

MEDIA STATEMENT

Unisa VC joins the conversation at Africa's premier trade event

Approved for public release

Date: 18 November 2021

The University of South Africa (Unisa) delegation led by Professor Puleng LenkaBula, the institution's Principal and Vice-Chancellor (VC), attended and participated in the [Intra-African Trade Fair \(IATF\) 2021](#) in Durban yesterday. Unisa is one of only two universities invited to participate, and the only South African university afforded this honour.

The organisers (the African Union Commission, AeTrade Group and Afreximbank) expected 10 000 visitors from more than 55 countries to attend the event, which is billed as *the* key event boosting trade in Africa. Projections indicate that the fair will generate a staggering \$40 billion in trade and investment deals.

One of the most sought-after slots on the programme is a series of 'Meet the leader' sessions. Each session took the form of an intimate conversation between heads of state, thought leaders, business pioneers and other eminent personalities with youth-start-ups attending the fair. Unisa's VC is participated in such a session on Wednesday, 17 November. Professor Iqbal Jhazbhay, acting Director of Projects in the VC's Office was one of the speakers at the event

Unisa supports the mission of IATF as trade remains a key driver of socio-economic well-being for Africans across the continent. As a university that has a footprint across the continent, Unisa is invested in conversations that center the continent.

Ends/

ISSUED BY UNISA MEDIA AFFAIRS

For enquiries, please contact Senior Media Officers Tommy Huma on 072 218 6197 / 012 429 3981 / humatm@unisa.ac.za OR Edgar Rathelele on 063 731 5456 / 012 429 3981 / ratheme@unisa.ac.za

