

Mr. Chairman,

It gives me great pleasure to address the distinguished delegates of the CSD-14. Allow me to join the rest of the countries to associate my delegation with the statement made by the Chair of the G77 and China.

We note that fostering trading opportunities, industrial development and investment will create new jobs and promote economic development. Progress has been made in many of our countries in the areas of rural development through the establishment of agro-processing and small scale enterprise development. Uganda is looking forward to establishing an export promotion mechanism and other investment schemes such as export processing zones, industrial parks and free ports.

A number of challenges hinder us from attaining meaningful industrial development. Notable of these are:

1. How to finance the developers and the technical expertise related to the development of the investment schemes. We highly desire investments in the banking sector that can finance the industrialists at affordable and realistic rates.
2. Limited research and development, innovation diversification and technology diffusion. This includes the use of ICT for the

betterment of our economies. This is a big challenge to the development and growth of the industrial Sector.

3. How to obtain technical assistance in cluster development initiatives and financial support so as to achieve the industrial development targets.

I believe that the way forward is for us to address the above challenges, promote global cooperation and partnerships and develop country specific technical assistance programs that will respond to the unique needs of our countries.

Mr. Chairman,

Provision of reliable energy and affordable energy services is crucial to the attainment of all the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). As the oil prices soar and climatic conditions negatively impact on hydropower resources. It is a challenge to all of us to ensure that viable energy solutions are put in place for the 2 billion people who do not have access to modern energy services.

The way forward therefore, is for us to cooperate and put in place mechanisms for renewable energy resources like solar PV, wind energy, geothermal energy and modern biomass, biogas which are more affordable and accessible.

Mr. Chairman

African countries are faced with the problem of poverty. Of course we have been making a lot of efforts in breaking our populations from this monster. To date we continue to be locked up in the poverty cycle. The situation is made worse by the fact that climate change has become a reality and is a serious risk to poverty reduction. We also note that while climate change is a global phenomenon, its adverse effects are more felt by the poor people in poor countries. Climate change reduces access to water, both for drinking and production; negatively affects agricultural production leading to poor health and food insecurity; and affects infrastructure development like roads and bridges. These factors make adaptation to adverse effects of climate change to be of highest priority in poor countries.

Mr. Chairman,

We know that communities where-ever they may be, have been adapting to climate change in many ways in the past. However, adaptation to adverse effects of climate change is not enough. The way forward is to mitigate on greenhouse gas emissions so that the cost of the future adaptation is reduced. Development and transfer of environmentally friendly and appropriate technologies can support a cleaner development path in the developing countries.

Mr. Chairman,

Let me conclude by talking about air pollution and atmosphere. I must say that many of our people have poor understanding of issues of air pollution/atmosphere and what impact this can have on the health of the population and the social-economic development of our countries. The way forward is for us to address this shortcoming and come up with programs that will be used to mitigate the hazards created by air pollution. The best option Ladies and Gentlemen, is to adopt regional approaches to the problem given that air pollution knows no borders.

I thank you for your kind attention.