



Media Update

16 February 2015

UNIDO

PRESS RELEASE

February 14, 2015

UNIDO stands committed to work for inclusive and sustainable industrial development on fast track in Pakistan – Director General

Islamabad, Pakistan. The UNIDO will continue to work for inclusive and sustainable industrial development in Pakistan but on fast track now onwards and its major focus would be in the areas of SMEs, said Mr. Li Yong, Director General, United Nations Industrial Development Organization while addressing the project beneficiaries and members of business community, various industry based associations and other Chambers at Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The Meeting was organized and hosted by the Islamabad Chamber of Commerce. At the occasion, small exhibition of fans, cutlery products, mangoes, protective gear, Kino, surgical instruments, handicrafts, marble products, jewelry products, biogas plant and Cleantech innovations was put up for display. The DG UNIDO visited each and every stall and took keen interest in these stalls as all these products had benefitted from UNIDO's projects to increase exports.

Mr Li Yong expressed that his visit to Pakistan is to explore new vistas for partnership so as to contribute more vigorously to the economic growth of Pakistan especially through support to various for overall prosperity. During this mission , he further said that , he is looking for interactive input from SMEs for developing strategies to support projects that could ensure inclusive, sustainable and environmental friendly growth.

He said UNIDO wanted to work with Chambers of Commerce for SMEs development through technical assistance in value addition and capacity building initiatives. He assured that he would explore financing possibilities for the projects highlighted at the occasion. Present at the meetings were representatives of several chambers.

In his welcome address, Muzzamil Hussain Sabri, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry appreciated the role UNIDO supporting small businesses & export oriented industries and promoting energy efficient systems & clean technologies in Pakistan. Welcoming the DG. he said that it is really a prestigious occasion for the Chamber to host and organize a meeting of any DG of UNIDO in last twelve years. He





said ICCI was planning to establish a National Inquiry Point that will help in forecasting business opportunities in agro-based and manufacturing sectors and sought the cooperation of UNIDO in its establishment. Once established on pilot scale with the technical assistance of UNIDO, the Camber will develop a network of these enquiry points in all of its chambers throughout Pakistan and again for this we would be eagerly looking to UNIDO's support. He further said UNIDO should cooperate with Chambers of Commerce for technical assistance and capacity building of SMEs for value addition products and supply chain mechanisms improvement which will help in increasing exports. UNIDO should also provide experts to assist our private sector for successful participation in international trade fairs and exhibitions.

M. Shakeel Munir, Senior Vice President ICCI highlighted the export potential of marble sector in Pakistan and solicited the cooperation of UNIDO for establishment of Common Facilitation and Training Center (CFTC) in Islamabad that will help in value addition and exports promotion of marble products.

The UNIDO projects beneficiaries and representatives of Gujranwala & Sialkot Chamber of Commerce, Tannery Associations of Karachi, Kasur & Sialkot, Fans Manufacturers Association of Gujranwala, Alrafique Enterprises Sargodha, KDC Boards, Mango Growers Consortium Sargodha and Surgical Instrument Manufacturers Association of Pakistan highlighted various projects including combined treatment plants, biogas and biomass projects and requested that UNIDO should assist in tapping foreign grants for completion of these projects.

UNIDO

PRESS RELEASE

February 12, 2015

Pakistan urges UNIDO to help boost the economy to reduce poverty

ISLAMABAD, 12 February 2015 – Pakistan's Adviser to the PM on National Security & Foreign Affairs, Sartaj Aziz, has asked the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) to expand its operations in the country and to implement more projects to increase institutional capacity and economically empower youth and women. The request came during a meeting with Li Yong, the Director General of UNIDO, who is on a three-day official visit to Pakistan.

During the meeting, Aziz commended UNIDO for its interventions to develop energy-efficient systems, to introduce clean technologies and measures to abate industrial pollution, that improves the export trade, and to support small and medium-sized enterprises in Pakistan. For his part, Li expressed his appreciation of the consistent



support for UNIDO's work provided by various government ministries, and of the firm commitment of the country's private sector.

Foreign Minister Aziz briefed Li on the huge economic potential in Pakistan, especially the talent of the country's youth. He called for more UNIDO projects, "especially projects aiming to empower youth and women-folk to be more productive citizens of Pakistan". The Minister added that enhanced technical support from UNIDO to boost the growth of the national economy would help reduce poverty.

Mr. Li also met with the senior governmental officials from Ministry of Industry and Production, Ministry of Climate Change, Ministry of Food Security, Mr. Li expressed his appreciation for the consistent support to UNIDO portfolio in the country.

During his visit to the Pakistani capital, UNIDO's Li also met with officials from the National University of Science and Technology (NUST). The two organizations are already working to build the capacity of national engineering universities, research and development institutions, and local manufacturers in relation to biomass gasification. During the meeting, agreement was reached to deepen collaboration between UNIDO and NUST in order to foster entrepreneurship in the field of clean technology innovation. It was also agreed upon to sign an MOU to initiate the process for strategic partnership with NUST in the areas of clean energy, energy efficiency, renewable energy, and cleaner production, the cooperation will pave the road for the establishment of Science and technology park at NUST in collaboration with UNIDO.

UNIDO's Li said, "UNIDO's vision of inclusive and sustainable industrial development can be achieved with supply of sustainable and clean energy to industry and by the fostering of clean innovation technologies". NUST Rector, Muhammad Asghar commended UNIDO's efforts to promote the use of renewable energy technologies and specifically the joint UNIDO/NUST programme on biomass gasification technologies in Pakistan. He reiterated NUST's commitment to further strengthen cooperation with UNIDO, which he said would enhance the linkages between industry and academia and eventually help address Pakistan's energy crisis.

Mr. Li also visited National Physical and Standards Laboratory during his first day in Pakistan.

