

MEDIA STATEMENT

MINERALS COUNCIL SOUTH AFRICA MOURNS THE LOSS OF LIFE AT THE TRAGIC SHAFT INCIDENT AT IMPALA PLATINUM

Johannesburg, 28 November 2023. The Minerals Council South Africa mourns the lives lost and the multiple injuries in the tragic incident at Impala Platinum's 11 shaft on Monday, 27 November.

Impala Platinum has said 11 people lost their lives and 75 employees were hospitalised in an incident involving a personnel conveyance in a shaft. The mining industry mourns with the family, friends and colleagues of those who died and who were injured.

The immediate assistance that the Minerals Council's member companies gave to Impala was impeccable, with more than 15 Proto Teams (specialist rescue teams) deployed to 11 Shaft. All the available ambulances from other mining operations were sent to the mine to transport the injured employees to nearby hospitals, with paramedics deployed to give medical assistance, says Japie Fullard, Chair of the Minerals Council's CEO Zero Harm Forum.

"Our heartfelt condolences go out to all the families, friends and colleagues affected in this accident. We are in constant contact with Impala Platinum's leadership and its safety teams to offer all the assistance we can," says Mr Fullard.

"This is a tragic accident. It serves as a stark reminder that there can never be any lapse in focus and vigilance regarding safety on mines. It is the most important aspect of mining and the one that receives our undivided leadership attention. We call on all our members to reinvigorate their safety programmes and initiatives."

The mining industry had recorded 41 fatalities in the year to date by Friday, 24 November 2023, compared to 44 the same period a year earlier.



“This is a terrible blow to our ambition of ending 2023 with fewer fatalities than last year when there were 49 fatalities, the lowest on record, and the continuation of our journey towards zero harm,” says Mzila Mthenjane, CEO of the Minerals Council.

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