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**Embassy of the Republic of South Africa
Посолство на Република Южна Африка**

**Prof. H. Yancheva
Rector
Agricultural University – Plovdiv
12, Mendeleev Blvd.
4000 PLOVDIV**

27 August 2021

Dear Prof. Yancheva,

Dear academic leadership of the Agricultural University Plovdiv,

Dear students,

It gives me great pleasure to congratulate you on the opening of the new academic year at the Agricultural University Plovdiv. You must be very proud to be part of an institution dating back to the distant 1945, an embodiment of excellence in education and a home to many top professionals in the field of agriculture.

On 10 January 2018 our country was honoured to become part of the academic family of the university. 16 Students from South Africa arrived to pursue their inspirations and to achieve the goal of contributing to the development of agriculture in South Africa by acquiring an excellent level of qualification at the esteemed university.

I remain hopeful that the successful performance of the first group of South African students will serve to pave the way for many more to follow, thus contributing to the expansion of bilateral relations between our two friendly countries in the field of education!

Good luck and success in reaching new academic peaks!

Yours sincerely,

**Thabo Thage
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
of the Republic of South Africa
to the Republic of Bulgaria**