



**INTERVENTION**

**BY**

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**PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE  
OF  
THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**44<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD OF UNIDO**

**AGENDA ITEM 3:**

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL 2015**

**22 – 24 November 2016**

**Vienna**

**Check against delivery**

**STATEMENT OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN DELEGATION: 44<sup>th</sup> SESSION IDB  
(22 – 24 November 2016)**

**AGENDA ITEM 3: Annual Report of the Director-General 2015**

**Mr President,**

Let me join other delegations in congratulating you and other members of the Bureau for your election and the excellent manner in which you are conducting these deliberations. South Africa associates itself with the statements delivered on behalf of the Africa Group and the G77 and China respectively.

South Africa welcomes the Director General's annual Report on UNIDO's activities for the year 2015, and further commends the organisation for the sterling work delivered amidst difficult global economic conditions and the organisation's diminishing financial resources.

South Africa reiterates its commitment towards achieving inclusive and sustainable industrial development, and hereby reaffirms the critical role and unique mandate of UNIDO.

South Africa supports UNIDO's Programme for Country Partnerships (PCPs) which is greatly contributing towards the enhancement of economies of the Least Developed Countries, the majority of which are in the African continent.

**Mr President,**

In execution its mandate emanating from the 2013 Lima Declaration, UNIDO succeeded in the promotion of universal responsible industrialisation and enhanced the profile of the ISID. UNIDO innovatively instituted the Programme for Country Partnerships which are currently under implementation and continuously reviews its organisational efficiency.

As evident from the long history of collaboration, UNIDO and the European Union have signed an Agreement to support the South African Government in addressing climate change;

Furthermore, UNIDO supported the implementation of the bilateral project in the area of Pharmaceuticals between South Africa and Italy on the national programme of global response to HIV and AIDS, thus extending it four times before its scheduled completion in mid-2016;

**Mr President,**

UNIDO in coordination with Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO), is currently piloting training projects in South Africa to design and test industry-relevant packages. This project is funded by the Government of Finland. The goal of this project is to improve regional collaboration on forestry and wood industry education and training in the SADC region with a view to create green employment and sustainable forest management and utilization.

The South African Government is grateful to UNIDO for its assistance in introducing energy-efficient, low-carbon transport electric vehicles and non-motorized transport as part of its green transport and green cities initiatives.

The above project complements the October 2015 Side Event co-organised by UNIDO on biogas applications in South Africa during the South Africa International Renewable Energy Conference held in Cape Town.

**Mr President,**

It is important to note that both the 7<sup>th</sup> Summit of BRICS in Russia and the 8<sup>th</sup> Summit in India reaffirmed the unique mandate of UNIDO in championing ISID. Paragraph 47 of the Goa Declaration adopted at the 8<sup>th</sup> Summit of the BRICS notes the progress achieved so far in the establishment of the UNIDO-BRICS Technology Platform.

It is also worth mentioning that in geographical terms, Africa remains the main beneficiary of voluntary contributions, through technical cooperation projects in 2015, totalling \$66.9 million. Furthermore, the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development has increased the demand for UNIDO services globally. This then calls upon UNIDO stakeholders to strengthen their support for the implementation of future activities.

**I thank you**