



CHAMBER OF MINES
of South Africa

MEDIA STATEMENT

CHAMBER OF MINES SALUTES THE HEROES OF MINE RESCUE SERVICES

Johannesburg, 27 September 2016: “What do heroes look like? Are they taller than other people? Do they possess greater intellect, or physical resources? Did they train for their roles, or did they happen to be at the right place at the right time?” These were the questions President of the Chamber of Mines, Mike Teke asked when he introduced the work of Mine Rescue Services (MRS) to the media at a briefing today.

“We rarely hear of the true extent of the service, dedication and bravery of MRS volunteer brigadesmen. They work in close-knit teams, where language, culture, occupation and history don’t matter. What matters is training, physical fitness, discipline and a stable temperament. And, above all, a willingness to serve, to trust and be trusted.”

In closing Mr Teke said, “Heroes are ordinary people who do extraordinary things. Heroes go above and beyond. Heroes answer when they are called. Heroes face and overcome challenging situations even in the face of fear itself. The 906 current brigadesmen, and the thousands who have trained before them, honour the badge: ‘*volunatate servio*’. They deserve our admiration, respect and thanks.”

[Details on the work of MRS](#)

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