



**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

STATEMENT

by H.E. Victor Moraru

Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Moldova

at the first regular session of the Executive Board of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS

- UNDP Segment -

Interactive Dialogue with the UNDP Administrator

(New York, 21 January 2019)

Mr. President,

At the outset, allow me to extend my warmest congratulations on your appointment and assure you as well as the members of the Bureau of full support and cooperation of my delegation.

Let me also thank the UNDP Administrator for his active engagement today with the Members of the Board and for his earnest efforts to reinvigorate our discussions and incentivize creative ideas about what Mr. Achim Steiner himself likes to call – the next generation of UNDP.

While it is not the first time that UNDP goes through large-scale reforms, the current processes that are set to transform the entire UN development system are indeed a good opportunity to remodel UNDP by making it a truly dynamic, innovative and effective agency that can make a difference for people and communities around the globe.

We applaud the fact that UNDP remains one of the most highly rated aid organizations in the world. The credit and trust that UNDP enjoys among the donor community and the recipient countries, within and outside the UN system, must be preserved and further strengthened.

We commend UNDP for its efforts to effectively implement the GA resolution 72/279 on the Repositioning of the UN Development System while, at the same time, recognizing the tremendous administrative changes and shift in human capacity required for such a systemic exercise.

The UNDP's *Global Service Level Agreement* which is a fee-for-services project to support UNDOCO functions without disrupting programmatic activities is, clearly, very important in this period of transition.

While the implementation of the reform progresses, we must keep focus on strategic priorities and deliverables.

The interactive briefing on poverty reduction this morning highlighted once again the critical role of UNDP in tackling this problem through its multidimensional perspective and capacity development as well as through UNDP's work on governance and crises prevention, which are essential for many developing countries and their commitment in the 2030 Agenda to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions.

It is a positive cumulative achievement of the global community that the global poverty rate is lower than ever in recorded history. However, according to the World Bank assessments, the decline in poverty rates has slowed which require more investments and interventions, especially in those settings in which poverty is persistent and concentrated.

Therefore, we welcome UNDP's strive to capitalize on its efficiency gains sought as a result of the reform process by strengthening further its programmatic activities and interventions on the ground.

As a programme country, we can observe, through the example of the country office in the Republic of Moldova, how UNDP is reinventing itself as an agency looking into the future, through efficiency, technology, innovation and grass-roots initiatives to bring progress and development to communities in need while promoting sustainable development in all its dimensions.

We welcome UNDP's intervention through mobilizing migrants support and contribution for local development in Moldova, therefore channeling their resources towards the improvement of local services and infrastructure. We encourage UNDP to continue and scale-up such initiatives nationwide.

Furthermore, the Moldovan Government supports UNDP's innovative solutions to promote renewable energy. In cooperation with the Capital City Hall last year, UNDP supported the installation of solar trees which can generate electricity from renewable sources.

Not only that these installations provide a glimpse into the future of renewable energy, they also educate the public about sustainability and the economic opportunities that come along with it.

There are good examples of partnering with the private sector in the Republic of Moldova such as the first marathon of electric plug-in and hybrid cars organized last year, again with the support of UNDP, promoting a cleaner and safer environment for all.

Mr. President,

We like to see UNDP at the forefront of progress – as a versatile agency that can prove that development can be brought and sustained when and where there is openness, commitment and accountability from the part of all participating actors – governments, international organizations and the private sector.

There are several other initiatives by UNDP in the Republic of Moldova in the field of governance and human rights which the Government supports as they are all indispensable for an integrated development vision of the country, including in line with the localized Sustainable Development Goals.

Last but not least, Mr. President, allow me to once again express our full support to UNDP both at the country level and in New York. I would finally use this opportunity to thank Ms. Dafina Gercheva, former UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Country Representative with whom we had an excellent cooperation throughout the last 4 years and who was the driving force behind several successful projects in the Republic of Moldova.

In the same line, we welcome the appointment of Ms. Dima Al-Khatib as the new UNDP Resident Representative, while extending her full cooperation in the fulfillment of her mission in our country.

I thank you, Mr. President.