



NSBE (SA)

NATIONAL SOCIETY OF BLACK ENGINEERS OF SOUTH AFRICA "BRIDGING THE ENGINEERING SKILLS GAP"

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FROM THE OFFICE OF THE NSBE HEAD OF BUSINESS FORUM NEWSFLASH

TO: PRINT & ELECTRONIC MEDIA HOUSES
FROM: TUMI TSEHLO
SUBJECT: DISMISSING UNFAIR ASPERSIONS CAST ON THE INTEGRITY OF PAST LEADERS
DATE: 10 NOVEMBER 2023

Dismissing Unfair Aspersions Cast on the Integrity of Mr. Buthelezi & Mr. Nair

A recent newspaper article was published that has cast unwarranted doubts on the integrity of highly respected leaders, Mr. Mlamuli Buthelezi & Mr. Ravi Nair, former Transnet executives. It is important that we challenge false narratives and highlight the true character and accomplishments of Mr. Mlamuli Buthelezi & Mr. Ravi Nair who were Transnet Group COO and Transnet Freight Rail Chief Executive, respectively, until March 2019.

The article published on 05 November 2023 by the Sunday Times unfairly cast aspersions on Mr. Buthelezi & Mr. Nair and sought to undermine their credibility. This is deeply regrettable. We value transparency and accountability within our organization, and it is crucial to rectify any misrepresentations or inaccuracies presented in this article. First and foremost, NSBE maintains the utmost confidence in the character and integrity of both leaders. Throughout their tenure, they had consistently proven themselves to be exceptional leaders who showcased an unwavering dedication to a high-performance culture in Transnet SOC Ltd, underpinned by treating staff with respect and dignity. Under their leadership, Transnet achieved unprecedented volumes growth of 226mt in 2017/18 FY, low levels of copper cable theft & infrastructure vandalism, more than R4 billion net profits, high staff morale & top employer status, and 86% on time departure of freight trains. NSBE's commitment to promoting integrity, diversity, inclusion, and excellence in the workplace is unwavering. And they both embodied these principles and values that NSBE hold dear.

It is important to emphasize that the negative insinuations outlined in the article are misleading, and detrimental to the reputation of these innocent & hard-working professionals. They undermine their accomplishments and dedication to public service. There were no adverse governance findings against Mr. Buthelezi & Mr. Nair. Their severance packages were determined and offered to them by the previous leadership of Transnet SOC Ltd. We encourage responsible journalism that engages in fact-checking and strives for accuracy, fairness, and impartiality.

President: Mdu Mlaba;

National Executive Committee: Lwazi Goqwana: Deputy President; Freddy Mugeru: Treasurer; Chrizelle Isaacs: General Secretary; Tumi Tsehlo: Head of NSBE Commercial; Khulani Msane; Lungi Maminza; Bongumusa Thusi; Thato Selebogo; Simphiwe Mbanga;

NSBE remains open to engaging in constructive dialogue with any credible media outlet to provide accurate information and promote an understanding of our organization's core values and contributions.

As the NSBE, I assure our members, partners, and the public that we remain committed to maintaining the highest ethical standards and supporting our leaders to improve the economy of South Africa as an enabler to effectively deal with the triple challenges of inequality, abject poverty, and high employment rate. As always, we appreciate the solidarity and support extended to our organization.

ENDS

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