

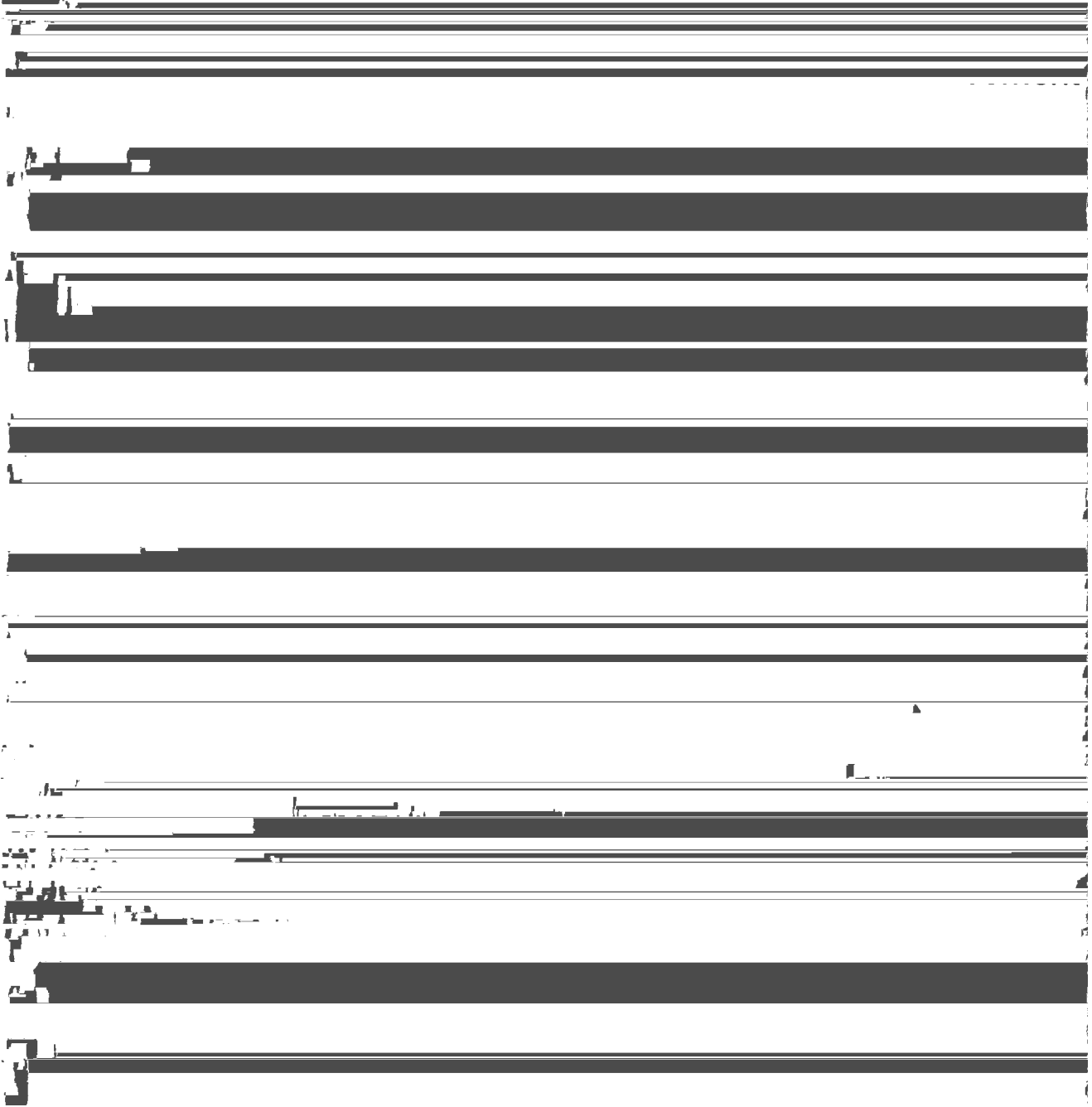


Republic of South Africa's National Statement, Delivered by the Honourable Minister of Basic Education, and the President of the South African National Commission for UNESCO

