



MEDIA STATEMENT

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ARMSCOR GEARS ITSELF FOR THE FUTURE

Following the appointment of the new Board of Directors by the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans in May 2014, Armscor held its strategy session on 7 – 8 November 2014 preparing itself to effectively and efficiently deliver on its mandate. The strategy session follows extensive consultation by the Board with stakeholders whose input is considered key in formulating the way forward for the Acquisition Agency.

The *“In Time, On Time”* strategy theme came as no surprise considering the passion and the commitment the new Board has shown since taking over the oversight role. This has been the theme in all their engagements with stakeholders during their roadshows. Led by the retired Vice Admiral Mudimu, whose eyes glitter when talking about paving new ways for Armscor to deliver in time and on time on all its acquisition projects, stakeholders who attended the session were no doubt reassured once again that Armscor is indeed moving to greater heights. The Minister, Hon Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula reminded the Board that Armscor’s function and mandate is to meet the defence materiel requirements of the SANDF and therefore should enhance its capacity to better support the SANDF. She said “the operational readiness and effectiveness of the SANDF strategic capability planning is entirely dependent on the effective and responsive Armscor”.

She further stated that this includes Armscor’s role in Defence Industry support for the sustainability of our capability as well as industry participation in the technology innovation initiatives. She urged all parties to deliberate their efforts to encourage new players in the

industry to ensure qualitative transformation, placing more emphasis on the possession of skills and technical knowledge for future drivers of this industry. The sentiments of the Defence Industry transformation was echoed by the industry association's Executive Director, Mr Simphiwe Hamilton who acknowledged the slow pace of transformation in the industry, urging both Armscor and Department of Defence to continue to drive and align such policy frameworks to better facilitate wider participation of industry players. The implementation of Defence Industry Participation (DIP) is therefore considered key in facilitating the objectives of economic transformation and sustainable growth of the country's economy.

The inclusion of stakeholders and the support received by the Armscor Board in shaping the way forward for the organisation contribute immensely to maintaining and enhancing stakeholder relationships.



Vice Adm (ret) Mudimu welcoming stakeholders during Armscor strategy work session



Hon Minister of Defence & Military Veterans, Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula receiving a token of appreciation from Vice Adm (ret) Mudimu after addressing the delegation.

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