

**UNOPS Segment of 2020 Annual Session of the UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS
Executive Board**

INDIA STATEMENT

**by
Mr. A. Amarnath
Counsellor**

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Thank you Mr. President.

Let me begin by thanking UNOPS Executive Director Ms. Crete Faremo for presenting a comprehensive annual report on its work during 2019. I congratulate her and the entire UNOPS team for yet another year of strong performance and their contribution to improve the lives of people across the world.

The expertise and excellence of UNOPS are helping member states to advance the 2030 Agenda and support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. We welcome the significant progress achieved by UNOPS under the S3I initiative, including the establishment of the S3I Office, which is another testament to UNOPS commitment to SDGs. I am happy to note that one of the key housing projects under this initiative is being undertaken in Goa, India by UNOPS through public-private partnerships.

UNOPS is also an important partner for India in implementing projects funded by the India-UN Development Partnership Fund for promoting South-South Cooperation. Under this fund, many Southern-owned and led, demand-driven, and transformational sustainable development projects are being executed by UNOPS with India's funding across the developing world. India values this partnership with UNOPS.

Mr. President,

We appreciate the work of UNOPS during the current COVID crisis in procuring and delivering PPEs, critical laboratory and medical equipment to meet the urgent needs of developing countries. There are predictions that the current crisis would result in the worst recession faced by the world since the Great Depression. As the world is seized with addressing the pandemic's negative impact, it is expected that countries will reset their priorities and reallocate resources from infrastructure sector, which is a critical area of operation of UNOPS. Hence, it is important for UNOPS to maintain robust risk management and manage its resources efficiently.

In this context, I would request Executive Director to brief us on specific plans of UNOPS in the coming years to tide over a potential crisis.

Thank you Mr. President.
