

Statement of Endorsement of Dr. Arkebe Oqubay as sole African candidate for the post of Director General of UNIDO from the Council of Ministers responsible for Trade of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA)

The Council of Ministers responsible for Trade of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) endorsed the candidacy of Dr. Arkebe Oqubay for the post of Director General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). In their meeting in Accra, Ghana on 3 May 2021, the Council of Ministers recalled the decision of the 34th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the African Union Heads of State and Government, which unanimously endorsed Dr. Arkebe Oqubay as the sole African candidate for the post. They also took note of UNIDO's important role as the leading international body for the promotion and acceleration of sustainable industrial development in developing countries and economies in transition.

The Council of Ministers responsible for Trade expressed their support and confidence in Dr. Oqubay's track record of extensive and successful leadership, scholarly excellence and his vision of carbon-neutral and inclusive industrialization, which make him the suitable candidate for Director General of UNIDO in the post-COVID-19 era.

For more information, contact:

1. Ms. Grace KHOZA, Senior Communications Advisor, AfCFTA Secretariat:
grace.khoza@au-afcfta.org
2. Faith ADHIAMBO, Communication Officer, African Union Commission:
ochiengj@africa-union.org