



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

AT THE 48th SESSION OF THE UNIDO INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD

23-25 NOVEMBER 2020

**Vienna
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Agenda Item 8: UNIDO and the UN development system reform

Mr President,

South Africa is supportive of the reform of the UN Development System in so far as the reform is aimed at or is supposed to strengthen the UN Development System.

The United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF), formerly known as the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), is supposed to capture the country's needs and tailor the UN Development System's response and presence on the ground. It is in this connection that the Framework has to be a joint product of the UN and the national government, so that it reflects national development priorities. We are, in this regard, in the final stages of concluding our working together with the UN agencies in South Africa.

It has always been important for us that strengthening the UN Development System should firstly involve or result in UN agencies that fulfil the mandates they are supposed to in our countries. Secondly, strengthening the UN Development System would entail not diverting funds away from development needs that are supposed to be addressed both within the broader UN Development System and within developing countries. It is with this in mind, therefore, that we continue to call upon our development partners to meet their obligations and to also support developing countries towards meeting their development needs.

Mr President,

There is UNIDO representation in South Africa. In this connection, we will endeavour to work towards a UNIDO that is fulfilling its mandate not only within South Africa, but also within the Southern African region. Secondly, South Africa will support the working relationship between the UN Resident Coordinator in South Africa and UNIDO towards ensuring a realisation of the country and the region's industrialisation goals.

South Africa would like to thank UNIDO for the opportunity today. We would like to table our continued commitment to developing our country and supporting the pathway of sustainable and equitable development of our planet.