GMIS Informative Session
at the 46th Session of the
UNIDO Industrial Development Board

Outcome Document

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This report was prepared by the UNIDO Department for Research and Policy Advice Division (EPR/PRS/RPA) and depicts the proceedings from the GMIS Informative Session of the 46th session of the UNIDO Industrial Development Board.

The organization of this joint event was a collaborative effort between UNIDO, the GMIS Organising Committee, the Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates to UNIDO, and the Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to UNIDO.

Acknowledgements

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GLOBAL MANUFACTURING AND INDUSTRIALISATION SUMMIT (GMIS)

A joint initiative by the United Arab Emirates and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), GMIS aims to harness the trajectory of the Fourth Industrial Revolution through multi-stakeholder dialogue and collaborations for sustainable development, fully aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals framework. The inaugural Summit, which took place in Abu Dhabi in March 2017, attracted over 3,000 participants. The next GMIS will be held in 2019 in Yekaterinburg, Russian Federation, under the theme of “nature-inspired technologies”. A series of GMIS Connect Roadshows, held in both developed and developing countries, has gathered local insights, experiences and knowledge that will inform the 2019 Summit.

MOHAMMED BIN RASHID (MBR) INITIATIVE FOR GLOBAL PROSPERITY

The MBR Initiative – a GMIS Initiative – seeks to harness the “maker community” for transformational change through advanced manufacturing technology. Innovative solutions for 4 challenges (zero hunger and rural transformation, sustainable cities; digital literacy and digital divide; sustainable energy) can be summed through the Global Maker Challenge, and the Global Prosperity Award, endowed with a prize of 1 million USD, will be awarded at GMIS 2019 to the winners.

UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (UNIDO)

UNIDO is the United Nations specialized agency mandated to promote Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development (ISID) and has 170 Member States (as of April 2019). For over 50 years, UNIDO has been working with governments, businesses and industrial associations, financial institutions and individual companies to address industrial development challenges in developing countries and economies in transition. UNIDO’s programmatic focus aims at creating shared prosperity, advancing economic competitiveness, safeguarding the environment and strengthening knowledge and institutions.
An Informative Session of the Global Manufacturing and Industrialisation Summit (GMIS) was held at the margins of the 46th session of UNIDO’s Industrial Development Board on 27 November 2018, co-organized by UNIDO, the GMIS Organising Committee and the Permanent Representation of the Russian Federation to UNIDO.

The session was moderated by Ms. SARAH KELLY, television news anchor and journalist, with the interactive segment of the Session being facilitated by Slido, an online application allowing instant interaction between participants and the discussion panel. Permanent Missions to UNIDO in Geneva were also able to take part in the session via live video link, while external audiences could also take part in the session by following an online livestream and posting their questions via Twitter.

The Informative Session had several objectives:

- To make Permanent Missions to UNIDO aware of GMIS, its aims and the upcoming events, especially the 2019 GMIS Summit (henceforth, the Summit), to take place in July in Yekaterinburg, Russian Federation;
- To provide Permanent Missions with information on how they can engage with GMIS;
- To discuss future possibilities with respect to increasing the impact of GMIS;
- To gain feedback from Permanent Missions as to their concerns regarding the Fourth Industrial Revolution and the opportunities associated with digitization of manufacturing;
- And to introduce the Russian Federation as the host of the 2019 Summit, gaining insight into their perspective on Fourth Industrial Revolution, and particularly “nature-inspired technologies”, which shall be the theme of GMIS 2019.
Key Messages

1 VISION AND LEADERSHIP
A clear vision and good leadership are necessary to ensure successful implementation of any project or strategy within the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

2 OPEN TO ALL
Participation in the GMIS initiative is open to all countries, whether it be through hosting a GMIS roadshow, through sending participants to the 2019 Summit, sponsoring a national exhibit at the Summit, etc. The Co-hosts are open to receiving expressions of interest concerning the possibilities of spreading the coverage of GMIS.

3 WIDESPREAD DISRUPTION
The implications of the Fourth Industrial Revolution will be far-reaching and no country or country grouping will be immune from the associated changes. A thorough analysis of existing institutions, regulatory regimes, policies and markets will be necessary in order for each country to assess their “fitness for purpose”.

4 SIMULTANEOUS REVOLUTIONS
For developing countries, it is expected that progress will not be uniform with respect to advanced manufacturing, and that Industry 1.0, 2.0, 3.0, etc. may co-exist in some countries and regions.

