



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City
Tel. Nos. (02) 8920-0689 / 8925-8275 / 0917-885-3367 / 0917-868-3367
Website: <http://www.denr.gov.ph> / E-mail: web@denr.gov.ph

MEMORANDUM

FOR : **The Assistant Secretary** for Policy, Planning, and Foreign-Assisted and Special Projects, and **Director, in concurrent capacity,** Forest Management Bureau

The Directors
Biodiversity Management Bureau
Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau
Environment Management Bureau
Land Management Bureau
Mines and Geosciences Bureau
Climate Change Service

FROM : **The OIC Director**
Policy and Planning Service

SUBJECT : **REQUEST FOR COMMENTS/INPUTS ON THE THIRD INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD (IDB) DRAFT TO THE HIGH LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM (HLPF) 2022**

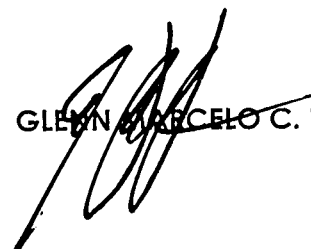
DATE : 18 MAR 2022

This refers to the letter of Assistant Secretary Kira Christianne D. Azucena from the Office of United Nations and International Organizations, Department of Foreign Affairs relative to the third Industrial Development Board (IDB) draft to the High Level Political Forum 2022.

In this regard, may we request your comments and inputs on the said draft IDB to HLPF 2022, particularly on the following items: Item 2.3, Item 5.1, Item 5.2, Item 6.2, Item 6.3, Item 6.4, and Item 6.5.

Attached is the copy of the draft IDB input for your ready reference. We would appreciate receiving your comments/inputs by 18 March 2022.

For your appropriate action, please.


GLENN MARCELO C. NOBLE



DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
KAGAWARAN NG UGNAYANG PANLABAS

OFFICE OF UNITED NATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

14 February 2022

Sir:

With reference to UNIO-1-0466-2022 dated 25 January 2022 requesting comments/inputs on the draft substantive input of the Industrial Development Board (IDB) to the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) 2022, the Department reports that the following comments from the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) were reflected in the attached third IDB draft:

1. Item 2.4, sentence 2. "Information and communication technologies allowed governments and business to sustain their operations during lockdowns.";
2. Item 3.4. The Philippines also emphasized that "existing international partnerships (SDG 17) such as bilateral linkages proved to be crucial in times of crises, wherein assistance became easier and more accessible in terms of technology, availability of vaccines, technical advice, and financial aid. Multilateral platforms were able to become a neutral ground in sharing best practices, lessons learned and foresight that guided various states and organizations to respond to and recover from the adverse impact of the pandemic. Participating countries and organizations were able to amplify their voices through interventions, elements and presentations."; and
3. Item 4.2. The Philippines noted that the benefits that economies may achieve by catching up in the technological waves, such as Industry 4.0, which in principle is reflected in item 4.2

The Department seeks your comments, if any, on the third IDB draft. In particular, you may wish to provide inputs on the link between the industrial development/policy and public health, which was not elaborated in the draft document, considering the HLPF 2022 theme, "Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development."

The Department appreciates receiving your input through email at unio.div1@dfa.gov.ph by Wednesday, 16 February 2022.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,
For the Secretary of Foreign Affairs:


KIRA CHRISTIANNE D. AZUCENA
Assistant Secretary

Please see distribution list
rgm-rdb-ltb (UNIO-1-0884-2022)

DISTRIBUTION LIST

HON. KARL KENDRICK T. CHUA

Secretary
National Economic and Development Authority
12 J. Escriva Drive, Ortigas Center, Pasig City

HON. ROY A. CIMATU

Secretary
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City

HON. FORTUNATO T. DELA PEÑA

Secretary
Department of Science and Technology
DOST Compound, Bicutan Taguig City

HON. WILLIAM D. DAR

Secretary
Department of Agriculture
Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City

HON. FRANCISCO T. DUQUE III

Secretary
Department of Health
San Lazaro Compound, Tayuman St.
Sta. Cruz. Manila



Input from the Industrial Development Board to the High-Level Political Forum 2022

Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

1. Introduction

1.1 This input to the high-level political forum (HLPF) in 2022 from the Industrial Development Board¹ considers the integrated, indivisible and interlinked nature of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and focuses on the SDGs under review in the HLPF 2022 – quality education (SDG 4), gender equality (SDG 5), life below water (SDG 14), life on land (SDG 15), and partnerships (SDG 17) – from a perspective of inclusive and sustainable industrial development (SDG 9) in line with the mandate of UNIDO and against the background of the COVID-19 pandemic.

