

UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

VIENNA INTERNATIONAL CENTRE

P.O. BOX 300, A-1400 VIENNA, AUSTRIA

TELEPHONE: (+43 1) 260 26-0

FAX: (+43 1) 269 26 69

www.unido.org

unido@unido.org

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Excellency,

Further to your letter of 21 October 2016, I have the honour to send you herewith, in my capacity as President of the Industrial Development Board of UNIDO, the input to be submitted to the United Nations high-level political forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development 2017.

The Member States of UNIDO consulted extensively on this submission and the Enlarged Bureau of the Board considered the attached text and provided its guidance. In line with that guidance, allow me to highlight the following points of special importance:

Inclusive and sustainable industrial development (ISID) plays an important role in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This is reflected most prominently in Sustainable Development Goal 9 (“Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation”), but also in the targets and indicators underpinning the other sixteen Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The role of industrialization for the achievement of other SDGs becomes particularly obvious when noting that the regions of the world, which have achieved the most progress in reducing poverty and hunger, are also the regions with the most dynamic trends in industrialization. The channels through which industrial development creates income, and can thus create prosperity and reduce poverty, are threefold. First, the employment of the poor in manufacturing raises their respective household incomes (“direct mechanism”). Second, the development of inter- and intra-industry productive linkages generates employment also in other sectors of the economy (“indirect mechanism”). Third, manufacturing industries have a growth-enhancing nature (“induced mechanism”).

UNIDO has extensive knowledge and specific technical experience in promoting inclusive and sustainable industrial development. The Organization promotes ISID – and thus contributes to the achievement of the SDGs – via three thematic priorities, which mirror the dimensions of ISID: (i) creating shared prosperity, (ii) advancing economic competitiveness, and (iii) safeguarding the environment. More specifically, the Organization provides assistance to its Member States to accelerate economic growth and job creation, by fostering entrepreneurship, building trade capacities in industries, creating new green industries, and ensuring social inclusion. It also supports countries so that they can benefit from international trade and technological progress through modern industrial policies and compliance with global standards and norms. In 2016, UNIDO implemented projects in 146 countries. As an example of UNIDO’s activities, which are transparently featured on the Organization’s Open Data Platform,^[1] its Entrepreneurship

^[1] <https://open.unido.org/>


^[2] See UNIDO, 2016, *Annual Report 2016*

His Excellency
Mr. Frederick Musiiwa Makamure Shava
Permanent Representative of Zimbabwe to the United Nations
President of the Economic and Social Council
United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
New York
United States of America

Curriculum Programme, which supports the development of entrepreneurial culture and skills, as well as enhances youth's technical and learning capability, has reached more than 2 million young people. The Organization also supports agribusiness and rural entrepreneurship development, as well as the establishment of integrated agro-industrial parks to attract foreign and domestic public and private sector-investment and strengthen value. Furthermore, for the past three decades, UNIDO has successfully supported countries in meeting their obligations under multilateral environmental agreements and for instance contributed to the phase-out of greenhouse gases in the equivalent of 340 million tons of CO₂-equivalent per year. This corresponds to the amount of exhaust emitted by 71 million passenger vehicles annually. UNIDO also plays a major role in enhancing access to reliable and sustainable energy supplies. The Organization's energy portfolio comprises 120 projects in 60 countries. In addition, more than 25 000 UNIDO publications have been written over the past 50 years.^{2[2]} These activities showcase the importance and significant role of UNIDO in advancing inclusive and sustainable industrial development.

I trust that this substantive input will be a valuable contribution to the synthesis report presented to the HLPF and its forthcoming deliberations. In light of the centrality of industrialization in this year's HLPF, we confidently look forward to seeing our points reflected.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Maria Zeneida Angara Collinson
President of the
Industrial Development Board