. Vice-President.

Allow me to join previous speakers in congratulating the new members of the Bureau of the UNIDO Industrial Development Board. I am confident that under your guidance this session of the Board will be able to work efficiently and effectively. I would like to assure you of the full support of the Italian delegation to your mission.

Mr. Vice-President,

Italy fully aligns to the statement delivered by the European Union this morning. Nonetheless, I would like to add some considerations in our national capacity with specific reference to agenda items 3 and 5.

The partnership between UNIDO and Italy is deeply rooted and very well grounded. It is based on shared thematic and geographical priorities and has produced remarkable outcomes in terms

of quality and quantity of technical cooperation delivered through many successful initiatives, that we like to recall on the occasion of the auspicious UNIDO 50th anniversary.

Several initiatives financed by Italy under the aegis of UNIDO are also showcased in the Annual Report 2015, which well summarizes the success of the organization in pursuing inclusive and sustainable industrial development.

From our point of view, all the programs launched and implemented by UNIDO have indeed created job opportunities and have succeeded in triggering a self-reinforcing economic growth based on sustainable industrialization in the recipient communities.

We are confident that UNIDO will be able to preserve and to further enhance its impact oriented activity and we support the Director General in all his efforts in this direction.

We appreciate the ambitious goals of the “Programmes for Country Partnership” initiative. We consider that the initiative’s innovative strategy could have a positive impact on matching between recipient States’ priority needs and UNIDO’s supply of industry-related services.

In fact, in the current financial framework, undoubtedly constrained by the withdrawal of some Member States, resources have to be focused on providing those services where UNIDO may have a clear comparative advantage on other Organizations and donors.

We stand ready to discuss, together with other Member States, programmes and projects in areas where UNIDO has developed a strong expertise and can provide added value, also with a view to support the full deployment of UNIDO’s contribution to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

The Agenda has opened up new opportunities for this Organization, which is specifically called to contribute to the implementation of SDG 9, but which can surely play a proactive role in the achievement of the other intertwined SDGs. We believe that UNIDO has the full potential to live up to these expectations, by building on its experience in poverty eradication through

sustainable industrialization; trade capacity building; energy and environmental sustainability of manufacturing processes; agro-industry and technical assistance for promoting standards and quality control in industrial production.

However, the goals set in the 2030 Agenda remain a huge challenge, requiring substantive efforts and proportionate means. To actually achieve our common objectives, we have to join hands, improve co-operation and increase efficiency and effectiveness of interventions. To allow all Member States to provide their contribution in this respect, we look forward to the launching of the regular enhanced dialogues agreed at the Programme and Budget Committee.

Mr. Vice- President,

I wish to reaffirm Italy's confidence in the capacity of UNIDO to give a significant contribution in the global effort to building a more prosperous, equitable and sustainable world. Italy reiterates its commitment to cooperate with the organization, together with the other Member States, with a view to pursue economic stability, as an essential tool to defuse risks of conflicts and to promote peaceful relations among countries, as a precondition of geopolitical stability.

Thank you, Mr. Vice-President.