5 WOMEN AND THE FOURTH INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION
The potential gains of the Fourth Industrial Revolution will not be achieved without gaining the full participation of women. The realization of gender equality can add up to 28 trillion USD to the global economy according to some estimates, notwithstanding gains on social inclusion and bridging the digital divide. Progress in this area could also help the achievement of SDG 5 of the 2030 Agenda, “Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls”.

6 INNOVATION FOR DEVELOPMENT
The “maker” movement can be mobilized for proposing solutions to development challenges at country level, regionally and globally. The MBR Initiative for Global Prosperity seeks in 2019 to achieve this in respect of SDG 2 (“zero hunger”), SDG 3 (“quality education”), SDG 7 (“affordable and clean energy”) and SDG 11 (“sustainable cities”).

7 THOUGHT LEADERSHIP AND THE GLOBAL GOOD
GMIS aims to provide thought leadership and progress on “the global good” with respect to the Fourth Industrial Revolution. Knowledge products are central to this in terms of assisting UNIDO Member States in their strategy development. To this end, UNIDO’s Industrial Development Report 2020 will examine the implications of the Fourth Industrial Revolution for all countries.
Opening Addresses

**MR. HIROSHI KUNIYOSHI**  
Deputy to the Director General of UNIDO

Opening the session, the Deputy to the Director General of UNIDO, Mr. Hiroshi Kuniyoshi, observed that advanced manufacturing technologies are rapidly changing the industrial landscape worldwide, and that several countries had already elaborated their own national strategies seeking to capture the potential of the Fourth Industrial Revolution. He pointed to the need for global processes such as GMIS, taking into account the full spectrum of developmental challenges, capacities and opportunities with respect to the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

“In order to achieve the full potential of Fourth Industrial Revolution – economically, environmentally, and socially – we need a global perspective on the Fourth Industrial Revolution, fully aligned with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”.

“As we take this global approach, we need to ensure that we consider the challenges of Fourth Industrial Revolution, including digital inclusion and its impact on the future of work. In addition, the economic benefits of Fourth Industrial Revolution will be limited if we fail to safeguard the environment, or if many people are left behind,” he warned.

**H.E. MR. HAMAD AL KAABI**  
Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to UNIDO

The welcoming address was followed by some remarks from the Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to UNIDO, His Excellency Mr. Hamad Al Kaabi.

“As the UAE moves to the planning of the second edition of the Global Manufacturing and Industrialisation Summit, I am confident GMIS2019 will intensify the impact of innovation and Fourth Industrial Revolution technologies on the global manufacturing sector through the worldwide dissemination of knowledge, best practices, and standards.”
H.E. MR. MIKHAIL IVANOVICH ULYANOV

Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to UNIDO

His Excellency Mr. Mikhail Ivanovich Ulyanov, Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation, rounded off the opening remarks. He affirmed Russia’s longstanding and successful relationship with UNIDO, noting several technical assistance programmes in countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), Latin America and Africa.

“We see the global summit on manufacturing and industry in Yekaterinburg as an important discussion platform where we shall consider the whole picture of issues having to do with industry and manufacturing as well as the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in the Industry 4.0 era”.

“We do hope that the global summit in Yekaterinburg will jumpstart the spread of innovation and technology of the Fourth Industrial Revolution to serve inclusive and sustainable industrial development. I look forward to seeing you all there,” concluded His Excellency Ulyanov.
Following the presentation, the result of the initial Slido poll to delegates was announced:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Have you heard of GMIS before?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO, this is the first time</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YES, maybe once or twice</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YES, I am already very familiar with GMIS</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YES, I hosted a roadshow event in my country and/or attended GMIS2017</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“GMIS is a global platform, it is a multi-stakeholder platform. It brings the public sector, the private sector, civil society, academia, entrepreneurs, and private corporations together to map out the way forward for the future of manufacturing. It brings in thought leadership, but it also brings in partnerships”. Mr. Badr Al Olama, Head of the GMIS Organising Committee.

This was followed by a brief presentation on the GMIS initiative, provided by the Head of the GMIS Organising Committee, Mr. Badr Al Olama. He began by recalling the economic impact of manufacturing globally, with the sector accounting for approximately 500 million jobs, 17 per cent of global GDP and around 3-4 per cent of global exports.

