



**INTERVENTION**

**BY**

**AMBASSADOR TJ SEOKOLO**

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

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

**AGENDA ITEM 5:**

**UNIDO AND THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT,  
INCLUDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LIMA DECLARATION**

**23 November 2016**

**Vienna**

**Check against delivery**

**Madame President,**

South Africa congratulates UNIDO for organizing this important celebration to mark this historic milestone. For us in Africa, this celebration is very important because since its inception in 1966, UNIDO has played a tremendous role in supporting Africa's industrial development, especially during the Post-Independence era.

As we celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of UNIDO, we are reminded that of the declaration of the First Industrial Development Decade for Africa from 1980 to 1989 and the establishment of the Special Resource for Africa which was a recognition that without the means of implementation, particularly the mobilization of financial resources, the ideal of industrial development in Africa will not be achieved. We are particularly grateful that this year again, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa for the period 2016-2025.

**Madame President,**

As will be recalled, the adoption of the Lima Declaration in 2013 gave UNIDO a renewed impetus in spearheading Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development globally. In line with its new mandate, three key objectives were identified as outlined below:

At the **Strategic level**, UNIDO has resumed the role of promoting universal understanding to enhance and profile ISIS, as a driver for economic growth and sustainable development worldwide. **Operationally**, UNIDO continues to lead new and innovative partnerships-based modalities particularly with the introduction of the Programme for Country Partnership (PCP) in 2014 covering Ethiopia and Senegal. The recent inclusion of Peru in 2015 is testament to the positive reception of the programme across regions and there is a growing demand for the inclusion of other countries. In this regard, my delegation welcomes the hosting of the ISID Fora by UNIDO which continues to enhance its visibility and relevance as a catalyst for sustainable development and poverty eradication, particularly in Africa.

Lastly, UNIDO is tasked with reviewing and revising its organizational structure and management processes to improve its efficiency as part of its managerial responsibility.

**Madame President,**

The adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular SDG 9 on "building resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation" fully compliments the Lima Declaration and the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa. As alluded to by the Director-General Li Yong in his statement delivered in New York in September 2016, the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa will place the African continent irrevocably on the path towards inclusive and sustainable industrial development.

It is our firm belief that the full implementation of SGD 9 shall play a meaningful role in transforming agrarian and resource-based economy into higher productive

agricultural and sophisticated industries, thus creating more quality jobs and better the standard of living f the people. It should be recalled that less carbon-intensive industrialization preserves the environment by reducing the consumption on non-renewable resources while also stimulating innovation as well as diversification, in furtherance of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

**Madame President,**

One of the major obstacles to ensuring the practical implementation of ISID is the lack of adequate financial resources. It is for this reason that South Africa welcomes the Addis Ababa Action Plan adopted by the Third Conference on Financing for Development in July 2015, as the Global Framework for financing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Equally, my delegation further commends the adoption of the Action Plan for the Accelerated Industrial Development of Africa (AIDA) by the African Union Commission in collaboration with UNIDO to increase Africa's competitiveness through mobilization of financial and non-financial resources.

**Madame President,**

The Agenda 2063 of the African Union entitled "The African we Want" requires of us to prioritize industrialization to optimize the use of Africa's resources to the benefit of the continent. We are convinced more than ever before that UNIDO is strategically placed to facilitate the attainment of this vision. We are also aware that without adequate financial resources, in particular public-private partnership and donor funding, this vision will not materialize.

In conclusion Madame President, South Africa calls upon UNIDO, development partners and all relevant stakeholders to forge genuine partnerships to achieve the goals set-out in the Lima Declaration as encapsulated in Goal 9 of the SGDs.

**I thank you**