

**SPEAKING NOTES: JOINT UNCTAD-ISO TRAINING WORKSHOP ON NATIONAL QUALITY
INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE ANGOLAN AGRIFOOD SECTOR**

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Ladies and gentlemen, good morning

It is my pleasure to join you for the opening of this training workshop. Thank you to the Angolan authorities and UNCTAD for organizing this workshop and for your participation.

A well-functioning quality infrastructure is essential for competitiveness, access to new markets, environmental protection, as well as the health and safety of society. It is not only important for economic growth but also essential in creating a safer and cleaner world. Quality Infrastructure is a system of the policies, laws and institutions needed to support and enhance the quality, safety and environmental soundness of goods, services and processes. It is required for the effective operation of domestic markets, and its international recognition is important to establish international credibility. One of key elements of quality infrastructure is standardization, together with metrology, accreditation and conformity assessment.

A well-functioning quality infrastructure contributes is also connected to cross-cutting issues that are included in the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals for 2030. ISO is committed to the SDGs and believe that standards are solutions to sustainable development. This is captured in ISO's vision 2030 of making lives easier, safer and better.

I want to thank UNCTAD and Johanna in particular for our partnership and my colleague Rashida for her hard work to prepare for this workshop. Let me conclude by wishing you fruitful discussions. I hope that you will be able to develop a roadmap for quality infrastructure for the Angolan agrifood sector.

Thank you.