



MEDIA STATEMENT: SAHRC TO HOST PRESS BRIEFING ON THE OUTCOME OF THE MEDIATION SESSION BETWEEN THE AFRICAN DIASPORA FORUM AND MAYOR HERMAN MASHABA

Attention: Editors and Reporters

30 October 2017

In February 2017, the South African Human Rights Commission (the Commission) received a complaint from the African Diaspora Forum (ADF) in which they alleged that the Mayor of the City of Johannesburg, Cllr Herman Mashaba had made comments that were xenophobic and had the propensity to fuel xenophobic attacks.

The ADF alleged that the Cllr Herman Mashaba, among others, made the following statements:

- That foreign nationals are responsible for criminality in the City of Johannesburg;
- That undocumented foreign nationals compound criminality and make it difficult for law enforcement to perform their duties and;
- That foreign nationals were holding the country to ransom.

The Commission in fulfilling its constitutional mandate of promoting and protecting human rights engaged with both the ADF and Cllr Mashaba and determined that this matter would be best resolved through a process of mediation.

Both parties were given a platform to recount their version of events and upon the conclusion of the mediatory discussion various terms of settlement were reached. These terms have given rise to a settlement agreement to be signed by the parties.

The Commission invites members of the media to a press briefing that will publicise the signing of the settlement agreement.

The press briefing will be hosted as follows:

Date: 31 October 2017

Time: 10:00 - 11:30

Venue: SAHRC 4th Floor Main Boardroom

Forum 3 Braampark Office Park; 33 Hoofd Street in Braamfontein

Adv. Bongani Majola (SAHRC Chairperson), Buang Jones (SAHRC Gauteng Provincial Manager), Cllr Herman Mashaba (Executive Mayor of the City of Johannesburg), and Marc Gbaffou (ADF Chairperson) will address the media.

Ends

For further information contact the Gauteng Provincial Office of the South African Human Rights Commission:

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