



## agriculture, land reform & rural development

Department:  
Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**MEDIA STATEMENT**

**04 JUNE 2020**

### **MINISTER DIDIZA MEETS WITH INGONYAMA TRUST BOARD.**

The Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development, Thoko Didiza, MP yesterday met with the Ingonyama Trust Board to discuss matters relating to the operations of the Ingonyama Trust Board.

The Minister's meeting with the ITB follows issues raised by the Portfolio Committee on Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development following the ITB's appearance before the committee to present their Annual Performance Plan and Budget Plan.

The Minister noted the committee's proposal to suspend or withhold funds allocated to the Ingonyama Trust Board for the 2020/21 financial year. She then decided to engage the ITB to better understand the issues raised by the committee and other operation matters.

In today's meeting the ITB presented its revised budget for the current financial year, an update on operational issues including human resource

matters and an update on some litigation, which involves the Ingonyama Trust.

“On issues pertaining to human resources, the discussion focussed on the placement of some staff members on special leave. The Board indicated that an investigation in this regard is about to be concluded hence they will properly brief the Minister on the future direction of the matter once they have received and considered the report” said Minister.

The Minister has tasked the Director-General to work closely with the ITB to work on all the issues raised by the committee and other operational issues. This will culminate into an agreement between the Minister and the Board that will record the Minister’s expectations of the Board as well as the Board’s service delivery commitments that should correspond with its resources.

“I wish to express appreciation on the robust and honest engagement I had with the ITB. This constitutes the beginning of a series of future structured engagements with the Board, so as to place the Minister in a position to properly discharge her duty as the Executive Authority in relation to the board,” said Minister Didiza

Ends

**For media enquiries contact Reggie Ngcobo, Media Liaison Officer on 082 883 2458**

**Issued by the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development**

