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CESA welcomes cabinet reshuffle

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Consulting Engineers South Africa (CESA) welcomes the recently announced changes to the cabinet and executive of President Cyril Ramaphosa. In particular, CESA welcomes the return of highly respected and competent ministers to the critical portfolios of Public Enterprises and Finance. Both Minister Gordhan and Nene have a challenging task ahead of them to get both South Africa's SOEs as well our economy on an upward curve again. CESA is confident however that under the stewardship of both these ministers, positive international sentiment and hence investment will begin to flow once again.

The organisation also welcomes the new appointment of Minister Gwede Mantashe to the portfolio of Mineral Resources. The mining sector in South Africa is without doubt one of the main drivers of employment and economic growth in our country and it is critical that conducive conditions for investment and growth are created by National government as soon as is practically possible

CESA further notes the reappointment of Minister Thulas Nxesi to the Ministry of Public Works. It is critical that service delivery through infrastructure investment and rollout is expedited to ensure that the goals of the NDP are achieved in as short a time as possible. We expect to see this actioned with more vigour than was the case when he previously held this portfolio.

The organisation also notes the appointment of Minister of Gugile Nkwinti to the crucial portfolio of Water and Sanitation. As South Africa is a water scarce nation, security of our water supply and sustainable implementation of both treatment and distribution schemes throughout the country remain critical priorities for the nation. Minister Nkwinti, has the invidious task of steering the Country out of a looming potential National Water crisis and we hope that indeed he will be a "Mr. Fixit" for the sake of our nation.

As South Africa grapples with issues of state capture and corruption, it is critical that we all remain vigilant to ensure that we continue to "connect the dots". CESA welcomes the President's intention to review the number and size of cabinet and is encouraged by the commitment shown to streamlining the executive in order to prioritise service delivery and accountability to the people.

As the leading body of Consulting Engineering companies in South Africa, CESA remains committed to the same ideals as espoused by the President in the most recent state of the nation address. CESA comprises over 540-member firms, who employ more than 22 000 staff in the engineering sector and the organisation stands willing and able to take up the challenge posed by the president