2. Progress, experiences, lessons learned, challenges and impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the implementation of SDGs 4, 5, 14, 15 and 17

2.1 The governance of risks, and pandemics in particular, is an interdisciplinary undertaking. Multilateralism should be effective, while global solidarity and development finance need to be significantly reinvigorated (SDG 17).

2.2 The COVID-19 pandemic further exacerbated long-standing inequalities in access to education due to school closures and the lack of infrastructure for quality remote learning, resulting in learning losses, dropouts, child labour² (SDG 4), and reduced job opportunities, disproportionately affecting vulnerable groups, in particular women and girls³. Around the world, women are leaving the labour force at a higher rate than men; women and girls are shouldering the increased burden of unpaid care and domestic work; and faced the increase in different types of violence.⁴ This stresses the urgent need to decrease gender segregation and discrimination in manufacturing to lower women's vulnerability to employment losses during crises⁵ (SDG 5).

2.3 Despite the pandemic-caused disruption of economic activities, the prevailing system of resource extraction and waste generation contributes to the continued decline of biological diversity as ecosystems are being degraded at alarming rates⁶ (SDGs 14, 15). To this end, the global consultations on circular economy⁷ convened by UNIDO in 2021 aimed to enhance multilateral cooperation and concerted action to reduce environmental pressures, boost resilience and increase competitiveness, thereby advancing the achievement of various SDGs, promoting inclusive and sustainable industrial development (ISID), and facilitating the green post-pandemic recovery.

¹ Prepared and approved in accordance with IDB.44/Dec.9, 5th plenary meeting, 24 November 2016.

² The World Bank, UNESCO and UNICEF (2021). The State of the Global Education Crisis: A Path to Recovery.

³ The Short-Term Impacts of COVID-19 on Households in Developing Countries: An Overview Based on a Harmonized Data Set of High-Frequency Surveys (English). Policy Research working paper, no. WPS 9582, COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Washington, D.C.: World Bank Group.

⁴ United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) Strategic Plan 2022–2025.

⁵ Industrial Development Report 2022. The future of industrialization in a post-pandemic world.

⁶ Ellen MacArthur Foundation. The circular economy: a transformative Covid-19 recovery strategy: How policymakers can pave the way to a low carbon, prosperous future (2020).

⁷ Resolution GC.18/Rcs.7, paragraph 2 (h).



2.4 The world experienced greater digital transformation during the COVID-19 crisis than ever before, which will have a long-lasting effect revolutionizing the education systems and the world of work in many areas (SDG 4). Information and communication technologies allowed governments and businesses to sustain their operations during lockdowns. Continued efforts to promote digitalization are playing a key role in quality education, including vocational training. While internet offered new learning and skill development opportunities, it also exposed a critical digital gap, especially in developing countries and among populations living in poverty.

3. Assessment of the situation regarding the principle of “leaving no one behind” against the background of the COVID-19 pandemic and for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda

- 3.1 The dramatic and sudden loss of demand and revenue that followed the pandemic has caused many businesses, especially small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs), to face severe liquidity shortages⁸. SMEs make up the majority of industries in many developing countries severely hit by the pandemic, especially least developed countries. Therefore, SMEs should be particularly supported as a driver of the economic recovery in these countries.
- 3.2 To achieve sustainable development in the aftermath of the pandemic, “a global economy that works for all”⁹ paves the way for a resilient recovery. Efficient use of resources, including increased use of secondary raw materials and improved management of supply and value chains increase economic resilience, inclusiveness, sustainability and competitiveness. The crisis has brought discussions of resource efficiency and the circular economy to the forefront of the industrial sector’s policy agenda.¹⁰
- 3.3 Socially inclusive industrial policies should not only aim at creating jobs but also increasing the participation of informal workers, youth and especially women in the manufacturing sector. The post-COVID-19 scenario offers strategic opportunities to advance industrial development that is both gender-inclusive and sustainable by bringing a gender-sensitive perspective to the employment challenges of increasing technological intensity and automation in industry; increasing women’s access to industrial sector work, particularly in the context of targeted growth of “green jobs”; and identifying social infrastructure and investments in the care economy as part of industrial policy.¹¹
- 3.4 Existing international partnerships (SDG 17), including bilateral cooperation, proved to be crucial in times of crises, wherein assistance became easier and more accessible in terms of technology, availability of vaccines, technical advice, and financial aid. Multilateral platforms were able to become a neutral ground for sharing good practices, lessons learned and foresight that guided various countries and organizations to respond to, and recover from, the adverse impact of the pandemic. Participating countries and organizations were able to amplify their voices through interventions, statements, and presentations.

