



## agriculture, land reform & rural development

Department:  
Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

### **MEDIA STATEMENT**

#### **STATEMENT BY MINISTER DIDIZA FOLLOWING THE MEETING WITH MPUMALANGA FARMERS THREATENED BY EVICTIONS**

**12 April 2021**

The Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development, Ms Thoko Didiza (MP) together with Mpumalanga MEC of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs, Mandla Msibi, held a meeting with farmers and farmer organisations to address these following issues:

- Farm lease agreements that have not been renewed following the moratorium in 2013
- Alleged non-compliance with lease agreements
- Tensions between farmers and labour tenants
- Tensions amongst farmers who were made to share a farm without proper rules and clear demarcations
- Alleged corruption from departmental officials.

The meeting reflected on these issues that need to be corrected in order to resolve the challenges. It was therefore agreed that:

- All eviction letters that were served to farmers be withdrawn
- A team from the Property Management Unit of the DALRRD will be based in the province for a period of two weeks and meet with all farmers whose leases have not been finalised
- The MEC will convene a meeting with farmer organisations within three weeks on post-settlement support and agricultural development support
- The MEC will meet with the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development to look at functionality of CPAs and trusts and on how to assist them
- The meeting agreed that the department must speed up the title deeds process until the FALA land procedures are concluded.

-END-

**Issued by the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development:**

- **Media Liaison Officer and Spokesperson: Mr Reggie Ngcobo, 066 298 0980, [MLO.Minister@dalrrd.gov.za](mailto:MLO.Minister@dalrrd.gov.za)**
- **Eviction Toll-free Number 0800 007 095**

Follow us on:



@DALRRDgov\_ZA,



Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural

Development or



DALRRDgov\_ZA