



CLOSING REMARKS

BY

MINISTER OF STATE FOR PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS

MATEBELELAND NORTH PROVINCE

HON RICHARD MOYO

CLOSING REMARKS BY MINISTER OF STATE FOR PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS FOR MATEBELELAND NORTH PROVINCE: HON R. MOYO

Dr Ibrahim Assane Mayaki, Chief Executive Officer of NEPAD;

Mr Cheikh Bedda, Director, Infrastructure and Energy, African Union Commission;

Mr Souare Mamady, Manager, Regional Integration, African Development Bank;

Dr Inge Baumgarten, Director, Regional Integration, African Union Commission, GIZ Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am aware that I am supposed to provide closing remarks—but I must admit, the insightful and vibrant discussion here for the past 3 days are quite a tough act to follow.

I would like to thank the Honourable Minister of Transport and Infrastructural Development, Arch J. B. Matiza for managing to leave his busy schedule to officiate at this year's PIDA week Official Opening Ceremony, which took place at this venue on the 26th of November, 2018. He unfortunately had to return to Harare soon after to attend to other urgent state business back in Harare. I would also like to thank our esteemed dignitaries, panellists and moderators for having advanced our thinking on how we can find new ways to fund the provision of infrastructure in Africa. The contribution of Member States and key institutions is unique, because greater disclosure and better understanding of risks and opportunities, as well the prudential response to

them, are indeed key elements to providing the right infrastructure mix. Key to this was the need for Member States to reflect on achievements to date and focus on specific direction that would enable project preparation and implementation, support resource mobilisation, increase confidence for the participation of the private sector in infrastructure development and encourage Member States to align national projects and deliverables to the PIDA programme.

Esteemed Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

As Zimbabwe, we recognize the adverse impact of limited infrastructure; that is why we support the PIDA initiatives for a collective approach to achieve the "*Africa We Want*". I am delighted to note the progress to date since the inception of PIDA in 2012. I am reliably informed that of the projects that have been showcased at the PIDA Week 2018, significant progress has been made with implementation. It is my hope therefore, that we shall remain focused on developing our economies through the provision of quality sustainable and smart infrastructure projects.

The discussions here have been vibrant and fruitful, however some of the discussions and sessions had limited time; for instance the breakfast meeting held on 26 November which became quite exciting and alive. With all this energy, I urge all Member States, partners and institutions alike to work together, united for a better Africa. I know we can do it, I know we will do it.

I have been made to understand, the discourse at the PIDA Week has entailed sharing of lessons learnt from the many projects that were profiled, and it is my hope that the lessons learnt will inform our *modus operandi* for our future implementation framework. I am also confident, that as we leave Victoria Falls, we have reached consensus on how best to prepare our

infrastructure projects to bankability, as well as take them expeditiously through the project implementation value chain.

As was being proposed, in a continent noted for being left behind in the latest technologies for innovative infrastructure, there is currently a major opportunity to improve the lives of citizens by providing better connected assets for transport, energy, water and ICT infrastructure and services. The discussions and debates on the various technologies and systems will bridge the gap between 'Now' and the 'Future'. There is need for all of us to encourage the development and management of infrastructure that is safe and efficient. This vision recognises the need for adequate public investment in modern transportation infrastructure and technology. It must be recognised that better-engineered infrastructure is also safer for all. Smart infrastructure takes many forms in the 21st century. Project implementation is not just about concrete and asphalt, it in fact encompasses complete designs, taking into consideration sustainable quality infrastructure and technologies in support for intermodal systems.

At the core of our discussions were issues relating to how the development and financial partners can help address the impact of challenges Africa faces in the provision of infrastructure in a coordinated, empirically based way, which also seeks to provide dialogue and equal footing in a win win scenario by ensuring that infrastructure can affect the real economy and the stability of the financial system of individual countries and at the global level, as well as good governance that can boost investor and partner confidence.

On behalf of the Republic of Zimbabwe, I would like to thank all institutions who sponsored this event; from the conference package, dinners and cocktails. We have had fruitful discussions and networking which I believe will foster future engagements.

I would like to thank our VIP Guests for gracing this event. Your presence has elevated the PIDA Week to higher levels. As noted and appreciated your presence at this event has managed to promote our engagements, including publicity and influence.

I would like to acknowledge the Speakers and Panellists. Their knowledge and skill in articulation of the issues discussed here has managed to proffer minds and ideas we hope to adopt in our Government systems. The variety of speakers from various African countries and beyond just shows how much developing countries are committed to addressing the challenges being faced in Africa. With the adequate infrastructure and economic development, intra-African trade will increase thereby *catalysing African industrial development*. The conference, I hope will bring diversity and traction to this endeavour, especially where rapid economic progress entails even greater rewards from sustainable infrastructure.

Ladies and gentlemen, there are so many institutions and individuals I would like to thank, just for being here, but in the interest of time I do not wish to name the individually. I would also wish to encourage you to take up part of your limited time to visit the Victoria Falls and various gaming and tourism activities in and around exotic tourist destination. These include wildlife tours, boat cruises, bungee jumping and it goes without saying, visiting the Victoria Falls. As you drive to Kazungula tomorrow, take time to view the beautiful scenery in our neighbouring sister countries of Zambia and Botswana, with whom we share a common heritage. I would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to NEPAD, AUC and COMESA for having made Victoria Falls your destination of choice for PIDA 2018. As Zimbabwe, we feel greatly honoured and humbled to have been given the opportunity to host this all important annual event.

As you go back to your respective countries and offices, I hope we will continue to work towards a vision that we will all admire once fruits are realised. I would like to wish your safe travel to your respective destinations and we look forward to continuing this vital dialogue on sustainability with investors, partners and various institutions beyond this year's PIDA Week.

Till we meet again in 2019...

Thank you all for your attention for having been with us today and God Bless Africa.