



Statement at WSSD2 High-level Roundtable 1:

Strengthening the three pillars of social development: poverty eradication, full and productive employment and decent work for all, and social inclusion

(3 minutes)

4 November 2025; 15:00 – 18:00

Round Table Room, Qatar National Convention Centre

Excellencies, distinguished delegates,

- It is an honor to address you today on behalf of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) at this high-level roundtable.
- UNIDO strongly supports the priorities of the Second World Summit for Social Development and has been engaged from the outset.
- The synthesis brief on “Full Employment and Decent Work for All”, prepared by an **Inter-Agency Task Force**, co-led by ILO, UN DESA and UNIDO, stressed the contribution of the industrial sector in fostering productive employment.
- We therefore welcome the Declaration’s recognition of industrial development in the promotion of equitable access of developing countries to global markets to promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth and productive and decent employment.



- The emphasis on **industrialization, technological upgrading, and structural transformation** speaks directly to key challenges for social inclusion today, both domestically and internationally.
- Industrial development is a catalytic force that drives not only employment, but also poverty eradication and social inclusion.
- According to **UNIDO's Industrial Development Report 2024**, every job created in industry generates, on average, 2.2 additional jobs across other sectors like manufacturing-related services and processing of agricultural products. This powerful multiplier effect makes the industrial sector a crucial driver of poverty eradication.
- Beyond the numbers, industrial jobs tend to be more productive, better paid, and more likely to offer more formal working conditions, thus supporting inclusive economic growth.
- This reinforces UNIDO's efforts to support Member States, particularly developing countries, in **building productive capacities**, enhancing value addition, and achieving **sustained economic growth and decent work for women and men**.
- To fully realize this potential and to maximize impact, a new generation of industrial policies must go hand in hand with other policy areas, including **agricultural development strategies, innovation**



and digitalization, allowing to channel labor and capital into higher-productivity sectors.

- This synergy unlocks employment at scale, especially for **young people and women**.
- UNIDO takes note with appreciation the establishment of a follow-up process, including a high-level review in 2031, by the General Assembly. From our side, we will explore all ways to support Member States towards achieving the commitments in the Political Declaration.
- Excellencies, this is a moment for multilateralism and unity in action. Let us invest in social inclusion and sustainable development through the lens of inclusive and sustainable industrialization — not only as an economic strategy, but as a social compact for dignity, equity, and opportunity for all.
- Thank you.