



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 speak today on behalf of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) at this high-level roundtable on *“strengthening the three pillars of social development: poverty eradication, full and productive employment and decent work for all, and social inclusion.”*
- UNIDO has been engaged from the outset in the process leading up to the Summit.
- As a member of the dedicated UN Inter-Agency Task Force, UNIDO co-led, together with ILO and UN DESA, the development of the synthesis brief on “Full Employment and Decent Work for All”. The brief highlights the importance of industrialization for advancing full and productive employment.
- Industrial development is a catalyst not only for employment creation, but also poverty eradication and social inclusion.

Ladies and Gentlemen,



- UNIDO welcomes the Declaration's recognition that industrial development, together with technological upgrading, digital transformation and innovation, is essential to strengthening productive capacities and supporting structural transformation, particularly in developing countries.
- Addressing today's unemployment challenges requires investments in job-rich sectors. Industrialization offers the solution.
- According to **UNIDO's Industrial Development Report 2024**, every job created in industry generates, on average, 2.2 additional jobs across other sectors of the economy. This powerful multiplier effect makes the industrial sector a crucial driver of development.
- Beyond the numbers, industrial jobs tend to be more productive, better paid, and more likely to offer formal working conditions.
- To fully realize this potential and to maximize development impact, a new generation of industrial policies must go hand in hand with other policy areas, including **agricultural development strategies**, allowing to channel labor and capital into higher-productivity sectors.
- This synergy unlocks employment at scale, especially for **young people and women**, and promotes inclusive structural transformation.
- Stronger productive capacities are also positively correlated with greater economic and social resilience, as shown, for example, by our



analysis of the global response and recovery from the COVID pandemic.

- UNIDO will continue supporting its Member States in building local capacities, enhancing value addition, and achieving decent work and sustained economic growth.
- UNIDO also 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 support our 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 by fully leveraging the potential of sustainable industrialization — not only as an economic strategy, but as a social compact for dignity, equity, and opportunity for all.
- Thank you.