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Media Statement by Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure, Patricia de Lille, MP

Department of Public Works and Infrastructure continues to release land for restitution, redistribution and redevelopment

I am pleased to announce that over past three months, I have signed off the release of numerous parcels of land that has been requested from the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI) for various purposes such as human settlements development, land redistribution and restitution.

The release of land under the custodianship of the DPWI for these purposes is part of government's commitment to land reform, redistribution, restitution, land tenure that includes human settlements development.

The release of land for these purposes is one of the most tangible contributions we can make to reversing the legacy of apartheid spatial planning and ensuring that public land is used for public good.

DPWI releases land for human settlements development purposes on a gratis basis subject to various administrative processes and conditions being met.

Land transferred by DPWI is on the condition that the land not sold to the private sector.

In the event that land is to be resold, national government must get the first option to take the land back.

Some of the details of the parcels of land which have been signed off for release since March are as follows:

1. **Northern Cape:** Portion of a farm in the Phokwane Municipality measuring 0.9571 hectares size for human settlements.

- 2. **Limpopo:** Kalkbank, release of land measuring 1065 hectares to settle a claim for a restitution claimant community.
- 3. North West: portion of Doornkop farm measuring 1094 hectares for restitution of individual claimants.
- 4. Western Cape: Parcel of land in the Stellenbosch Municipality measuring 18.774 hectares. This land has been released for human settlements development and related infrastructure.
- 5. **Western Cape:** Parcel land in Driftsands, City of Cape Town measuring 1234 hectares size. The land was requesting to upgrade portion of an informal settlement.
- 6. Western Cape: release of land in Franschhoek for restitution to a claimant family.

All of this work of transferring land is vital to ensure that we restore people's dignity either through issuing of title deeds, through releasing land for integrated human settlements developments or restoring people's rights as land owners in cases where land was taken away from them by the apartheid regime.

DPWI will continue to expedite all requests for land and will make announcements as more parcels of land are signed off for release.

ENDS

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