

MEDIA STATEMENT

For immediate release

CHAMBER OF MINES LAUNCHES MINING FOR SCHOOLS INITIATIVE

Online platform aims to provide accurate, interesting and useful information about South Africa's mining sector, its history and its contribution to South Africa

Johannesburg, 6 September 2017: The Chamber of Mines today launched the Mining for Schools initiative, an online platform to provide resources for teachers and learners to reinforce, enhance and extend learning about the South African mining industry. The first module of this website focusses on gold, as that is the current focus in the national school's curriculum. The website, which may be accessed at <http://www.miningforschools.co.za>, has come about as a result of frequent requests for information by teachers and learners alike, and will be grown and augmented over time. Further modules will focus on coal, platinum, diamonds, base metals and aggregates.





As the website indicates, South Africa is renowned for its abundance of metals and minerals, accounting for a significant proportion of world production and reserves over many decades. While the industry acknowledges the negative role it played in the country's socio-economic history, mining has played a pivotal role in the country's economic development and continues to do so to this day.

In 2016, the mining industry contributed R304.4 billion to GDP; paid R3.7 billion in royalties; employed around 460,000 people (who supported around 4.5 million dependants); paid employees R120 billion in earnings; and spent R211.8 billion on goods and services.

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