



CHAMBER OF MINES
of South Africa

MEDIA STATEMENT

CHAMBER LAUNCHES MAJOR HEALTH SCREENING INITIATIVE

Johannesburg, 1 December 2017: To mark World AIDS Day today, the Chamber of Mines has announced its support for a major health screening initiative in the OR Tambo district where South Africa's official commemoration of the day is taking place.

The initiative was announced by Chamber Vice President, Andile Sangqu in his address at the Walter Sisulu University Stadium in Mthatha this afternoon, where he shared the platform with Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa, Health Minister Aaron Motsoaledi and OR Tambo District Mayor Nomakhosazana Meth.

The R1.8 million initiative is being carried out in partnership with Chamber and EOH, Africa's largest technology service provider, in together with the South African Business Coalition on Health and AIDS (SABCOHA)

The health screening programme will include:

- HIV counselling and testing
- TB screening
- Glucose (sugar) measurement
- Blood Pressure measurement
- Height and weight measurement

The Chamber committed to the province an amount of R500,000 to be utilised for tracking and tracing ex-mineworkers with unclaimed retirement fund and compensation benefits. These funds will bolster existing initiatives.



Mr Sangqu referred to one of these existing initiatives, the Masoyise iTB campaign, which is a joint exercise between government, unions and the industry to ensure that every miner is tested for HIV and screened for TB once a year.

He noted that “success is being achieved through collaboration and cooperation. I would like to particularly recognise and appreciate the leadership of the Department of Health under the Minister of Health, Dr Aaron Motsoaledi, and the unflinching commitment from Dr Barry Kistnasamy, the Compensation Commissioner. For both TB and HIV/AIDS, and improving access to unclaimed benefits, their support has been unstinting.”

Mr Sangqu’s full speech may be accessed here <https://goo.gl/24cwi5>

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