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## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

### **IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **BUSA RECOGNIZES THE URGENT NEED FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND EMPLOYMENT**

BUSA believes that the commemoration of Youth Day this year, should remind South Africa as a whole of the socio-economic challenges – especially that of unemployment – faced by the younger generation. BUSA recognizes high unemployment, particularly amongst the youth, as one of the pressing challenges to South Africa’s economic performance. Youth Day should be dedicated to the rapid implementation by key stakeholders of those policy measures already focusing on youth unemployment and entrepreneurship development.

In the New Growth Path, it is imperative that government and business work together as they have a responsibility to bring the 2.8 million in the 18-28 year old category, who are out of work and education into the mainstream of the economy.

BUSA remains committed to supporting and pursuing a number of options that will treat unemployed youth as a resource and prioritize access to employment and skills creation programs. Applicants for funding from the recently announced Jobs Fund with innovative ideas, especially for young people, are likely to





find favour. BUS A also encourages synergies between established business and youth to facilitate a crossover of skills and talent that should migrate to the next generation of entrepreneurs. These are all essential to developing the growing economy that is ultimately needed to reduce unemployment, especially youth unemployment

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