



CHAMBER OF MINES
of South Africa

MEDIA STATEMENT

CHAMBER OF MINES APPLAUDS PRESIDENT RAMAPHOSA'S COMMITMENT TO ETHICAL LEADERSHIP, AND TO PUTTING SOUTH AFRICA FIRST

17 February 2018, Cape Town: The Chamber of Mines applauds the visionary State of the Nation Address delivered by President Cyril Ramaphosa yesterday evening, which demonstrated a clear commitment to ethical leadership and to 'putting South Africa first'.

As an industry, we too recognise the need to rebuild trust, to engage broadly and in good faith, and to work collaboratively to get South African mining back on track.

In particular, the Chamber and its members welcomes the recognition by the President of the mining industry as an effective instrument to sustainably transform South Africa. The emphasis placed on innovation and the digital revolution is highly aligned with the Chamber's approach to the mine of tomorrow. Similarly, we recognise the need to create opportunities for learning, for skills development and economic activity, particularly for the youth, and look forward to contributing to the think tanks, the advisory bodies and initiatives that the President has indicated will be set up to address these challenges.

We welcome the President's commitment to ethical leadership and governance in state institutions, and to the stated intention of addressing the structures, effectiveness and governance of state-owned enterprises. We welcome his stated intention of rooting out corruption at all levels of governance, and commit to expecting no less from our members

We particularly welcome the President's commitment to a new phase of engagement with stakeholders in the industry – and others – on a New Mining Charter. Ultimately a New Mining Charter must be developed and resolved through negotiation, with representation by a broad range of stakeholders – government, business, labour and communities.



We hear the President's comments on mine safety. We share his concern, and commit to intensified efforts to reversing 2017's regression of the previously improving trend. We agree that one fatality is too many, and recommit ourselves to achieving zero harm.

Now, more than ever before, all stakeholders need to work together to ensure that our industry and the people that depend on it have a better future. The mining industry supports and commends the President's commitment to renewal and revitalisation and progress. The industry will play its part in building our nation.

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