

Media Release - 22/10/99

New Board of trustees for South African National Parks

The Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, Mohammed Valli Moosa, has announced yesterday that Mafison Murphy Morobe has been appointed chairperson of the new 17-member Board of Trustees of the South African National Park (SANP). The other members of the Board are:

1. Mr Praful Bhawan (a mechanical engineer from Cape Town)
2. Ms J Brown (a rural development consultant from Johannesburg)
3. Ms Nomsa Canca (businesswoman and member of Katz Commission on Women's Taxation from Johannesburg)
4. Ms T Khumbane (rural women's activist in the Northern Province)
5. Ms Tumelo Lobelo-Ratefane (social work lecturer involved in AIDS issues from the North-West)
6. Mr R Maruma (conservationist and immediate past SANP board member)
7. Professor Sue Milton (Western Cape representative)
8. Ms Nthobi Moahloli (corporate affairs director in Cape Town)
9. Mr J K Modise (Northern Cape Representative)
10. Mr Murphy Morobe (chairperson of the Financial Fiscal Commission in Johannesburg)
11. S Njekelane (Eastern Cape representative)
12. Mr O Ntuli (Mpumalanga representative)
13. Dr Ian Player (KwaZulu Natal representative)
14. Ms Josie Rowe-Setz (tourism development consultant from Johannesburg)
15. Mr Z J Sithole (Gauteng representative)
16. Professor Willem Van Riet (conservationist and immediate past SANP board member)
17. Mr Clive Walker (North-West Province representative)

The Board has a 3-year mandate to determine policy and oversee its implementation by the SANP Directorate.

Following the announcement, Mavuso Msimang, the SANP Chief Executive said:

"We are excited at the announcement made by the Minister. I am personally delighted that Mr Morobe has been appointed Chairperson. Mr Morobe is currently the Chairperson of the Financial and Fiscal Commission. His contribution in bringing about change in South African society is well known, and I am convinced that under his guidance the SANP will go from strength to strength.

I am also delighted at the composition of skills in the new Board. The SANP has recently announced plans to involve the private sector in its commercial operations and these appointments make available to us the guidance we need in order to implement our plans. No less important is the big increase in the number of women on the Board, all of them with strong backgrounds in their respective fields of expertise.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Members of the outgoing Board for the excellent service they have rendered during their term. Their leadership will be remembered for the far-reaching transformation programme they have set for the SANP, the historically significant settlements reached in the matter of land claims against some of the parks, and the important community involvement programmes they have helped the organisation develop. My colleagues and I welcome the announcement by the Minister and look forward to working with the new Board."

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