⁸ <https://ellenmacarthurfoundation.org/covid-19-shaping-incentives-to-enable-a-circular-low-carbon-economy>

⁹ Our Common Agenda – Report of the Secretary-General. 2021

¹⁰ Industrial Development Report 2022. The future of industrialization in a post-pandemic world.

¹¹ Industrial Development Report 2022. The future of industrialization in a post-pandemic world.



4. Actions and policy recommendations in areas requiring urgent attention in relation to the implementation of the SDGs under review

- 4.1 *Strengthening sustainable value chains, including local and regional dimensions thereof, and quality infrastructure for inclusive and sustainable industrialization while enhancing preparedness for future crises.* The implementation of circular economy practices coupled with the use of renewable energy is essential to safeguard public health, reduce inequalities, and protect the environment.
- 4.2 *Ensuring access to finance, knowledge, technology, information and education especially in rural areas and vulnerable communities, while leveraging new learning modalities and job opportunities.* Promoting equitable access to information and communication technologies, including those associated with the Fourth Industrial Revolution, is necessary to generalize the digital transformation observed during the COVID-19 crisis in order to close the existing digital divide and inequality.
- 4.3 *Mainstreaming gender-responsive approaches, job creation and economic diversification, to advance gender equality in industries.* Support to women entrepreneurs and SMEs as drivers of value-creation generates employment and income for millions of households and vulnerable communities. SMEs and start-ups can be catalysts of new technologies and business model innovations as well as pioneers of green practices, which are indispensable for a resilient recovery.

5. Policy recommendations, commitments, and cooperation measures for promoting a sustainable, resilient, and inclusive recovery from the pandemic while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda

- 5.1 *Moving forward to a sustainable economy.* Circular economy has been recognized as a promising approach to some of the most pressing global challenges, which can accelerate the achievement of the 2030 Agenda while advancing the implementation of the Paris Agreement.¹²
- 5.2 *Placing the greening of industry at the core of post-COVID-19 recovery programmes.* This can be achieved by adopting sustainability standards for the production of industrial goods, the introduction of low-carbon technologies and by implementing, more broadly, policies to stimulate the demand for low-carbon technologies and “green skills.”¹³
- 5.3 *Shaping the workforce of the future of manufacturing.* Digital and soft skills and the upskilling of the workforce for the future of manufacturing need to be boosted, particularly in developing countries, and should include technical and vocational training, open-source learning platforms, factory labs and enhanced remote learning options. This should be done by *encouraging the constructive cooperation with the private sector*, including multinational corporations and technology giants, to mitigate and overcome the ramifications of the corona virus spread.
- 5.4 *Stimulating dialogue and global digital cooperation among multistakeholders to enable changes in social behavior, facilitating the adoption of sustainable consumption and*

¹² Sustainable Development Report 2021. The Decade of Action for the Sustainable Development Goals.

¹³ Industrial Development Report 2022. The future of industrialization in a post-pandemic world.



production patterns, increasing consumer awareness and bridging the gap between policy development and policy implementation.

6. Key messages for inclusion into the Ministerial Declaration of the 2022 HLPPF

- 6.1 The Decade of Action and Our Common Agenda call for action on all levels, globally, locally and societally, to trigger the required transformations. The pandemic has shown the critical importance of connectivity, which has become even more relevant in the recovery period. Support must be focused on the most fragile members of the international community, including least developed countries, small island developing States and most vulnerable population groups around the world, while attention should also be given to middle-income countries. The improvement of the conceptualization and implementation as well as the increase of effective partnerships, cooperation and development finance should be fiercely advocated to regain the progress made before the pandemic towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda.
- 6.2 The post-pandemic recovery should highlight the building-up of inclusive and sustainable industrial potential and circular economies that are more resilient to future pandemics, climate change impacts and other global challenges, whilst creating jobs at all skill levels, based on the development, dissemination and diffusion as well as transfer of environmentally sound technologies, including decarbonizing technologies and those associated with the Fourth Industrial Revolution, to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed¹⁴
- 6.3 The economic stimulus packages should be designed to enable green investments, promote economic revitalization and quality education, create new skilled jobs and quality infrastructure, in line with ISID principles and taking into account the pivotal role of women and youth as agents of change.
- 6.4 Policy frameworks should be enhanced towards a circular economy and ISID to bend the global GHG emissions curve, increase industry's resilience to adverse climate change impacts, halt biodiversity loss caused *inter alia* by unsustainable consumption and production patterns and ensure the social and economic inclusion for all.
- 6.5 Education, science, technology and innovation policies should contribute to fostering post-pandemic recovery in the medium to long term by enabling poverty alleviation, prosperity, economic diversification and repositioning of global value chains through approaches that promote renewable energy and the efficiency of resource use and maximize the added value of materials.

