



DAKAR, 15 November 2016 – The Fifth Forum on Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development, co-organized by the Government of Senegal and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), concluded today.

The two-day Forum focused on the Programme for Country Partnership (PCP) model developed by UNIDO and the possibility of replicating this model in the West Africa region. UNIDO's PCP model forms an important aspect of the Organization's work to carry out its inclusive and sustainable industrial development (ISID) mandate and, as such, is seen as a way to meet the challenges of African industrialization. In July, the UN General Assembly proclaimed the period 2016-2025 as the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa.

"Industry is a prime engine for accelerating growth and job creation, that is why it must reach all segments of society, not just the rich," said Mohammed Dionne, Prime Minister of Senegal, who chaired the Fifth ISID Forum.

The event brought together more than 400 participants including ministers in charge of industry from Côte d'Ivoire, the Gambia, Mali, Niger, and Senegal, as well as high-level government representatives from Cabo Verde, Mauritania, and Nigeria, and representatives of the Presidents of West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA) and Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). The national and international public and private sectors, as well as leading multilateral and bilateral development partners, were also represented.

In his closing speech, the UNIDO Director General, Li Yong, said that the discussions during the Forum had highlighted the results of UNIDO's PCPs in the two pilot countries in Africa, namely Ethiopia and Senegal. Li said, "The Forum has underscored the pertinence and benefits of the principle of inclusive and sustainable industrial development operationalized through PCPs, in particular for the West African region."

The UNIDO Director General continued, "I am very impressed by the active participation of more than 400 high-level participants, by the intensive exchanges through panel discussions, and by the business matchmaking events, as well as by the exhibition of industrial products. They all constitute sound proof of the strong commitment of the leading West African actors to the imperious necessity to boost the sustainable and inclusive development of the region."

At the closing of the Forum, participants issued a statement acknowledging the importance of regional integration to underpin Africa's industrialization; highlighting the significant benefits of the PCP approach; and voicing strong interest in having the PCP model disseminated among West African countries and in using the PCPs as the leading mechanism to underpin national industrial development strategies within the region.

During the event, participants visited the integrated industrial park in Diamniadio, south of Dakar, which is being established with the support of the PCP for Senegal, in order to see first-hand the important progress being made on the ground.



For more information on the event, please go to: <https://isid.unido.org/forum-5.html>

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For more information about the Forum, please contact:

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