



**STATEMENT DELIVERED
BY
THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

AT THE 49th SESSION OF THE UNIDO INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD

AGENDA ITEM 18: CONGRATULATORY STATEMENT

12 JULY 2021

Vienna

Madam President,

South Africa would like to congratulate Dr Gerd Muller on his successful election as the new Director General of UNIDO.

Dr Muller carried out an impressive campaign which promised to place and inclusive and sustainable industrialisation at the forefront of the post-pandemic recovery efforts. He highlighted the importance of focusing efforts on Africa, which has been hard hit by the pandemic.

We trust that Africa continues to occupy an important place under his leadership, and we would like to assure him of our support.

We would also like to commend Dr Oqubay and Dr Sarmiento for leading very professional, inspiring and inclusive campaigns.