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PRESS RELEASE

GOB Participates in UNIDO Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean

Belmopan, July 24, 2026.

The Government of Belize, through the Ministry of Investment, was invited by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the Government of Uruguay to participate in the UNIDO Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean in Montevideo, Uruguay, from July 15 to 16, 2026. The event brought together government leaders, development partners, private sector representatives, and international organizations from across Latin America and the Caribbean to strengthen regional cooperation, share best practices, and advance sustainable industrial development.

The two-day conference provided a high-level platform to advance industrial policies that promote economic resilience, competitiveness, and inclusive growth, while accelerating green and digital transitions across the region.

Belize's representation highlighted the work being done in the country to develop a national Industrial Strategy with Green and Blue Industrial Policies funded by UNIDO and the Government of Japan. This includes the ongoing diagnostic in Belize to prioritize economic activities in the agro-processing and manufacturing sectors that have been identified as having potential for growth.

Meetings were held with the UNIDO AIM Global Alliance to discuss how Belize could access AI training or applications for MSMEs in various industrial sectors. Belize was also introduced to representatives from the

UNIDO SIDS Hub at the Barbados office, which is pioneering an initiative aimed at enhancing UNIDO's work in Small Island Developing States (SIDS). Belize was invited to further discussions with the SIDS Hub to determine how it can access technical assistance for economic diversification and promote investment, particularly in the blue economy, digital, and green solutions, and leapfrog to innovative technologies.

The Ministry of Investment was represented by Lincoln Blake, Director of the Investment Policy and Compliance Unit.

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