Mr. Al Olama also informed delegates of the Mohammed bin Rashid (MBR) Initiative for Global Prosperity, which aims to harness the “maker” movement for transformational change to pressing global development issues. The Initiative has identified four challenges to this end: zero hunger and rural transformation, sustainable cities, sustainable energy, and digital literacy and the digital divide.

He thanked the Government of the Russian Federation for their support in hosting GMIS 2019, and also for championing the concept of “nature-inspired technologies” in the global conversation on the future pathway of Fourth Industrial Revolution.

“Our extremely privileged that President Putin has been kind enough to mention and invite the public audience at the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum and launched officially that Russia will host GMIS 2019”.

“It was extremely important to complement the inclusive and sustainable industrial development component with respect to focusing on sustainability as a means for manufacturing to prosper in the future, and hence being themed after nature-inspired technologies was an important transition for us and one where the Russian Federation has a lot to offer and contribute and share with the rest of the world,” added Mr. Al Olama.
Fireside Chat

The fireside chat included the Director of the Department of Policy Research and Statistics of UNIDO, Ms. Cecilia Ugaz Estrada; the Head of the GMIS Organising Committee, Mr. Badr Al Olama; and Ms. Veronika Peshkova, UNIDO Goodwill Ambassador and also President of the Women’s View Public Diplomacy Foundation.

Mr. Al Olama recalled that the GMIS idea had originally come about following conversations between UNIDO and the World Economic Forum, where it was agreed that manufacturing needed a “global platform that would be able to bring thought leadership and the dissemination of information... to address the opportunities and challenges of the Fourth Industrial Revolution”.

He added that there was complementarity between UNIDO’s mission of promoting inclusive and sustainable industrial development (ISID) and the UAE’s agenda to “promote global good”.

Ms. Ugaz Estrada underlined that an ambitious and universal development framework such as the Sustainable Development Goals could not be achieved by any single organization working in isolation, but would require strong partnerships with UN Member States and UN counterpart bodies, inter alia.

“So I think for [UNIDO] GMIS is really an instrument or tool that allows [us] to build increasing partnerships, both with our Member States, as in the cases of the UAE and Russian Federation, but also in enhancing partnerships within the UN system,” she stated.

“I would also really like to highlight the cooperation we have with the International Telecommunication Union. Also some of the representatives of the sister agencies that are also working now with the MBR Initiative...and it really helps us put our efforts together in order to bring all the knowledge that exists at the moment with respect to new technologies in the Fourth Industrial Revolution and [put it] at the disposal of our Member States”, underlined Ms. Ugaz Estrada.
Mr. Al Olama was then asked to describe how Member States could get involved with GMIS.

“I do believe that countries can get involved through either the roadshow or participate as a delegation or pavilion or even request to become a host country by reaching out to UNIDO or to our Permanent Mission Ambassador, His Excellency Hamad Al Kaabi”, he said.

Ms. Peshkova stated that GMIS had the full support of the Russian business community and the Ministry of Industry and Trade, and she further outlined her view of the potential of the event, saying:

“GMIS is a platform for effective dialogue between the public and private sector representatives. It is an opportunity to arrange good and effective cooperation in the field”, she claimed.

With that, Sarah Kelly returned to the various questions submitted by participants through Slido, firstly putting “what could be the greatest benefit of GMIS to my country?” and “Can I use GMIS as a platform to find partners?”

“Hosting or by being a part of GMIS is not only about thought-leadership, but it’s about being able to take that knowledge and pass it down to the different members of society, whether it has to do with developing policies which could encourage manufacturing ... specifically encouraging the private sector to consider a new resilient industry that would protect the local economy from whatever would happen outside”, said Mr. Al Olama. “Hence I do think...by being a roadshow destination or a host country, GMIS has a lot to offer”, he concluded.

Ms. Kelly then turned to the most popular question from delegates, namely what would be the greatest challenges for developing countries.
Ms. Ugaz Estrada announced that UNIDO is currently preparing its flagship Industrial Development Report 2020 based on the implications of Fourth Industrial Revolution for all countries. She noted labour market displacement arising from automation and disruption to global value chains as possible challenges, as well as reshoring of labour-intensive sectors.

She also observed the possibility of several stages of technological progress overlapping in developing countries, with spillover effects to the broader society.

