



UNIDO Director-General Li Yong visits Rwanda for two days, officials say

Written by peter. Posted in [English](#)

Published on February 03, 2016



The United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) director-general Li Yong, begins his official visit to Rwanda this Wednesday, according to officials from the Rwandan ministry of trade and Industry.

Rwanda is today hosting a high UN representative from Geneva who will commit funds for extension of country industrial sector.

Li Yong is set to meet Rwanda's President Paul Kagame and other officials before signing with Ministry of Trade and Industry the UNIDO cooperation framework agreement, according to a joint communiqué between UNIDO and Minicom.

During the two days visit, Yong will also visit Inyange Industries, Positivo a newly established computer franchise industry, C&H Garment, a textile plant and Strawtec which is in construction.

Under the theme, *to build resilience infrastructure, promote sustainable industrialization and foster innovation*, the deal is expected to support extension of Kigali Special Economic Zone (SZER).

Located in Masoro, Gasabo district in Kigali, SZER is managed by the Special Economic Zones Authority (SEZAR).

The SEZAR programme is within the Rwanda Development Board and is designed to address domestic private sector constraints such as; availability of industrial and commercial land, availability and the cost of energy, limited transport linkages, market access and availability of skills.

SZER started in 2006 and it was regulated by a law of March 2011. It is a merger of Kigali Free Trade Zone and Kigali Industrial Park project.

According to Rwanda's Monetary Policy and Financial Stability Statement, in the second quarter of year 2015, the industrial sector turnover increased to 18.3% compared to 14.6% in the same period in 2014.

Construction was leading with 52.3% followed by manufacturing and energy accounting for 23.1% and 7.5% respectively.

Prior to joining UN organization, Yong, an economist was Vice-Minister of Finance of the People's Republic of China and member of the Monetary Policy Committee of Chinese Central Bank for a decade.