

**PRESS RELEASE: THENSA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE 2022**

**TO: ALL MEDIA, INDUSTRY AND PARTNERS**

**DATE: 24 FEBRUARY 2022**

**THE 2022 THENSA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE WILL BRING TOGETHER EXPERTS FROM HIGHER EDUCATION, BUSINESS AND GOVERNMENT TO DISCUSS 4IR-DRIVEN SOLUTIONS FOR OUR POST-PANDEMIC REALITY. SPECIAL KEYNOTE ADDRESS FROM DR ONKGOPOTSE JJ TABANE.**

Following the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, the government, industry and universities rushed to cooperate to mitigate the impacts of the crisis. South African universities collaborated with the national and local governments and industry to produce personal protective equipment (PPE) and ventilators, with the Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT) and the Central University of Technology (CUT), both THENSA member institutions, leading the charge. Overall, the South African government, industry and universities have weathered the storm unleashed by COVID-19. The responses to the pandemic's disruptions are just the beginning of South Africa's experience with the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR). Yet the interventions developed by universities in collaboration with the government and industry may not be sustainable when looking at South Africa's current innovation and industrial policies.

The THENSA International Conference 2022 on "University, Business & Partnerships: A driver for 4IR Solutions Post COVID-19" will bring together local and international leaders, experts, media figures and participants from Higher Education, Government and Business to discuss how South Africa can implement 4IR-driven solutions and recommendations to recover from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Hosted at Montecasino in Johannesburg from 16th to 18th March, the conference will begin with a keynote address and panel discussion lead by anchor of eNCA's *Power to Truth* Dr Onkgopotse JJ Tabane. In addition, attendees will have an opportunity to hear from representatives and speakers from the South African National Space Agency, Tourism SA, National Department of Labour, Department of Science and Innovation, Climate Change activists from The Collective Movement amongst many others.

In order for South Africa to embark on the path of economic recovery and technological innovation, we need global partnerships between Universities, Business and Government to ensure our local knowledge economy remains internationally competitive. The THENSA International 2022 will

provide a platform for fruitful discussions and debates that contribute 4IR solutions for the betterment of our country.

- To register for the conference, kindly click on this link:  
<https://b2b.tekahead.co.za/booking>
- You can also view our draft programme with speaker profiles here:  
<https://online.fliphtml5.com/ntuzo/wuvo/#p=1>



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