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PERMANENT MISSION OF THE FEDERAL  
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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**Joint Statement made by**  
**H.E. Tekeda Alemu, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the**  
**Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia to the UN**  
**on behalf of the**  
**Friends of Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development**  
**(FOISID)**  
**at the 2017 Session of the High-level Political Forum (HLPF-2017)**  
**19 July, 2017**

**United Nations,**  
**New York**

**Mr. President,**

**Honorable Ministers,**

It is an honor to address you on behalf of the members of the Group of Friends of Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development. This group believes that inclusive and sustainable industrial development plays a crucial role in achieving the 2030 Agenda.

The role of SDG 9, as one of the key enablers and catalysts for sustainable development, has been well established. Empirical evidence has shown that countries and regions that have successfully developed their manufacturing sector have made spectacular progress in poverty reduction.

In developing countries, the achievement of sustainable industrialization enables sustainable and inclusive economic growth. It also significantly contributes, inter alia, to poverty reduction, ending hunger, creation of decent jobs and income, and reduction of inequalities.

Unsurprisingly, the world's poor countries are quite often the least industrialized and struggle to find a path to transformation. At the current pace, Goal 9 is unlikely to be achieved by 2030, which could also dim the chances of achieving the greater objective of eradicating poverty by 2030.

To get on the path to economic transformation, LDCs must overcome challenges such as low industrial capacity, lack of access to appropriate technology and knowledge, inadequate capacity to ensure high quality environmental standards in industry, and the difficulty of attracting investment in nascent industry.

The international community, including the UN system, should play a critical role in assisting countries to overcome these challenges through supporting investment promotion for all, private sector development, and technology and knowledge transfer.

The proclamation by the General Assembly of 2016 -2025 as the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa adds to this commitment and tasks UNIDO with a leading role in promoting inclusive and sustainable industrial development for all. UNIDO assists developing countries primarily in designing and implementing industrial policies and enhancing local productive capacities and entrepreneurship. Its technical assistance contributes to job creation, advancing economic competitiveness and enabling market access.

However, despite its unique role in facilitating such a critical development goal, and its mandate in the UN System, UNIDO has witnessed a decreasing membership over the past years as noted by GA resolution. In this regard, we would like to support the call by the President of the Industrial Development Board of UNIDO, to the President of ECOSOC, for HLPF to consider appropriate methods and channels to help reverse the trend of withdrawal and to strengthen the global political and financial support for inclusive and sustainable industrialization. We trust that this meeting will highlight this issue.

Thank you.