¹⁴ Addis Ababa Action Agenda, 2015.



Additional comments submitted by Member States to the draft input from the Industrial Development Board to the High-Level Political Forum 2022

1. Submission from Costa Rica

From: Alina Cañas Vargas <amaier@rree.go.cr>
Sent: Tuesday, February 8, 2022 3:38 PM
To: PMO <pmo@unido.org>
Cc: Alejandro Solano Ortiz <alsolano@rree.go.cr>
Subject: RV: UNIDO - FOLLOW UP - Substantive input by the Industrial Development Board to the high-level political forum (HLPF) 2022

Dear Sirs and Madams,

I hope you are doing well. The Permanent Mission of Costa Rica to UNIDO just received a comment from the capital in regard to section 6 of the draft substantive input by the Industrial Development Board to the high-level political forum (HLPF) 2022.

Even though the deadline for submitting comments already passed, if possible, we would be very grateful if you could include the following addition at the beginning of the last sentence of paragraph 6.1 of section 6 of the document (Key messages for inclusion into the Ministerial Declaration of the 2022 HLPF).

"6.1. The Decade of Action and Our Common Agenda call for action on all levels, globally, locally and societally, to trigger the required transformations. The pandemic has shown the critical importance of connectivity, which has become even more relevant in the recovery period. Support must be focused on the most fragile members of the international community, including least developed countries, small island developing States and most vulnerable population groups around the world, while attention should also be given to middle-income countries. The improvement of the conceptualization and implementation, as well as the increase of effective partnerships, cooperation and development finance should be fiercely advocated to regain the progress made before the pandemic towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda."

The addition proposed is highlighted in color yellow. Our national authorities consider that financing and cooperation for development should not only be increased, but also undergo a profound reconfiguration to make them more effective, as has been demonstrated in various forums on development.

Kind regards,
Alina Cañas Vargas

2. Submission from the Philippines



PHILIPPINE SUBMISSION FOR THE IDB INPUTS TO THE HLPF 2022

1. For item 2.4 of the draft document, the Philippines recognizes that there are benefits from the rapid technological changes and greater digital transformation during the pandemic, and that it would be better to indicate "government" in the operations that have been sustained despite lockdowns. The Philippines suggests that item 2.4 should read as:

"The world experienced greater digital transformation during the COVID-19 crisis than ever before. Information and communication technologies allowed government and businesses to sustain their operations during lockdowns, while the internet offered new learning and skill development opportunities";

2. For item 3 of the draft document, the Philippines also emphasized that "existing international partnerships (SDG 17) such as bilateral linkages proved to be crucial in times of crises, wherein assistance became easier and more accessible in terms of technology, availability of vaccines, technical advice, and financial aid. Multilateral platforms were able to become a neutral ground in sharing best practices, lessons learned, and foresight that guided various states and organizations to respond to and recover from the adverse impact of the pandemic. Participating countries and organizations were able to amplify their voices through interventions, statements, and presentations."; and
3. The Philippines also noted the benefits that the economies may achieve from catching the technological waves, such as the Industry 4.0. This may help to address pressing issues in the society, recuperate the economy to recover from losses during the pandemic, and be more resilient in case of future pandemics and crises.



Comments submitted by Member States to the first draft input from the Industrial Development Board to the High-Level Political Forum 2022

1. Submission from Belarus

From: Vitali Shumski <v.shumski@mfa.gov.by>

Sent: Thursday, February 3, 2022 5:58 PM

To: PMO <pmo@unido.org>

Cc: YAO, Shenhong <S.YAO@unido.org>

Subject: RE: UNIDO - FOLLOW UP - Substantive input by the Industrial Development Board to the high-level political forum (HLPF) 2022

Dear colleagues,

The draft has become a little better comparing to the zero version. However, as before it is too far from the state, when it can be agreed and be sent outside.

