

MEDIA STATEMENT

MINERALS COUNCIL SOUTH AFRICA ATTENDS JUNIOR INDABA *Offers support to emerging and junior miners*

Johannesburg, 5 June 2018: The Minerals Council South Africa (Minerals Council) today attended The Junior Indaba. Minerals Council CEO, Roger Baxter participated in a panel discussion relating to the current political, regulatory, operational and investment environment for junior miners in Africa.

Mr Baxter noted that: “We believe that the emerging and junior mining sectors are critical to the survival and future of the South African mining industry. South Africa has a significant minerals potential, but without a nurturing environment that encourages long term investment, those mineral deposits will remain sterilised with no value created for the country. For the first time in several years, thanks to political developments in the ruling African National Congress and their impact at national government level, there now exists a great deal of scope for hope for the future of the mining industry and South Africa as a whole.”

Emerging miners in South Africa are faced with a number of challenges including, among others, delays in the administration of mining rights and water use licence applications which have a negative impact on the development of projects and, in some instances, a lack of technical expertise among smaller companies.

The Emerging Miners’ Desk, established by the Minerals Council, was mandated to assist emerging miners by providing advice, support and to act as a resource centre for the smaller Minerals Council member companies. Over 200 members form part of the Emerging Miner’s Desk which is now represented at Board level by the newly-formed Emerging Miners Leadership Forum.

The Emerging Miners Desk provides its member companies with advice and assistance in various fields including in raising finance for projects, some technical aspects of mining such as geology and engineering, skills development, and compliance with the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act (MPRDA) and the Mining Charter.

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