

**Statement by Armenia
at the 16th session of UNCTAD Investment, Enterprise and
Development Commission**

Thank you, Chair,

We would like to start by congratulating you and other members of the Bureau upon your election.

We also would like to thank UNCTAD Secretariat for preparing the World Investment Report 2026, which reflected the shifting trends of global investment in the period of profound turbulence in the world.

We also appreciate the update on the World Investment Forum to be held in Doha, Qatar, on 25-27 October.

Chair,

This session of the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission is convened at a time when geopolitical and geoeconomic confrontations resulted in supply chain disruptions and reshoring. At the same time, the growth of the digital economy, AI and advanced technologies, as well as knowledge-based services, is leading to a major global shift in composition of investment, while creating new opportunities.

According to the World Investment Report a 6 per cent rise in global foreign direct investment in 2025 has been recorded. However, the FDI flows to structurally weak and vulnerable economies, such as landlocked developing countries, continued to be limited, volatile and highly concentrated, and at levels that are far below their development needs. As a landlocked developing country, Armenia is concerned with this trend.

UNCTAD with its renewed mandate is uniquely positioned to support States in addressing the challenges they face on their development path, through such a tool as Investment Policy Reviews, but also through targeted technical cooperation and capacity building. At the same time, the enabling domestic investment environment, enhanced transparency, good governance and effective policy execution is equally crucial for attracting quality investment.

Chair,

Durable economic growth is best supported through an enabling business environment, democratic institutions, rules-based economic governance and mutually beneficial partnerships between governments and the private sector. This understanding is at the heart of the Doctrine for economic and institutional transformation of Armenia, adopted by the Government in January this year.

This overarching development framework sets out a new paradigm for Armenia's economy, where trade, investment, entrepreneurship and innovation serve as key drivers of long-term economic growth, resilience and prosperity.

National Investment Promotion Agency, Enterprise Armenia, which was established in 2019, acts as a single window and key partner for investors in the country responsible for attracting and facilitating FDI inflows, supporting foreign and local investors throughout the investment lifecycle, bridging investors and public sector, and providing aftercare services.

While we continue to maintain a liberal investment regime characterized by national treatment for foreign investors, Armenia strengthened the investment framework, expanded targeted support mechanisms in areas such as high technology, research and development, workforce development, and agriculture, and developed a more dynamic high-tech ecosystem to improve country's competitiveness and attractiveness as a

destination for technology-intensive, export-oriented and regional investment projects.

Armenia's connectivity agenda, particularly regional connectivity initiatives, including TRIPP, the Crossroads of Peace initiative, the North-South Transport Corridor and the planned Gyumri Dry Port, have the potential to transform Armenia into an important regional transit and logistics hub.

The incoming Armenian Presidency of the COP17 of the Biodiversity Convention has presented a flagship initiative “Yerevan Call on positive incentives towards biodiversity”, which is aimed at scaling up positive incentives that redirect public and private financial flows towards nature restoration and conservation, thus accelerating the implementation of Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, notably its Target 18.

In conclusion, allow me to reiterate that Armenia will further implement measures aimed at advancing market-oriented reforms for improving the investment climate, promoting innovation, strengthening economic institutions and deepening cooperation with international partners. We stand ready to work closely with the UNCTAD, the private sector and all interested partners to advance an inclusive, and forward-looking economic agenda based on trade, investment, connectivity and shared prosperity.

Thank you, Chair.