

MEDIA STATEMENT

CHAMBER RECOGNISES COURT ORDER

19 February 2018, Johannesburg: The Chamber of Mines notes the order handed down by presiding judges today in the North Gauteng High Court regarding the postponement of the application for the review of the Minister's Reviewed Mining Charter 2017. In terms of the order, the application has been postponed *sine die*. In addition, the court recorded that applicants 2 to 8 as recognised by the Minister of Mineral Resources are interested and relevant stakeholders. Costs have been reserved.

The Chamber agreed to postpone its court application on the basis of the Presidency's commitment to resolving the impasse over the Mining Charter and to facilitate a process of developing a New Mining Charter by way of negotiations, inclusive of all stakeholders including government, business, labour and communities in the interests of the industry and the country as a whole.

Over the recent months, the Chamber has repeatedly expressed its commitment to community participation. The Chamber's view is that it will be necessary for that constituency to establish a representative body to participate. Importantly, that body would need to be able to deliver on commitments as the government, organised labour and industry representatives do.

For the Chamber and the industry, legal recourse was always a last resort, intended to get the parties to the table. Ultimately, the New Mining Charter must be developed and resolved through inclusive negotiations. The Chamber welcomes the opportunity the President's commitment provides which will allow parties the space to engage and find an amicable solution.

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