

## Media Advisory

### South African International Relations Minister to deliver a lecture in Addis Ababa in celebration of Unisa's 150th Anniversary

Approved for Public Release

Date: Friday, 28 July 2023

The South African Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, the Honourable **Dr Naledi Pandor**, will deliver a lecture in celebration of the 150th anniversary of the University of South Africa (Unisa) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on Monday, 31 July 2023.

Also delivering speeches on the occasion of the lecture will be the Principal and Vice Chancellor of Unisa, **Professor Puleng LenkaBula**, and the Ethiopian Minister of Education, **Dr Bernahu Nega**.

The lecture, to be premised on the topic: ***Science Diplomacy (and Innovation) in the Reclaiming of Africa's Intellectual Futures into the next 150 Years***, is organised jointly by Unisa and the South African Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO), through the Embassy of the Republic of South Africa in Ethiopia. It will underscore Unisa's commitment to the renaissance of the continent and its pride as an African university and will, among others, seek to advance the following goals:

- support the objectives of the African Union's (AU) Education, Science, Technology and Innovation department, which coordinates the AU programmes on human resources development, education, science and technology and promote the youth development agenda
- encourage scholarship and thought leadership on the impact of shifting global geopolitics on the African continent and how to reposition the continent for the future
- support the catalytic niche areas of Unisa, championed by the Principal and Vice Chancellor, with the aim of activating and enhancing the academic agenda
- promote Unisa as a thought leader on continental issues, including innovation in the higher education sector, the changing global geopolitics and benefits of eLearning modalities to meet the knowledge production needs of the continent
- promote intra-Africa knowledge production and knowledge-sharing
- promote science diplomacy.

Unisa's vision demonstrates its pride in its African roots and identity as it responds to Africa's needs and aspirations nationally, on the continent and on the global scene. This is the milieu that holds the anchor, ethos and vision of the Unisa-Ethiopia Regional Learning Centre, which was inaugurated in January 2007 as a practical manifestation of Unisa's vision outside the borders of the Republic of South Africa.



Hinged on the South-South paradigm of operation between South Africa and Ethiopia, Unisa began operating in Ethiopia with the sole mandate to assist the Ethiopian Government in human capital development in the sphere of education.

The media is invited to attend the lecture. The details are as follows:

**Date:** Monday, 31 July 2023

**Time:** 17:00

**Venue:** Ethiopia Regional Centre – Skylight Hotel  
or virtually on the following link:

**–Ends–**

For enquiries and an interview request, please contact Senior Media Officers: Media Relations Tommy Huma on 072 218 6197 / 012 429 3981/ [humatm@unisa.ac.za](mailto:humatm@unisa.ac.za) OR Edgar Rathelele on 063 731 5456 / 012 429 6712/ [ratheme@unisa.ac.za](mailto:ratheme@unisa.ac.za)

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