



United Nations Industrial Development Organization

**Statement of Mr. LI Yong
Director General**

**at the
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Financing for Development**

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Messrs. Co-chairs, [Names not yet available]
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure to address you today at this historic crossroads for the international development system. Your decisions at this conference will determine how and if we will be able to mobilize the resources needed to realize the aspirations that are expressed in the proposed Sustainable Development Goals.

And the outcome of this conference will also be an important source of guidance for my own agency – the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, UNIDO. I will make sure that UNIDO will take the mandates deriving from the Addis Ababa Accord extremely seriously, and support Member States in delivering what the Accord promises and aspires to.

Indeed, I believe that our industries will play a significant role in the realization of this ambitious agenda:

- It is our industries that can considerably increase the domestic tax base, which in turn will provide increased and sustained national resources for development;
- It is our industries that can bring the necessary investments, innovation and dynamism to the development system, which are indispensable for rapid success in all fields of development;
- It will be our industries that will create the goods and services that will serve as the engine for the next, more sustainable round of globalization and development; and
- It will be our industries that will need to be brought into a global partnership in order to address the systemic issues and challenges related to our new sustainable development agenda at all levels.

This is why I believe that inclusive and sustainable industrialization and industrial cooperation must be at the core of the implementation of this Financing for Development Accord, as a crucial basis for achieving the post-2015 development agenda. But major catalytic investments will be necessary, also from ODA sources, to make sure that no one is left behind, and that our industries become a transformative force for the greater good.

I therefore welcome your guidance in the Accord, indicating the necessity for key transformative investments into inclusive and sustainable industrialization, along with infrastructure. I will do my utmost best to ensure that these promises will be kept, and UNIDO stands ready to help build the necessary capacities among Member States for adequately implementing their industrial policies and plans.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Of course, I cannot close my short address without mentioning the systemic importance of science, technology and innovation in development in general, and in the processes of industrialization in particular. As a core and founding member of the UN technology facilitation network, I will make sure that UNIDO will redouble its efforts in further spurring the global flow of know-how and technology, which will – without doubt – be the main driving force for the next wave of globalization in the post-2015 era.

As the Industrial Development Board of UNIDO has just given me the mandate to design a suitable mechanism for adequately monitoring and reviewing all industry-related matters in the post-2015 development agenda, I will make sure that the issue of technology and innovation will be at the core of our considerations. In this context, I hope for excellent cooperation with all Member States, in particular in improving our data collection that will be necessary for a holistic industrial policy review at all levels.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let me close with the important notion of partnership. This agenda is too vast, too ambitious, and too universal for any single entity or country to achieve it on its own. We will need to create major multi-sector partnerships that will allow us to drive the necessary industrialization and industrial retrofitting processes forward, to achieve the proposed Sustainable Development Goals.

At the country level, UNIDO is therefore supporting Member States with major partnership programmes to spur inclusive and sustainable industrialization. To achieve this in a sustained manner, we will also need to create a new Global Partnership as an impetus for increased international industrial cooperation.

Such a Global Partnership will drive the next round of globalization and shape the inclusive and sustainable future of our planet.

I hope for the cooperation of all of you – Member States of the United Nations. We owe it to our current and to future generations.

Thank you very much.