1. Unfortunately, my comment on section 2 was left without due attention.

I have to reiterate, that section 2 "progress, experiences, lessons learned, challenges and impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic" should reflect the vision from the vantage point of UNIDO. All statements in this section, as in the other sections, have to be confirmed (supported) by relevant studies, statistical data made or collected by UNIDO or taken from relevant UNIDO publications, DG's reports, GC and IDB decisions/resolutions.

Quotes and references to studies and publications of the World Bank, and especially private foundations, I consider inappropriate. Does the President of ECOSOC want to get such quotes from all 17 UN specialized agencies?

I think that a lot can be and should be taken from the UNIDO's flagship publication IDR-2022. This is exactly what is expected from us in New York.

Here are some quotes that are related to gender, for example. A lot of good phrases about education and climate can be found there too. The latest GC resolutions are also for our disposal.

The data collected for IDR 2022 also show that the most vulnerable groups of workers have been affected more than the rest. In fact, the pandemic has disproportionately affected women workers as reflected by the larger elasticity of employment with respect to changes in monthly sales for women when compared to that of men. This indicates that a given decrease in sales is associated with a larger decrease in the number of female workers than of male workers. The gender gap in elasticity is larger in vulnerable industries, where all workers are already more at risk of losing their jobs. And it is even more pronounced for temporary workers. This result stresses the urgent need to decrease gender segregation and discrimination in manufacturing to lower women's vulnerability to employment losses during crises. (IDR 2022, page 11)

Socially inclusive industrial policies should not only aim at creating jobs but also increasing the participation of informal workers, youth and especially women in the manufacturing sector. The post-COVID-19 scenario offers strategic opportunities to advance industrial development that is both gender-inclusive and sustainable.

Three key principles can guide industrial policies intended to strengthen and expand women's participation in the economy:

- *Bringing a gender-aware perspective to the employment challenges of increasing technological intensity and automation in industry;*



- *Increasing women's access to industrial sector work, particularly in the context of targeted growth of "green jobs";*
- *Identifying social infrastructure and investments in the care economy as part of industrial policy (IDR 2022, page 24).*

2. My comments to paragraph 5.1 is not duly addressed. The reference provided is not correct. The IDR-2022 does not contain such recognition. In order to identify required "recommendations for promoting ... recovery from the pandemic...", I would suggest to ground them on the recommendations contained in the IDR-2022 (pages 24 – 26).

The addition of paragraph 5.1 by sentence, stating the fact of consultations held last year, does not relate to recommendations that aimed to help with implementation of SDGs. This sentence should be removed from this section.

I hope that this will help to make the document better and show the UNIDO's involvement in and contribution to the achievement of the SDGs under review in the most favorable light.

3. Bearing in mind that the Input (the document, as itself) is not a compilation or summary of the decisions taken by IDB, it would be highly appreciated to get the secretariat's opinion on the correctness and legal possibility to title this document as "Input from the IDB" (consists of 53 members, has its own Roles of Procedure), especially considering the proposal to adopt it by the Bureau (that has no powers other than to assist the IDB President).

Best regards,

Vitali Shumski

Senior Counsellor | Permanent Mission of the Republic of Belarus to the International Organisation in Vienna

Tel: +43 1 419 96 30 14

Mob: +43 664 969 11 84

2. Submission from the European Union and its Member States

From: KOSTOVA Konstantina (EEAS-VIENNA) <Konstantina.KOSTOVA@eeas.europa.eu>

Sent: 04 February 2022 10:57

To: METELITSA, Alla

Cc: YAO, Shenhong; 'henryk.czubek@msz.gov.pl'; CHUNG, Tsung Ping; 'henryk.czubek@msz.gov.pl'; De Las Casas Fuentes, Alfonso; Liquori Alessio Vincenzo Giacinto; Virpi.Turunen@formin.fi; martin.schroeder@diplo.de; WIENIO POL-4-IO Schroeder, Martin; DE LISI Michelangelo (EEAS-VIENNA)

Subject: FW: UNIDO Input - HLPF 2022

Dear Alla,

Dear Colleagues,

I would like to support the opinions that disagree with the complete omission of any references to circular economy in section 6 ("Key messages for inclusion into the Ministerial Declaration of the 2022 HLPF") in the HLPF input. It is not giving justice to the actual work of UNIDO and its mandate since circular economy patterns of production do make industries more sustainable. The Secretariat has enough data to support such an inclusion and I am convinced it can be kept along with other messages related to UNIDO activities.



