

## MEDIA STATEMENT

## MINISTER NDABENI-ABRAHAMS SENDS CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF MR MTHOBELI TENGIMFENE

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The Minister of Communications and Digital Technologies, Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams wishes to send condolences to the family of the late Mr Mthobeli Tengimfene. A venerable freedom fighter, Tengimfene joined the Department of Communications in 2007 as Manager for the Human Resources Development Fund. In this role, his primary responsibility was to establish the Fund and develop its programs. Established in terms of the then Telecommunications Act of 1996, the Fund sought to initiate and support programs aimed at bridging the digital divide.

He successfully championed the establishment of cyber laboratories in disadvantaged schools across the country. He later joined Vodacom as a Program Manager. Before his death Mr Tengimfene was a senior executive at the Vodacom Foundation, where he continued with his passion of empowering young people and teachers with much-needed ICT skills. He continued to work with government on public and private partnerships in the quest to improve access to internet facilities and technologies for most South Africans.

"His work has touched the lives of many across the country. He had an outstanding passion for the sector and his efforts to level the playing field for disadvantaged communities are appreciated and recognised. He was immensely committed to development. To his family and friends, we convey our heartfelt condolences," said Minister Ndabeni-Abrahams.

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