"We are talking increasingly about life-learning policies, because we need to be aware that as our lifespan is also increasing, we are going to transform ourselves into... adapting different jobs because this is forcing us a little bit to do so. So I think it has a lot to do with the age of education, vocational training and everything that has to do with new capacities in the countries", said Ms. Ugaz Estrada.

Addressing the Russian perspective on these changes, Ms. Peshkova stated that Industry 4.0 is the “hot topic” for the Russian business community. She provided some pertinent statistics to this end, citing estimates that 47 per cent of jobs are likely to be automated or eliminated globally within the next dozen years, and also pinpointing some potential growth industries, such as the creative sector, which is projected to witness a 15 per cent increase per annum.

Regarding the venues for GMIS events, Mr. Al Olama responded the destination countries were chosen by the GMIS Organising Committee in consultation with UNIDO. Ms. Ugaz Estrada adding that hosting a GMIS event would be open to all UNIDO Member States. Ms. Peshkova said that women’s role in the global economy was growing, and that the achievement of full gender equality would have a potential economic effect of some 28 trillion USD.

She further remarked that approximately half of current jobs could be eliminated by automation in sectors such as administration, services, client relations, etc., many of which currently employ large numbers of women.
Fireside Chat (cont.)

The next issue for discussion was digital inclusion, and specifically how GMIS could address the digital divide. Ms. Ugaz Estrada emphasized policy in her response, adding that many of the potential inequality issues regarding Fourth Industrial Revolution were to do with the configuration of labour markets, and that the right policy framework is essential to meeting this challenge.

She also noted that the Fourth Industrial Revolution would transition the global economy to a more knowledge-intensive structure, necessitating new kinds of jobs and reform to existing educational systems. “There are some policies that are universal. Universal education, for instance, is something that is complementary [to] what is being driven by the whole 2030 Agenda, it's not one SDG as opposed to the other, all of them need to happen at the same time”, she advised. Mr. Al Olama added that he was not sure that the Fourth Industrial Revolution would result in deeper inequality, as, for instance, a 3D printer made no distinction between any user’s social facts or country of origin. He predicted that sectors such as encryption, cybersecurity, data analysis, data prediction, predictive maintenance etc. would create more jobs rather than ensuring merely job disruption.

The next question concerned whether LDCs could participate in GMIS. Ms. Ugaz Estrada acknowledged that this is possible, but applicants should then approach the GMIS co-hosts, in order to discuss the possibilities.

Moving to questions from the audience, Mr. Edouard Bizumuremyi, Commercial Attaché (Investment and promotion to the WTO, UNCTAD, ITC) of the Permanent Mission of Rwanda in Geneva, asked how long it took the UAE to put in place the strategy, skills and other “necessary ingredients” to succeed in establishing their manufacturing base.

Mr. Al Olama identified a clear vision and good leadership as the most important qualities in realizing a strategy for Fourth Industrial Revolution manufacturing. Ms. Peshkova supported his observations, noting that support from the national and regional levels of government in the Russian Federation had stimulated the creation of free economic zones, allowing greater uptake of new technologies and greater competitiveness in new export markets.

Responding to a question on the long-term vision for GMIS, Mr. Al Olama responded that it was important to ask what “success” would be measured by. Firstly, he said that “making manufacturing aspirational” is important. Secondly, he identified the establishment of cross-collaborative projects for the benefit of humanity as a further indicator of success. Finally, he cited the “global good agenda” as particularly important for the United Arab Emirates, comprising the likes of the MBR Initiative and a potential youth initiative as working towards this objective.
Interactive Segment with Slido

Participants of the session were asked to evaluate via Slido how informative or otherwise the session was for them, with a rating of zero stars representing “not at all informative”, while five stars denotes “highly informative”.

As the graphic above illustrates, 90 per cent of participants found the discussion either “informative” or “highly informative”.

How informative was the GMIS Session at IDB for you?

Score: 4.4  
Respondents: 22  
All: 3

Looking ahead, a number of GMIS Connect roadshows will take place in 2019, in both developing and high income countries, in order to gain the broadest possible spectrum of experiences, knowledge and inputs ahead of the second Summit event.

In terms of the specific issues raised during the Informative Session, it may be useful to read the UNIDO Industrial Development Report (IDR) 2020, which will be released in late 2019. This edition of the IDR will focus on the potential opportunities and challenges of the Fourth Industrial Revolution for all countries.