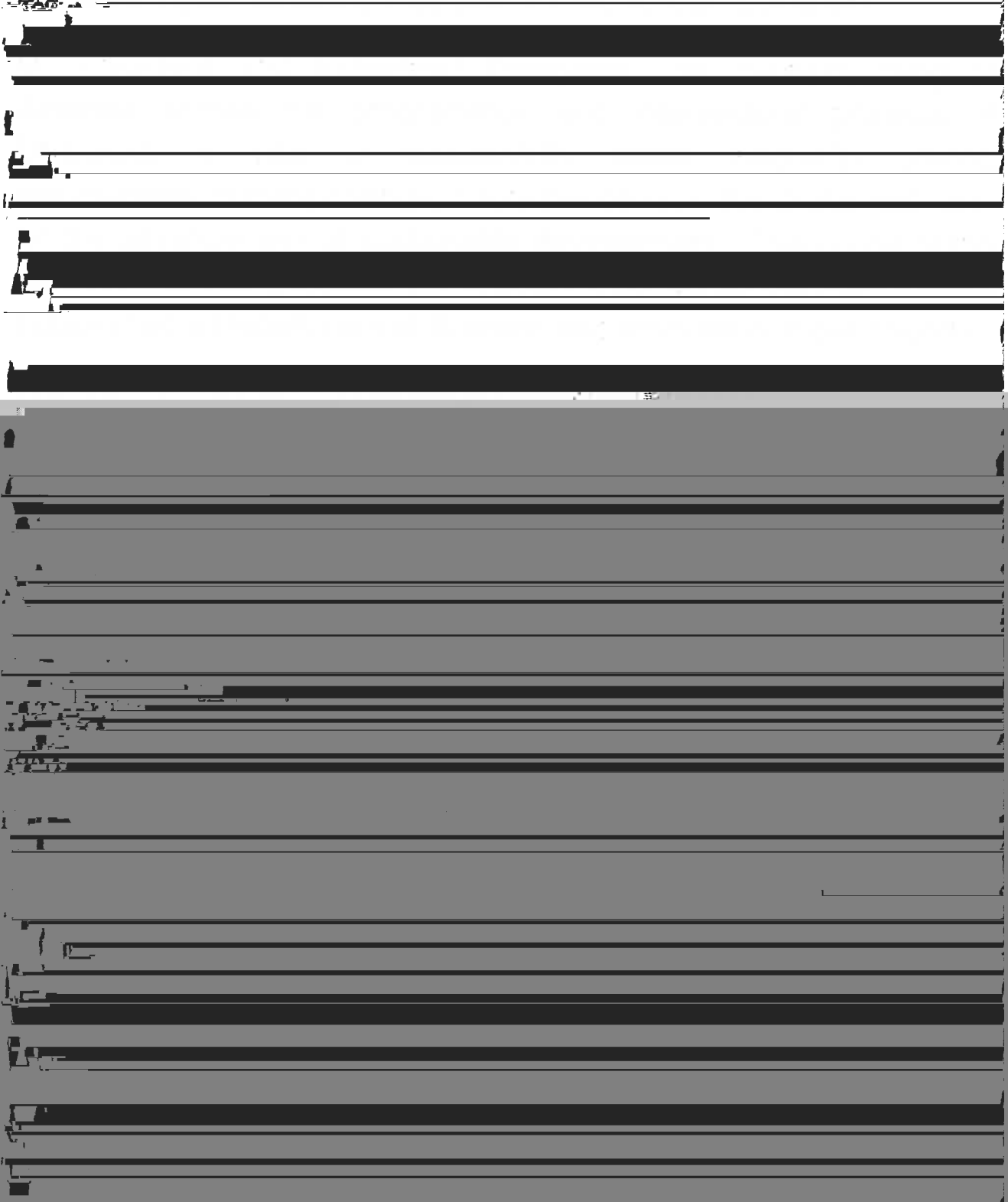
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well as advocating for the transmission of education and culture, liberty, justice and dignity for all humankind.

Reflecting on the milestone of the 75th Anniversary of UNESCO, it will be justifiable to revoke the spirit of our former statesman, a global icon of note, and the Goodwill Ambassador of UNESCO, President Nelson Rholihlahla Mandela. President Mandela made a compassionate call of an education system in South Africa – characterised by the ***social justice principles of access, redress, equity, inclusivity, quality and efficiency***, a call which continues to reverberate with us now, and will continue into the future.



the ***Sustainable Development Goals on Education***; the adoption of the ***Draft Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence***; and supports the call for increased resources to be availed for the ***Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)***. I am pleased to inform this Esteemed House, that South Africa hosts the ***Open Science Platform for the African Continent***.



to announce that South Africa will be the host of the 2009 World Science Forum in December 2009. The theme of this Forum will be "Science for Development".

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disempowering disinformation, political polarisation, and the increasing influence of digital platforms.

The Global Media and Information Literacy Week was critical, especially that the world is faced with seriously contradictory messages and meanings – particularly related to the COVID-19 global pandemic. It is therefore, important for the people of the world, to be equipped with media and literacy competencies to understand the stakes and to contribute to and benefit from pointed information.

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and communication opportunities.

The Government and the People of South Africa wish to thank UNESCO for awarding the PUKU Children’s Literature Foundation with the 2021 UNESCO King Sejong Literacy Prize for its work on “*using digital technologies to promote children’s literature in South Africa’s indigenous languages*”. We also wish to congratulate PUKU for being named as the 2021 UNESCO Laureate.

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In conclusion, Mr President and Esteemed Delegates, South Africa has presented its candidature to serve on the **UNESCO Executive Board for the term 2021 to 2025**, as well as to serve as a valuable