

For Immediate Release

19 January 2021

**Minister Pandor to deliver the opening address for AUDA NEPAD 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa**

The Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Dr Naledi Pandor will, this afternoon, Tuesday, 19 January 2021 at 14h00, virtually deliver the opening address of the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA) Week.

The PIDA Week is held annually in different African Union (AU) Member States to assess and accelerate the implementation of the infrastructure programmes.

Due to the Covid 19 pandemic, this year's is held virtually.

The Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA) is the African Union's (AU) strategic framework for regional and continental infrastructure development, guiding the continental infrastructure development agenda, policies, and investment priorities.

It provides a framework for engagement with Africa's development partners on the provision of regional and continental infrastructure, and facilitates the physical, economic and social integration of the continent in support of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

PIDA brings together continental infrastructure initiatives and regional master plans into one coherent infrastructure investment programme with an implementation strategy and portfolio of projects for prioritised implementation, the PIDA Priority Action Plan (PIDA-PAP). PIDA-PAP covers the four key infrastructure sectors of transport, energy, ICT and transboundary water resources, and the first phase comprises more than 400 projects in 51 cross-border programmes for implementation until the end of 2020.

The programme can be viewed on Zoom, using the link; <https://zoom.us/j/92377674630?pwd=ZURiL0c4WVpHTGVnZm1SeflWdVRtdz09>.

The opening programme.

19<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 14:00 – 15:00 (GMT+2) - PLENARY SESSION

6<sup>th</sup> PIDA Week Opening (incl. presentation of 2020 PIDA Progress Report)

Organizer: AUDA-NEPAD

Moderator: Ms Iman Rappetti, Award-Winning Broadcaster & Author

Opening Ceremony

- African Union Anthem
- Welcoming Remarks: Mr Kgabo Mahoi, Director-General, Department of International Relations and Cooperation, South Africa
- Remarks by H.E. Dr Ibrahim Assane Mayaki, Chief Executive Officer of African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD)
- Remarks by H.E. Dr Amani Abou-Zeid, Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy of the African Union Commission (AUC)

- Opening Remarks by H.E. Dr. Naledi Pandor, Minister for International Relations and Cooperation, South Africa

Presentation of PIDA Progress Report by Mr. Amine Idriss Adoum, Director, Programme Delivery and Coordination, AUDA-NEPAD

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