



# agriculture, forestry & fisheries

Department:  
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**29 August 2018**

#### **DIRECTOR-GENERAL MEETS WITH AGRICULTURE HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS**

The Director-General of the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Mike Mlengana has met with Agriculture Heads of Departments (HoDs) at a quarterly Minister's Technical Working Team (MINTECH) meeting held in Elsenburg College of Agriculture, Stellenbosch. This a prelude to a meeting between the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Senzeni Zokwana and Members of Executive Councils (MECs) responsible for agriculture taking place on Thursday, 30 August, at the same venue.

Among other issues, the meeting discussed progress on Producer/Farmer Register project which will be launched by Minister Zokwana tomorrow (30 August) and preparations for the planting season which kick-starts in the coming few months. Provincial departments of agriculture have individually indicated their readiness to plant. Since government has prioritised agriculture, Mlengana shared with participants the need for agricultural revolution. This is about putting communal land in former homelands into full production. The revolution will encompass training local youths in agriculture and also equipping them with technical skills like servicing and maintaining infrastructure on farms. The Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs has reserved funds to implement this programme.

The Department of Trade and Industry presented its agro-processing scheme which is looking at helping smallholders who are involved in the manufacturing of value-added agricultural products. A call was made to Heads of Department to share this information with farmers and farmers-to-be in their provinces.

In the next quarter, the meeting will among other things review progress made on the Producer/Farmer Register project and the hectares that shall have been planted.

**For further information contact,**

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