

MEDIA ADVISORY: 2014 BUDGET

Finance Minister Pravin Gordhan will present the National Budget to Parliament on 26 February 2014.

Media lock-ups have been arranged in Cape Town and Pretoria, allowing access to the Budget documents before the Minister's address in Parliament. The information contained in the documents will be under embargo until Minister Gordhan begins speaking in Parliament.

Lock-Up Arrangements

Cape Town:100 Plein Street Building for PGA journalists
Imbizo Media Centre, 120 Plein Street, for non PGA members
06:00Cape Town:06:00

Pretoria:National Treasury Offices, 40 Church StreetTime:08:00

Journalists attending the Cape Town lock up must send their details (name, media organization, contact details and ID number) to <u>xolisa.dodo@treasury.gov.za</u>

Those attending the Pretoria lock-up should RSVP to <u>zwikhodo.netshituni@treasury.gov.za</u> by no later than 19 **February 2014**.

Journalists attending the Pretoria lock-up should please specify whether they will be using their laptops or Treasury desktop computers.

Journalists will be expected to sign a lock-up rules document as a pledge that they will comply with the conditions of the lock-up.

Requests for interviews should be sent to <u>phumza.macanda@treasury.gov.za</u>. Note that the Minister's time is limited so journalists should make use of the press conference to ask questions and those granted interviews will be limited to 10 minutes.

PLEASE NOTE

No communication, electronic or otherwise, will be allowed with those outside the lock-up. We therefore recommend that Parliament PGA journalists who will not be covering the Budget work from elsewhere.

Journalists should also note the following:

- All office doors are to remain open at all times.
- Stories can be transmitted to editors **ONLY** from **13:00** (with full observation of the embargo).
- Cellphones and any other transmitting devices must be **switched off**, placed in an envelope and **handed over** to National Treasury officials.
- Security will be monitoring the lock-ups at all times.
- Journalists are requested **NOT** to bring iPads to the lock-ups.
- There should be no communication with people outside the lock-up. Emails, faxes can therefore, not be sent or received. Landline phones must be off the hook and not be used under any circumstances.
- Any devices that have built-in modems or can transmit information including built-in 3G cards must be disabled.
- Nobody will be allowed to leave the lock-up **before the embargo is lifted.** The embargo will be lifted only when the Finance Minister starts his address in parliament which maybe after 14:00.
- A ministerial media briefing is scheduled for **10:30** (Imbizo media centre, 120 Plein Street, Cape Town). Journalists will be escorted to the venue.
- For those journalists in Pretoria, there will be a live streaming of press conference from Cape Town. Journalists are requested not to take laptops to the streaming room.
- For access to Parliament for the speech and to broadcast from the Parliamentary precinct please send your details to nmagwagwa@parliament.gov.za and CC erandall@parliament.gov.za
- National Treasury officials will be available in case of any emergencies.

Refreshments will be served at **08:30** and **12:30**. The lock-up will end when Finance Minister Pravin Gordhan starts his address in Parliament.

All documentation will be available on www.treasury.gov.za

Photographers and broadcast journalists should note:

They will not have access to budget documents

While they can be part of the media briefing in mid-morning, they will not broadcast or communicate the contents of the Budget document in any form.

Should any journalist or publication break the embargo the publication/TV station or journalist may be prevented from covering the next budget event.

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