

To: ALL MEDIA
ATT: News Editors

Johannesburg,
Gauteng.
EMBARGO: None.

24 May 2023

Statement of the MEC of Economic Development in Gauteng on the High Court decision to reinstate the Gauteng Growth and Development Agency (GGDA) board.*

The MEC for Economic Development in Gauteng, Ms. Tasneem Motara has noted the recent Gauteng high court decision to reinstate the Gauteng Growth and Development Agency (GGDA) board after she resolved to have it dissolved. Following a court challenge by the aggrieved board members, the Gauteng High Court ruled against the MEC and ordered that it be reinstated with immediate effect.

While the decisions of the high court are respected, there are certain elements of the judgment that, if left unchecked, will cause further damage to the boards' sanctity. To that end, the MEC has indicated her intention to appeal parts of the judgment. "Upon consultation with the department's legal team, it has been made clear that the only way to speedily resolve the issue of the board is to work towards an implementable resolution, is to appeal some of the facets of the judgment", said the MEC. The constitutionality of the board is paramount, and the appeal is not to challenge the authority of the court but to find an amicable resolution to the challenges faced by the board.

The GGDA plays a critical role in driving economic growth and development in our province, and it is crucial that it operates effectively and efficiently. It is therefore in the interest of the people of Gauteng, specifically those who are in Townships, Informal Settlements and Hostels, to resolve this issue as a matter of urgency. It is the view of the MEC that the board must be bolstered with the necessary skills and expertise to fulfil its mandate and she remains committed to supporting its work.

The MEC will continue to work closely with the GGDA to ensure that it is able to carry out its functions in a transparent and accountable manner, and to promote economic growth and development in Gauteng.

Ends.

For media enquiries, please contact: **Bongiwe Gambu: MEC's Spokesperson, Gauteng Department of Economic Development on 067 329 4269**

For more information, photos and videos of the department please visit:
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