

**UNCTAD World Investment Forum 2018**  
**Ambassadors Roundtable on Investing in the SDGs**

**Statement of H.E. Mr. Yury Ambrazevich,**  
**Permanent Representative of the Republic of Belarus to the United Nations**  
**Office and other international organizations in Geneva**

Geneva, 26 October 2018, Room XX

Thank you Madame Co-Chair,  
Mr. Secretary-General,  
Excellences,

I would like to note that during last years and even decades there were lots of discussions about the ways how to make the UNCTAD activities more relevant to the interests of all groups from its Membership. There were lots of talks as well at all UN stages on how to include SDGs into activities of private business, or rather how to involve business community into the fulfilment of SDGs, how to shape this public-private partnership for SDGs.

In this light the World Investment Forum represents a unique platform where goals and interests of advanced countries, middle-income countries and developing countries coincide, and where the idea of this partnership between public and private sectors could be turned into reality. Indeed, this is the place where we can easily reach out private companies, private sector as full-fledged members of a meeting. It creates important value added to our gathering.

So, we have to develop this common interest in order to create genuine synergy to build a solid bridge between investments and SDGs, between state actors and private initiatives. This is why Belarus supports that a Group of Friends for investments in SDGs could be created in Geneva involving, first of all, Permanent representatives as well as representatives of transnational companies and international organizations.

We think that UNCTAD is a perfect entity to help us to formalize this idea. We urge UNCTAD Secretariat to take this idea onboard and to come up with the precise proposals.

As for us we think that we could start with sectorial initiatives, sectorial roundtables where your political weight, dear Mr. Secretary General, could bring the major relevant international companies, banks and other actors for

sustainable financing. It will for sure contribute to greater mutual understanding between public and private actors on SDGs and on investment in SDGs.

Belarus is ready to work together with the Secretariat and all other interested Members to make this idea bright, vivid and meaningful.

Thank you.