

SOUTH AFRICA

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**STATEMENT
BY**

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PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF
SOUTH AFRICA**

**UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

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Item 3: Annual Report 2012

Mr President,

1. My delegation would like to take note of document IDB.41/2, the annual report of the Director-General for 2012 pertaining to the activities of the Organisation and is encouraged by the increase and quality of the projects being undertaken by the Organisation, as reflected in the report.
2. We do however believe that a more balanced approach to all the thematic areas should be applied, which means an increased emphasis in the sectors of agro-industry, cooperation in the pharmaceutical industries in accordance with the decision by the AU Conference of Ministers of Health in 2012, to operationalize the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Plan for Africa, SME cluster development, trade and capacity development as well as targeted and focused policy advice aligned with national priorities of the countries seeking technical cooperation assistance from the Organisation.
3. The transfer of skills through South-South cooperation should be encouraged to strengthen the local production capacity of developing countries and UNIDO should play a more central role in the facilitation of this cooperation.
4. Whilst UNIDO finds itself at a unique crossroad where the development agenda is changing and the international community is starting to focus on the post-2015 SDG goals, it is the opportune time to re-define and shape the Organisation's niche as the driver for sustainable industrial development which many of our countries need to enable economic growth and structural transformation. UNIDO should not be left out of the post-2015 development goals.
5. My delegation believes that UNIDO has been a successful partner in implementing Technical Cooperation projects in developing countries but more work needs to be done on the scaling up of interventions for

greater impact in our countries. UNIDO's relevance will stop being questioned when the impact, scale and visibility of the projects are addressed. My delegation believes, in the words of an old African stalwart, Kwame Nkrumah, "that the forces that unite us are intrinsic and greater than the superimposed influences that keep us apart". As a collective Membership of this Organisation we should re-double our efforts to make UNIDO the global flagship for sustainable industrial development.

6. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the co-chairs of the Informal Working Group on behalf of my delegation, Ambassador Ana Teresa Dengo, Permanent Representative of Costa Rica and Mr Alberto Groff of the Permanent Mission of Switzerland for their dedicated work over the last year and a half, and the able manner in which they steered the deliberations and the strategic guidance document which emanated as a result of their hard work.
7. My delegation would also like to use this opportunity to thank the Director-General and the Secretariat for the swift manner in which they dealt with adjusting the 2014-2015 Programme and Budgets proposal, upon the announcement of France to withdraw from the Organisation, ensuring a minimal impact on the programme activities of the Organisation, thereby making it possible for the budget proposal to have been adopted during the 29th Programme and Budget Committee.
8. In conclusion Mr President, we look forward to the General Conference that will be held in Lima, Peru in December 2013, and assure the Government of Peru and UNIDO of our full support during the following months as we embark on the negotiation process of the "Lima Declaration" and Plan of Action to be adopted at the General Conference.
9. With these remarks, we wish you fruitful deliberations and a successful session of the IDB.

I thank you.