

Palabora Copper (Pty) Limited

Registered in the Republic of South Africa, 1 Copper Road Phalaborwa, 1389. Registration No 2007/033694/07
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PRESS STATEMENT

Region: Limpopo Province, Phalaborwa
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Palabora Copper making a steady progress towards increasing opportunities for local entrepreneurs

- A total of 417 enterprises confirmed to have registered for the first ever supplier development programme by Palabora Copper.
- Local businesses and communities stand a greater chance to benefiting from the supplier development programme being implemented by Palabora Copper.

“After our call to the Ba-Phalaborwa communities to register their businesses for consideration in our Supplier Development Programme, Palabora Copper is excited to have received a significant amount of local enterprises that registered through the Local-Wise portal,” reports the company’s General Manager for Corporate Affairs and Company Secretary, Keith Mathole. “We’ve receive a total of 417 applicants,” he enthused.

The aim of the programme, which the company is implementing with its partner, Palabora Foundation, is to develop 30 local suppliers into becoming potential suppliers to large companies such as Palabora Copper and others in the area. “Once accepted into the programme these suppliers will have to meet all the quality, health and safety related standards of the company before they are introduced into the available opportunities and allowed to work on our sites,” maintains Mathole, adding that “this programme is part of our transformation initiative that will further empower both the business and our local



Directors:

Clifford N Zungu (Chairman) , Nhlanhla Hlubi, Ray Abrahams, Francine A du Plessis, Peter Ward,
George M Negota, Jie Yan#, Ng Tze For (Alternate)^, Jinghua Han^#,
Katinka Schumann, Dikeledi L Nakene# (Chief Financial Officer)

Company Secretary:

Keith N Mathole

#Executive Director

^Chinese Director

Registered with the Department of Higher Education - Registration No 2010/FE06/006

community at large.” He says the selected entities will be entered into a two year Supplier Development Programme which is subject to performance and the availability of business opportunities.

Officially launched on 24 October, local potential businesses had until 24 November, 2013, to register their companies. Palabora Foundation Director, Malesela Letsoalo said that of the 417 registered entities, 217 were validated. The validation criteria included the verification of the enterprises’ registration with Companies and Intellectual Property Commission, demonstration of residence in Ba-Phalaborwa Municipality as well as the core offering of the business.

Malesela further indicated that in selecting the applicants for further interviewing the criterion used included the number of years the company has been in existence, the number of people it employed, and the demonstrated understanding of the business offering. “This, together with other related details, led to the eventual shortlisting of 167 entities,” he said.

Mathole appeals to all the applicants that while they have all demonstrated the willingness to supply their invaluable services to the mine, not all suppliers will be selected to partake in this programme. “However, as a company we will continue providing opportunities to local suppliers whose business might not have been selected in this programme in our other initiatives. The registration on the Local Wise portal will again be reopened once the current interviewing process is completed in order to allow upcoming suppliers to continue registering.”

“Palabora Copper (Pty) Ltd values its continuing relationship with the surrounding community of Ba-Phalaborwa, and we are hopeful that this programme will be a success and bring more empowerment to our local people,” Mathole concluded.

ENDS

Note to the Editor about Palabora Copper (Pty) Limited

Palabora Copper (Pty) Limited (Palabora) is a copper mine, smelter and refinery complex based in the town of Phalaborwa, in South Africa's Limpopo Province. The mine owes its origins to a unique rock formation in the region known as the Palabora Igneous Complex.

Palabora has been operational since its incorporation in 1956 and is the country's only producer of refined copper, producing approximately 80 000 tonnes per year. Operational since its incorporation in 1956, Palabora Copper is South Africa's sole producer of refined copper, which it supplies mainly to the local market and export the balance. Whilst copper forms the base-load of its business, Palabora also mines and exports other by-products such as Magnetite, Vermiculite Sulphuric acid, anode slimes and nickel sulphate.

More than a mine

Located directly adjacent to the world-renowned eco-tourism attraction, the Kruger National Park, Palabora coordinates several onsite wildlife management and cultural heritage programmes as part of its ongoing sustainability drive. The company also collaborates closely with various communities in the Ba-Phalaborwa district to boost economic development and alleviate poverty.

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