

For immediate release

CHAMBER OF MINES COMMENTS ON ANTICIPATED RELEASE OF DMR'S MINING CHARTER

Johannesburg, 14 June 2017: The Chamber of Mines this afternoon received an invitation from Mineral Resources Minister Mosebenzi Zwane to attend a meeting of the Mining Industry Growth Development and Employment Task Team (MIGDETT) at 9:00 tomorrow, 15 June 2017. The notice for the meeting is less than 24 hours and the exact purpose of using MIGDETT is highly suspicious.

The MIGDETT meeting is scheduled to take place an hour before a media briefing called by the Minister to discuss the new DMR Reviewed Mining Charter whose publication is expected tomorrow. As many would recall, MIGDETT was the forum through which the 2010 version of the charter was negotiated in a highly intensive, inclusive and consultative multi-stakeholder process.

The Chamber will not be attending the MIGDETT meeting tomorrow. Its Office Bearers will not be coopted into participating in an attempt by the DMR to provide any support into what we believe has been a flawed process by the DMR.

The Chamber has repeatedly expressed its dismay that the Minister and DMR have seen fit not to engage with stakeholders in the same way this time round including through the MIGDETT structure, which has in fact been dormant for the past 18 months. Occasional meetings with individual stakeholders over a lengthy period are no substitute for a proper process that needs to achieve the buy-in of all stakeholders, and in particular the mining industry whose responsibility it is to implement the charter's provisions.

The Chamber will follow tomorrow morning's events closely, and will review the DMR's Charter once it has been made available. The Chamber will host a briefing for members of the media at the Country Club Johannesburg, Auckland Park, at 12:30 tomorrow, 15 June 2017.

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