



LETSEMA CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT AND DEMOCRACY

NGO-Reg. No. 2009/018888/08

MEDIA STATEMENT – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE ON 30 JUNE 2013

ON WISHING FORMER PRESIDENT NELSON RHOLIHLAHLA MANDELA A SPEEDY RECOVERY AND GOOD HEALTH

1. We, the Board of Directors, Management and all Volunteers of Letsema Centre for Development and Democracy, a section 21 non-profit community-based organisation based in Pretoria, South Africa, including our local and international partners involved in myriad local developmental and democracy-building initiatives, herewith wish to extend our heartfelt message of support, speedy recovery and good health to our ailing first democratically elected President of the Republic of South Africa, Nelson R. Mandela, who is currently receiving hospital care in Pretoria. We humbly join-in all courteous prayers and well wishes for the beloved elderly Statesman to get well soon, and also ask in prayer for God's mercy upon his heartbroken wife, children and the entire extended family and clan to remain encouraged, strengthened and united in his deserved honour, and we further faithfully call upon the peoples of South Africa, Africa and the world to continue igniting hope like Mandela always inspired us never to give up.
2. President Mandela remains the most admired political leader worldwide for his uncompromising and unparalleled role in fighting racism and all forms of heartless discrimination. Mandela and his generation of selfless and dedicated compatriots have boldly laid the foundation, through our enduring constitutional democracy, for the current and future generations of leaders and activists to defend, deepen and sustain the struggle against all forms of political, social and economic injustices. We must always remember that even when The Creator created everything and everyone to be free and equal, freedom is never free, it always comes with paying the ultimate price, it must therefore must never be taken for granted and it is never justifiable to take it away from others.
3. Undoubtedly, the mammoth challenge facing all youth in South Africa, Africa and the progressive world, who arguably owe their individual and collective successes to the iconic Madiba and his courageous generation of political leaders, is to jealously safeguard the legacy of overcoming colonialism and apartheid through waging a protracted liberation struggle, peacefully negotiating an inclusive transitional government and promoting reconciliation and racial diversity and unity towards implementing democratic good governance. The current youth are charged to continue fighting tirelessly like Mandela and his intergenerational activists selflessly carried themselves throughout decades of brutality and banishment. The youth must recommit never to surrender until achieving lasting peace, justice and prosperity for all worldly people. We, through Letsema Centre, recommit to work through local and international partnerships towards achieving the ideals of sustainable development and democratisation.

For more enquiries, please do not hesitate to contact:

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Issued on behalf of Letsema Centre for Development and Democracy.

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