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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF BUSA, MRS FUTHI MTOBA

MEDIA BRIEFING AT THE BUSA OFFICES, SANDTON

The BUSA Management Committee (Manco) and Council, which met earlier this week, reviewed the appointment process for a new CEO of BUSA. In the interests of continuity and stability in BUSA, it was agreed that the Deputy CEO of BUSA, Raymond Parsons, would be Acting CEO as from 1st June 2011. He will occupy this position until a new CEO takes up his or her appointment in due course. BUSA has every confidence in Raymond Parsons and his staff to continue the work of the organisation as normal. There will be no interruption in BUSA's advocacy and lobbying role on behalf of business in terms of its existing mandates.

At the meetings earlier this week, it was also reaffirmed that the organization is committed to a transparent process - within the governance requirements of BUSA - to appoint a new CEO. The Manco and Council were informed that the process for the recruitment of a CEO is on track and was being managed by the President of BUSA, with the Chairman and Manco. An interview panel has been mandated by Manco to interact with the recruitment agency and conduct the interviews of a short-list of potential candidates. We are confident we will recruit an appropriate person and will do so in a way that meets the highest standards of governance, transparency and objectivity. Due regard will be given to proper recruitment procedures.

The background has been as follows -

- BUSA had accepted with regret the resignation of Mr Jerry Vilakazi as BUSA's CEO as from 31 May 2011.
- The BUSA Constitution gives both the President and Chairman of BUSA the responsibility to recommend a candidate for CEO to the BUSA Council.





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- They decided to involve Manco in the process and Manco mandated the President and Chairman to take charge of the recruitment process, after consensus that the process must be a transparent and objective one, to be managed by a recruitment agency, namely, Heidrick and Struggles.
- The recruitment agency was asked to also consider candidates from its database. Members of BUSA were then asked to also submit names of potential candidates, who have agreed to apply for the position to the recruitment agency.
- A member of BUSA then submitted the name of Mr Mthunzi Mdwaba, the current Vice-President of BUSA, representing Unisectoral members. Mr Mdwaba, at this stage, indicated his willingness to apply for the position.
- Mr Mdwaba immediately offered to recuse himself as Vice-President, as well as from all other activities in that role, including from the process to recruit the CEO. He did so, by way of a letter to the President.
- In the meantime on closure of applications, Heidrick and Struggles are evaluating the applications received and a decision still has to be taken on the number to be interviewed.
- The President and chairman through Manco agreed that a panel consisting of the President, Chairman, four Vice-Presidents and, at the request of certain members of BUSA, the chairman of the Transformation committee would assist Heidrick and Struggles in producing a short list and interviewing those in order to produce the candidate which in terms of the Constitution the President and Chairman would recommend to council.
- What remains critical is the unity of our organization. As the leadership of BUSA we will continue to engage with all our members to ensure the continuous strengthening and integrity of the CEO appointment process.

Both the Manco and Council expressed their deep appreciation to Mr Vilakazi as outgoing CEO for his five years of dedicated service to BUSA. Under his leadership BUSA has made considerable progress in enlarging its sphere of influence over policymaking in SA, as well as developing BUSA's international role. BUSA wishes him well in his future endeavours.



ENDS.

2 June 2011