During his recent mission, Director General LI Yong had a series of meetings with heads of state, prime ministers and other high-level officials. All counterparts noted as a very positive development the fact that inclusive and sustainable industrialization is now considered an integral part of the post-2015 development agenda, and assured the Director General of their readiness to support the work of UNIDO in general and the forthcoming ISID Forum in particular. See more details of the mission here: http://www.unido.org/directorgeneral.html

Revisiting the first ISID Forum: participants speak out

As preparations continue for the second ISID Forum, it is worth looking back at the first such event that was organized in June. It brought together over 300 participants, including ministers and government officials, representatives of UNIDO Member States and experts in the field. The advocacy and communications team interviewed participants at the first Forum for a wrap video. Let’s revisit what they had to say.

Todd Benjamin, former CNN journalist, Moderator

I think forums like this are very important because you get a cross section of ideas and one of the things UNIDO is trying to do is to get perspectives on different viewpoints. We heard a lot of different viewpoints, everyone from Justin Lin, the former chief economist of the World Bank, to government ministers and many others in terms of targeting certain sectors or industries.

Hadja Diallo, Minister of Industry, Guinea

I find it very riveting; all questions discussed here are very interesting to me as a minister of industry. On a country level, we have much to learn since we have a new government. We have objectives, which we want to achieve, and industry plays an important role in this context.

To view the video about the first ISID Forum, please go here: http://youtu.be/tOH53R6HPbQ
See also: http://www.unido.org/en/news-centre/events/isid-forum-1.html
Jorge Acaiturri, Under-secretary of Special Economic Development Zones, Ecuador

Through the national strategy to change the productive matrix, we are promoting an inclusive and sustainable industrial development based on a culture of knowledge, and transforming the productive matrix to move from an extractive model, based on the production of raw materials, to a democratic process, to an inclusive process.

Hamidou Tchiana, Minister of Mining and Industrial Development, Niger

If we want to create growth, if we want to develop our country, we must make sure that our industry is developed - developed not only to create growth but to also create jobs for the youth. This is where the great challenge lies, and that is why ISID is important, not only for industry in general, but especially for the African people.

Stephen Taylor, Moderator

If we really want to achieve inclusive and sustainable industrial development, we need multilateral agreements in place. We need partnerships between nations that share common objectives to make sure that knowledge and know-how is transferred from developed nations to developing nations, and that opportunities are shared between nations.

Xiaokai Schen, First Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, China

We are undergoing a new path of industrialization, emphasizing green development, the harmonization of information technology and industry. ISID is in line with our new path of industrialization. We give full support to UNIDO for ISID and we are ready, with the other Member States of UNIDO, to implement ISID, and push forward a suitable position in the post-2015 development agenda.

Sneak preview

The next issue of the newsletter will feature an update on preparations for the November Forum.

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The ISID Forum Newsletter

This newsletter – published regularly until the second ISID Forum – will provide details about the most salient aspects of the preparation for the event. Upcoming issues will also focus on pilot initiatives for implementing ISID country programmes, and feature updates on confirmed participants, and other relevant and practical information.

For more information on the second Forum, please visit www.unido.org