

STATEMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA
TO BE DELIVERED AT THE 51ST SESSION OF THE UNIDO INDUSTRIAL
DEVELOPMENT BOARD (IDB): 3-6 JULY 2023
Agenda Item 9: Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA III)

Mr. President,

1. Kenya wishes to align itself with the statements delivered by the African Group and the Group of 77 and China on this Agenda Item – and, **recalling our statement during the 39th Session of the UNIDO Programme and Budget Committee (PBC)**, wishes to re-emphasize the following points in our national context.

Mr. President,

2. Kenya acknowledges the Report by the Director General on the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA III) as encapsulated in document No. IDB.51/15-PBC.39/15.

3. Kenya is encouraged by the progress made in the implementation of IDDA III. We are pleased to note that, in 2022, more than 250 projects, with a total value of US\$63.3million, excluding interregional and global portfolios, were under implementation in Africa, under the wider framework of IDDA III, including within the Programme for Country Partnerships (PCPs) and Country Programmes (CPs).

4. Indeed, a tangible manifestation of IDDA III is the Kenya Self-Starter Programme for Country Partnership. This initiative, which was signed and launched with UNIDO in September 2021, has commenced, with the Kenya Government taking proactive steps in resource mobilization to ensure its operationalization. This year, the Country, **through the support of UNIDO**, has held one stakeholders' meeting to support resource mobilization in both the Integrated Agro-Industrial Park (IAIP) project in Nyamira County, the anchor project of the Kenya Self-Starter PCP, as well as Kenya's ambitious County Aggregation and Industrial Parks (CAIPs) project.

Mr. President,

5. **The Kenya Government is demonstrating its commitment to inclusivity and economic development by allocating over Kshs. 9.4 billion in this 2023/2024 financial year for the establishment of the initial 18 County Aggregation and Industrial Parks - with an aim of having the CAIPs project implemented in all 47 Counties by the end of the third year.** This initiative will enhance farmers' incomes, address post-harvest losses, spur manufacturing, enhance productivity in agriculture, and promote forward and backward linkages that will ensure that all devolved Counties participate actively in the national industrialization agenda.

6. Our industrialization drive also extends to targeted Agro-Value-Chain development, the establishment of Special Economic Zones, and digitization. We thereby continue to call upon UNIDO and all development partners, including private sector investors, to join us in actualizing this ambitious industrialization agenda.

7. Based on the lessons gleaned from our experiences, we advocate for UNIDO to expand the PCP and the CP initiatives to other African countries, upon their request, to ensure

widespread inclusive and sustainable development across the continent. We also call on UNIDO to redouble its efforts towards resource mobilization for the existing programs.

Mr. President,

8. Kenya applauds the collaborative and consultative approach adopted by the Director General in formulating the UNIDO strategy for Africa 2023-2025. This strategy promises to serve as a unifying framework for the Organization's interventions in promoting industrial development across the continent. We are optimistic that consultations with stakeholders will continue in earnest and the strategy will be finalized and available for deliberation by Ministers during the 20th Session of the General Conference later this year.

9. We continue to encourage UNIDO to endeavour to align the deliverables of IDDA III with those of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) – and additionally stress the important role that a fully established and functional IDDA III Secretariat will play in the full implementation of the IDDA III aspirations, including those related to the AfCFTA.

Finally, Mr. President,

10. I wish to reaffirm Kenya's unwavering commitment to the vision of IDDA III. As we come closer to the end of the designated decade, we urge UNIDO to amplify its stewardship role and foster closer collaboration with all stakeholders to support the full implementation of IDDA III. **Kenya continues to view IDDA III as a vital and complementary component in the realization of the AU Agenda 2063's goals of prioritizing economic growth, industrialization, and employment generation over the next three decades.** The fact that the President of Kenya continues to serve as one of the 10 Head-of-State-Champions for IDDA III is a testament to our willingness to continue advocating for this important global agenda.

We thank you, Mr. President