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**Hannover Messe 2018  
DG Visit to UNIDO/ ISID Stand**

**Speech by Mr. LI Yong, Director General of the  
United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)  
Wednesday, 25 April 2018**

**Ladies and Gentlemen, Colleagues and Collaborators,**

I am delighted to welcome you all, as exhibitors and participants, to the stand of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) at Hannover Messe. I congratulate you all for your participation in this important event. Many of you have travelled long distances to be here and to promote your joint work with UNIDO, which serves to remind us all of the importance of our work and collaboration.

UNIDO's participation in Hannover Messe 2018 should be seen in the context of the ongoing collaboration with Deutsche Messe.

In November 2014, UNIDO signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with "Deutsche Messe" aimed at establishing a strategic partnership to work together in the organization of industrial trade

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fairs, particularly those focusing on supporting inclusive and sustainable industrial development in emerging and developing countries.

As a step towards the fulfillment of this partnership, UNIDO's annual participation in Hannover Messe, since 2015, has aimed to provide a platform for institutions and industrial enterprises from its member states and developing countries to participate and promote themselves in this important international trade setting. We find ourselves in the Hall dedicated to Global Business Markets section and we are pleased to present our concerted effort to bring together several streams of UNIDO work with developing countries.

This includes the various programmes and project interventions under the Trade, Investment and Innovation Department, and particularly, the UNIDO Network of Investment and Technology Promotion (ITPO) Offices and the Subcontracting and Partnership Exchange (SPX) Programme.

I welcome three co-exhibitors representing ITPOs from Germany, Republic of Korea and Nigeria as well as four co-exhibitors from SPX Centres in Cameroon, Colombia and Mozambique. I also welcome the

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representatives from the Nigerian Investment Promotion Commission (NIPC). I am well aware that together with UNIDO stakeholder representatives, there are also around 80 private sector enterprises that have seized the opportunity to avail themselves of this important platform that UNIDO has created for them.

**Ladies and Gentlemen, Colleagues and Collaborators,**

As you are aware, UNIDO is a specialized agency of the UN that promotes industrial development for poverty reduction, inclusive globalization and environmental sustainability. As such, UNIDO assumes an important role for the successful implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals that form part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. UNIDO is steadfastly committed to advance SDG 9, which aims to “Build Resilient Infrastructure, Promote Inclusive and Sustainable Industrialization and Foster Innovation”.

Participation in international events such as Hannover Messe serves as an opportunity for the Organization to actively promote its work in the field of international trade, investment promotion and technology

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development. It also serves to provide concrete support to private sector development initiatives in Members States.

We are confident that your participation under the auspices of UNIDO at Hannover Messe 2018 will serve to further promote the ongoing work and programmes in your countries. Together with your collaboration as key stakeholders, UNIDO can continue to promote and accelerate inclusive and sustainable industrial development around the world.

I wish all of you good work and productive participation at Hannover Messe and thank you for your strong collaboration and trust in UNIDO.