Thank you in advance

Konstantina Kostova
EU Delegation

3. Submission from Japan

From: HORIKAWA SAE <sae.horikawa@mofa.go.jp>
Sent: Thursday, February 3, 2022 6:15 PM
To: PMO <pmo@unido.org>; YAO, Shenhong <S.YAO@unido.org>
Cc: AZUMA YUUKI <yuuki.azuma@mofa.go.jp>
Subject: RE: UNIDO - FOLLOW UP - Substantive input by the Industrial Development Board to the high-level political forum (HLPF) 2022

Dear Mr Director,
Dear PMO Colleagues,

With regard to the substantive input of IDB to the HLPF 2022, we appreciate that the preparation process of this year moves forward with the first draft prepared by the Secretariat, reflecting the Member States' comments.

Japan would like to propose two following modifications to the first draft text, which we request the Secretariat to incorporate in the final draft:

- 4.1 *Strengthening sustainable value chains, including local and regional dimensions thereof, and quality infrastructure for inclusive and sustainable industrialization while enhancing preparedness for future crises.* The implementation of circular economy practices coupled with the use of renewable energy is essential to safeguard public health, reduce inequalities, and protect the environment.
* This is in the same line as the modification to the present paragraph 6.3 that Japan proposed during the reading of the zero draft. Apologies for not proposing this at the same time by omission. "Quality infrastructure" is used in various fora such as G20 as a target to aim at in the promotion of investment for the development of the infrastructure (See, e.g., https://www.mof.go.jp/english/policy/international_policy/convention/g20/annex6_1.pdf).
- 6.2 The post-pandemic recovery should highlight the building-up of inclusive and sustainable industrial potential that is more resilient to future pandemics, climate change impacts and other global challenges, whilst creating jobs at all skill levels, based on the development, dissemination and diffusion as well as transfer of environmentally sound technologies including decarbonizing technologies to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed^[1].

Hope these modifications be acceptable for all other Members of the Board, and that we reach a final draft to be approved by the Members by consensus.

Thank you again and wish you a nice evening.
With best regards,
Sae

HORIKAWA, Sae (Ms.)

Permanent Mission of Japan to the International Organizations in Vienna



Tel : +43.1.2606338 Fax : +43.1.2636750 Mobile: +43.650.4225840
e-mail : sae.horikawa@mofa.go.jp

4. Submission from Panama

- 4.2 *Ensuring access to finance, knowledge, technology, information and education* especially in rural areas and vulnerable communities, while leveraging new learning modalities and job opportunities. Promoting equitable access to information and communication technologies is necessary to generalize the digital transformation observed during the COVID-19 crisis in order to close the existing digital divide and inequality.
- 5.2 *Shaping the workforce of the future of manufacturing.* Digital and soft skills and the upskilling of the workforce for the future of manufacturing need to be boosted, particularly in developing countries, and should include technical and vocational training, open-source learning platforms, factory labs and enhanced remote learning options. This should be done by *encouraging the constructive cooperation with the private sector*, including multinational corporations and technology giants, to mitigate and overcome the ramifications of the corona virus spread.
- 5.3 *Stimulating dialogue and global digital cooperation among multistakeholders* to enable changes in social behavior, facilitating the adoption of sustainable consumption and production patterns, increasing consumer awareness and bridging the gap between policy development and policy implementation.

5. Submission from Thailand

From: Suppakij Vorasriherun <suppakijv@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 3, 2022 7:03 PM
To: PMO <pmo@unido.org>
Subject: Re: UNIDO - FOLLOW UP - Substantive input by the Industrial Development Board to the high-level political forum (HLPF) 2022

Dear PMO,

Firstly, we would like to thank the Secretariat for preparing the draft of IDB submission to the HLPF 2022.

With reference to the circulated first draft, Thailand would like to comment that the word "circular economy" should be remained in paragraph 6.4 in order to reflect the importance of circular economy as a promising approach to some of the most pressing global challenges, mentioned in paragraph 5.1.

Kind regards,

Suppakij Vorasriherun

--

Mr. Suppakij Vorasriherun

Counsellor

Royal Thai Embassy / Permanent Mission of Thailand



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

Cottagegasse 48, 1180 Vienna, Austria.

Tel: +43 1 478 3335

Fax: +43 1 478 3335 30
