

**STATEMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA
TO BE DELIVERED AT THE 40TH SESSION OF THE UNIDO PROGRAMME
AND BUDGET COMMITTEE (PBC): 10-11 JUNE 2024**

Agenda Item 3: Annual Report of the Director General for 2023

Mr. Chair,

1. Kenya extends warm congratulations to you, Ambassador Ferenc Dancs, on your election as Chair of this session. We also recognize the other newly elected members of the Bureau and assure you of Kenya's full support during your tenure. We are equally grateful to the outgoing Chair, His Excellency Ambassador Aftab Khokher, and his bureau for their excellent leadership of the 39th Session.
2. We appreciate the statement presented by Director General Dr. Gerd Müller, and commend the UNIDO Secretariat for their meticulous preparation for this session.
3. We thank the Director General for the comprehensive Annual Report, which provides valuable insights into the advancements made by the Organization in steering global industrial development during the past year.
4. Kenya aligns itself with the statements delivered by the African Group and the Group of 77 and China - and wishes to add the following few remarks in our national capacity.

Mr. Chair,

5. Indeed, today, as the world contends with the global polycrises of climate change, food insecurity, inflation, rising levels of debt and inequality, among others, the crucial role of industry in providing lasting solutions cannot be overstated. UNIDO has a central role to play in tackling these challenges and ensuring that the needed technology and knowledge transfer is availed to all nations.
6. Kenya is therefore pleased to see the results of the recent reforms initiated by Director General Gerd Muller that are increasingly adding efficiency to UNIDO's operations.

We join fellow member states in commending UNIDO for the **25 percent increase in technical cooperation delivery**, which has overseen the launch of several new flagship programmes and projects **that will add impetus to the attainment of the global net zero emissions climate targets, create jobs, add to food security, and support trade competitiveness and vital regional cooperation.**

7. **We also join fellow delegations in commending UNIDO for the successful mobilization of 44 percent of the required funds.** The growing support from significant partners like the Global Environment Facility and the Multilateral Fund reflects the increasing recognition of UNIDO's value proposition in promulgating sustainable economic growth and industrial development – and providing needed solutions to the challenges of our time.

Mr. Chair,

8. The accession of Palau and South Sudan - Kenya's cherished neighbour and fellow member of the East African Community - as new UNIDO Member States enriches our collective capacity for inclusive and sustainable industrial development. **We celebrate these new memberships and commend the Director General for his efforts in expanding the UNIDO community.**
9. The establishment of 29 partnerships with the private sector is equally commendable. **We encourage UNIDO to continue to expand such partnerships, particularly with the private sector in developing countries, to leverage local insights and achieve broader impact.**
10. Despite the progress and achievements highlighted, we continue to urge all stakeholders to increase the collective efforts to bolster UNIDO's global impact. **With this in mind, we reiterate the sustained call by peer Member States for the expansion of the PCP programs and urge UNIDO to exert more effort towards resource mobilization for the existing programs.**

Mr. Chair,

11. Under the Kenya Government's Bottom-up Economic Transformation Agenda, we announced ambitious plans to allocate substantial resources to all 47 Counties in Kenya for the construction of County Aggregation and Industrial Parks. Among other targets, these special industrial zones are aimed at boosting agriculture, adding value to farm products, and attracting local and international investors.

We are deeply appreciative of the support that we have so far received from UNIDO in the implementation of the CAIPs project - and wish to extend our appreciation to Dr. Dejene Tezera, and the UNIDO Division of Agribusiness Development, for the sustained support. In the course of the last year, UNIDO has been supporting the development of business plans for the CAIPs in Kenya, a recently signed project on Circular Economy in the County Aggregation and Industrial Parks, a project that seeks to foster sustainable and circular business in agrifood systems and contributing to green transformation of agrifood system in Kenya. Discussions are underway on other areas of cooperation on the CAIPs project.

12. Other notable projects being implemented in Kenya with the support of UNIDO include the Kenya Energy Efficiency Project (KEEP) - which targets increasing the use of energy-efficient appliances and industrial processes in industry – and several proposed projects in innovative and emerging areas - including Augmented and Virtual Reality (AR/VR) and production of vaccines and essential medicines. We have also developed the Industrial decarbonization roadmap for Kenya with the support of UNIDO. **We thank UNIDO for the valued partnership and look forward to continuing the fruitful collaboration.**

Mr. Chair,

13. **One of the highlights of the year was the adoption of the UNIDO Africa Strategy 2023-2025.** We are encouraged by the ambition displayed in the strategy and wish to reiterate our appreciation to Ms. Fatou Haidara, Deputy to the Director General, and the UNIDO Africa Bureau, for their concerted efforts in the launch of the

strategy. **As we move forward, we call for intensified efforts by all partners to support the actualization of the Strategy.**

14. Kenya has been a strong and steadfast advocate of the UNIDO Field Offices structure – and the role of the field officers in ensuring the effective delivery of the organization’s mandate. We are therefore grateful to the Director General for the ongoing reforms of the UNIDO field structure and for the strengthening of the Kenya Field Office through the deployment of [Ms. Tally Einav] a robust and highly experienced officer, as UNIDO Representative to Nairobi. **We note that the strengthening of the office was a direct response to the request made by Kenya during our meeting with Director General in May 2023.**

As the regional gateway into Eastern and Central Africa, and a major global and regional multilateral hub, we hope that the ongoing restructuring of the UNIDO Field Network will lead to adequate and full strengthening of the Nairobi office.

Finally, Mr. Chair,

15. **This September, the Secretary General of the United Nations will convene the “Summit of the Future” in New York.** This gathering will offer UNIDO, and all its patrons, the opportunity to platform sustainable industrialization as a major driver of transformative and sustainable change and a solution provider to the major challenges facing our future. **We urge the Director General, and all members states, to seize the opportunity and make UNIDO more visible to the world. Kenya will be on standby to offer its support in this quest.**
16. Equally, in view of the upcoming conclusion of the designated tenure of IDDA III, Kenya looks forward to the upcoming high-level event on IDDA III [to be organized by UNIDO] at the General Assembly in New York - and calls upon all stakeholders to deepen their support for this important initiative as it nears its conclusion.
17. **We also note with deep appreciation** the Director General’s efforts towards mitigating the growing food crisis by convening the **UNIDO conference titled: “A World Without Hunger Is Possible”, in cooperation with the Government of Ethiopia and the African Union.** You can count on Kenya’s support in this important initiative.
18. **With these remarks, Kenya takes note of the Annual Report of the Director General for 2023 as contained in document PBC.40/2.**

We thank you, Mr. Chair.