



MEDIA STATEMENT

CHAMBER OF MINES WELCOMES RELEASE OF THE STATE OF CAPTURE REPORT “Supports the proposed Commission of Enquiry”

Johannesburg, 3 November 2016: Chamber of Mines President, Mike Teke, today welcomed the publication of the Public Protector’s report on the “State of Capture”.

While the report comes to few formal conclusions, its recommendation that the matter is so serious and so significant that it needs to be handled by a formal and independently selected judicial commission of enquiry is to be welcomed, and is a process that is fully supported by the Chamber.

The Chamber has repeatedly raised its concerns – first in private, but more lately in public – about the state of governance in South Africa, particularly as this applies to the allegations of impropriety within the Department of Mineral Resources (DMR). The Public Protector’s report provides more detail on these allegations and the alleged improper use of state machinery for nefarious ends.

At a broader level, many civil society groups have also added their calls for better governance in the country. These efforts have been reinforced by our judicial and other constitutional institutions that are still credible and which still function. Their wheels may grind more slowly than we would like, but they do so inevitably and inexorably. It is these concerted efforts that will ensure that the rule of law and good governance will carry the day.

The Chamber recognises that the Commission will need at least the 180 days allocated to its investigation and the Council and its members will provide any and all support to its function. We would submit, however, that in the intervening period urgent intervention is needed to restore the integrity of the DMR.

The Chamber will seek urgent engagements with the Presidency and ANC to consider the material damage caused to the international reputation of the South African mining industry by the allegations

of impropriety and corruption that have been raised in this report and elsewhere and to take the necessary remedial action.

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