



MINISTRY OF FINANCE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

MINISTER NENE ON THE APPOINTMENT OF THE CHAIRPERSON AND THE CEO OF THE LAND BANK

Mr. Mabotha Arthur Moloto has been appointed the chairperson of the board of directors of the Land Bank and Mr. Tshokolo Petrus Nchocho the bank's Chief Executive Officer and an executive director of its board. Both appointments were approved by Cabinet yesterday (Wednesday, 10 December 2014).

Mr. Moloto is appointed for a term of three years, from January 2015 to December 2017, and Mr. Nchocho for five years, running from January 2015 to December 2019.

Minister Nene said: "Mr. Moloto and Mr. Nchocho bring extensive expertise and experience to the Land Bank, an institution which plays and will continue to play a key role in the development of the agricultural sector. Agriculture is one of the priority areas of government and one which is expected to grow the economy, and create close to one million jobs by 2030."

Minister Nene added that the Land Bank had undergone a remarkable turnaround and growth since 2008 when it was rescued from near-collapse. Between 2008 and 2014 its loan book grew by 180 per cent R12 billion to R33 billion. This growth in the loan book has however far outstripped the growth of the bank's capital base, even after government had injected R3.5 billion new capital and provided the bank with R2.5 billion in guarantees. The faster growth in the loan book has affected the bank's financial strength which needs to be consolidated to prepare for bank's next growth phase.

This is where Mr. Nchocho's experience at the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) will be most valuable. He previously served as acting CEO of the DBSA for eight months, during which time he initiated the bank's organisational review which prepared the ground for the incoming CEO.

Mr. Nchocho is currently the Group Executive responsible for the DBSA's South African operations. This division covers infrastructure project finance, corporate lending, public sector finance, empowerment finance, private equity investments and project advisory. His portfolio's budget involves loan disbursements and investments of approximately R10 billion a year.

