

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

**Trade and Development Board  
Sixty-first session**

**Geneva, 15–26 September 2014**

**Item 9: Investment for development: Investing in  
the sustainable development goals**

**Speaker: South Africa**

**Wednesday, 17 September 2014**

*Not checked against delivery \**

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**UNCTAD 61<sup>st</sup> SESSION OF THE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD (TDB)**  
**SOUTH AFRICAN STATEMENT ON AGENDA ITEM 9: INVESTING IN SDGS**  
**17 SEPTEMBER 2014**

South Africa associates itself with statements made by Chad on behalf of the G77 and China, and Tanzania, on behalf of the Africa Group.

My delegation expresses its appreciation for the analysis provided by the distinguished panellists on this important matter. We have also read, with interest, the 2014 World Investment Report, titled “Investing in SDGs: An Action Plan”. South Africa welcomes the focus of the Report in demonstrating the significant potential of international investment, along with other financial resources, to contribute to the achievement of the goals that Member States will reach agreement on in the context of the forthcoming inter-governmental negotiations on the post-2015 development agenda, which will be based, mainly on the Report of the Open Working Group on SDGs.

Given the critical importance of the Means of Implementation for the effective implementation of the post-2015 development agenda, we welcome the initiative and contribution made by UNCTAD in the form of the proposed global action plan with a range of policy options for mobilising the private sector to contribute meaningfully in promoting and investing in sustainable development. We concur with the emphasis which the Report places on the need for policy coherence in promoting the private sector’s potential

contribution in this regard, complementing the contribution of the public sector, where appropriate. We would appreciate UNCTAD's technical assistance in designing policies and strategies to navigate the risks associated with private sector participation that were highlighted by the panellists.

With regard to Official Development Assistance, we wish to underscore that the quality of aid is just as important as its quantity, if we are to achieve the kind of sustainable development we want. South-South cooperation is also important to supplement rather than replace traditional ODA.

Given the status of the Report as a "living document", South Africa looks forward to the stakeholder engagement process through the envisaged interactive, open dialogue and exchange of views, suggestions and experience to further strengthen the work in this area. We also look forward to elaborating on this matter during the forthcoming World Investment Forum.

I thank you.