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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE TO ALL MEDIA

17 APRIL 2015

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

## CHAMBER OF MINES DENOUNCES XENOPHOBIA AND CALLS FOR TOLERANCE

The Chamber of Mines of South Africa on behalf of its members expresses its condolences to the families of all South Africans and Foreign Nationals who have died as result of the current xenophobic attacks that have plagued the country. The Chamber further expresses its well wishes to all foreign nationals who find themselves displaced because of these senseless attacks.

The South African mining industry has developed to what it is today on the back of labour both skilled and unskilled from citizens from the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and other countries. These dedicated man and women continue to contribute to the economy of the country.

"We are deeply embarrassed as the leadership of the mining industry that as a nation we can resort to such barbaric acts given the history of discrimination and segregation that we as South Africans come from. We urge our fellow compatriots to express their valid concerns using the marvelous and functioning institutions that our government has put in place to deal with citizens' complaints", said Mike Teke, President of the Chamber of Mines.

The Chamber wishes to allay fears to the industry's workforce that working with state agencies, Chamber member companies will continue to provide a safe working environment as espoused in the country's laws.

## **ENDS**

Issued by: The Chamber of Mines of South Africa

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