

News.Asmarino.Com

C



United Nations Eritrea

Embargoed until February 1, 2001, 5:00 a.m. GMT

PRESS RELEASE

From the Office of the UNITED NATIONS Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator in Asmara, Eritrea

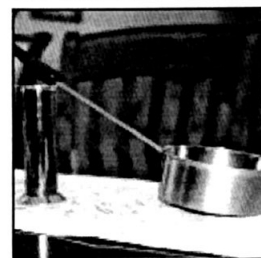
Chief of UNIDO, Mr. Carlos Magarinos is visiting Eritrea

Asmara, February 01, 2002: The Director-General of United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), Mr. Carlos Magarinos is paying an official visit to Eritrea and meeting with high-level representatives of the Government of Eritrea, including HE Isaias Afworki, development partners and the United Nations Country Team.



UNIDO is supporting the Government of Eritrea in developing a dynamic, private sector-led economy in which the industrial sector contributes quite substantially to the expansion and diversification of output, especially in competitively advantaged areas. UNIDO's cooperation strategy in Eritrea, governed by an integrated programme approach, involves packages of mutually supportive service modules, designed to help overcome the critical industrial development problems of the country at the national level or those of a particular geographic area within the country. Furthermore, UNIDO works to ensure that programming efforts are coordinated with those of the rest of the United Nations System - e.g. the Common Country Assessment (CCA) and United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), development finance institutions,

ADVERTISERS



bilateral and multilateral partners and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

In terms of technical cooperation, **UNIDO launched the Integrated Programme for 'Sustainable and Competitive Industrial Development'** with the Ministry of Trade and Industry at the end of 2000. It has a programme portfolio of US\$ 7 million and to date has mobilized US\$ 2.5 million from UNDP, Italy, Denmark and UNIDO itself. Major features of the programme include:

1. Policy support, including the establishment of an Advanced Government Information system (AGIS);
2. Development of small and medium scale industries;
3. Development of industrial estates/parks and export processing zones (EPZ), with special attention to direct foreign investment (DFI) and export promotion; and
4. Comprehensive support to the leather, food and agricultural machinery system, with additional support to export capacity development in the textile and garments sector.

The programme is currently implementing within the framework of funds mobilized so far and is expected to draw further resources as it gains momentum.

Mr. Carlos Magariños has been Director General of UNIDO since December 1997, when he was elected for a four-year term by an overwhelming majority of the Organization's 168 member states (now 169 with the accession of South Africa in 2000). This makes him the first Argentine as well as the youngest person to head a United Nations specialized agency. In December 2001 he was re-elected by UNIDO's General Conference, for a further period of 4 years.

Mr. Magariños has distinguished himself as a visionary leader by successfully steering a reform process of UNIDO, which now has become exemplary for the United Nations System. In December 2000 the Secretary-General of the United Nations nominated him as chairman of the High-Level Committee on Programmes of the United Nations Administrative Committee on Coordination (HLCP/ACC).

For further information please contact Mr. Michael Araya, Information Assistant, United Nations Office Information component. Phone (291-1) 181308, Fax (291-1) 182586, michael.araia@undp.org

Andinet Road, P.O.Box 5366 Asmara - Eritrea.
Tel. (+291) (1) 151166 Fax. (+291) (1) 151081 SATCOM:
Tel. 8731610740 Fax. 8731610741
