

17 June 2021

**PRESS RELEASE: TRIBUTE TO DR JABU MABUZA**

It is with great sadness that we learnt of the passing of Dr Jabu Mabuza yesterday at 63.

On behalf of both the CEO Initiative and the NBI, we would like to acknowledge the significant contribution that Jabu has made to business and to South Africa overall. The way that he selflessly assumed leadership roles, never putting aside his humanity, and always putting his best foot forward not only in the interests of business, but also in the interests of a transformed and united South Africa. His commitment, with a deep passion, to the transformation of South Africa's economy and business, was a driving purpose of his life. His contribution is unquestionably evident.

He was also a genuine person with a warmth, humour and attentiveness that would be extended to any person that he interacted with.

Jabu, thank you for everything you did for us, and for South Africa as a whole. Your role and contribution are greatly appreciated and we acknowledge you for the person and standing you achieved in the interests of all the people of South Africa.

We would like to offer our most sincere condolences to his wife, Sipiwe, their children and their overall family. We wish them strength in this difficult time.

The loss of Jabu is profound and devastating, and he will be sorely missed. May his soul rest in peace.

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**About the NBI:**

The National Business Initiative (NBI) is a voluntary coalition of companies, working for the past 25 years towards a resilient and inclusive economy, building trust to enable implementation and enhancing the capacity of their stakeholders to participate in economic and social transformation. The NBI's membership includes a significant proportion of the country's leading listed companies, a number of the major state-owned enterprises and a variety of medium-sized firms. Since their inception in 1995, the NBI has made a distinct impact in the spheres of climate change, water, energy efficiency, local economic development, public sector capacity building, further education and training, public private partnerships and more recently in the social transformation sphere. The NBI has also been the Secretariat to the CEO Initiative.

**About the CEO Initiative:**

The CEO Initiative has been a partnership between over 200 business leaders in South Africa and the South African Government. Its core purpose was to find ways that business can work with Government to address issues related to the country's sovereign credit rating and also to foster inclusive growth. The Initiative was led by CEOs from leading companies who volunteered their time and expertise to its work, and also had representation from the country's leading business organisation, including BUSA, BLSA and the BBC. Dr Jabu Mabuza was the Co-Chairperson of the Initiative.