Agri SA

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Agri SA vra vir 'n berekende benadering in SONA
Agri SA calls for calculated approach in SONA

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Johannes Möller, die president van Agri SA, het vanoggend gesê die volgende staatsrede (SONA) wat president Zuma lewer waarskynlik die belangrikste in sy ampstermyn tot dusver sal wees. "Die ekonomie word geteister deur 'n magdom strukturele en operasionele probleme wat besondere insigryke en indringende staatsmanskap vereis. Ons wens President Zuma sterkte toe in hierdie verband.

Möller sê dat van 'n landbouperspektief, die droogte – en veral die wyse waarop daar met die gevolge daarvan in die volgende paar maande gehandel word – voorkeur geniet bó die ander aktiwiteite van Agri SA, sy affiliasies en die onderskeie ampsdraers, veral in die ministerie en departement van Landbou, Bosbou en Visserye. "Ons het geskakel met ander belanghebbendes en finansiële instellings in 'n poging om die oorlewing van die sektor te bewerkstellig en om die land se voedselproduksie-basis te handhaaf. In hierdie verband is dit nodig dat mnr Zuma sy standpunte stel oor hoe hierdie situasie van 'n regeringsperspektief hanteer sal word en watter maatreëls oorweeg sal word," sê Möller.

Möller sê Agri SA is ten volle bewus is van die moontlike impak van die huidige droogte op landelike gemeenskappe en veral plaaswerkers. Die droogtemaatreëls onder oorweging sal sekerlik hierdie dimensie en die impak van die droogte in ag neem.

"Aangesien die landbousektor 'n integrale deel van die ekonomie is, is ons natuurlik bekommerd oor die stand daarvan en spesifiek werkloosheid, die negatiewe persepsies internasionaal ten opsigte van buitelandse belegging in ons land, die benadering van graderingsagentskappe teenoor Suid-Afrika, die lae vlak van ekonomiese groei en aangeleenthede soos korrupsie, energievoorsiening, die prestasie van ondernemings in staatsbesit en algemene beheer oor die aard en omvang van openbare besteding." Ons vertrou dat president Zuma ook uitvoerig met hierdie kwessies in sy staatsrede sal handel.

"Ek is van mening dat 'n werklik deurdringende en eerlike fokus benodig word om die land vorentoe te neem. Die Nasionale Ontwikkelingsplan kan, na my mening, steeds as toepaslike platform dien en ek vertrou dat die president weereens sy verbintenis in hierdie verband sal bevestig," aldus Möller.

Uitgereik deur Agri SA, Direktoraat: Korporatiewe Skakeling

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Agri SA calls for calculated approach in SONA

Johannes Möller, president of Agri SA, today said that the upcoming state of the nation address (SONA) to be delivered by president Zuma, will arguably be the most important one thus far delivered during his term of office. "The economy is plagued by a host of structural and operational ills requiring insightful and incisive statesmanship of a special kind. I wish president Zuma well in this regard."

Möller said that from an agricultural perspective the drought and especially also how to, in the coming months, deal with the after effects thereof has trumped the activities of Agri SA, its affiliates and the respective office bearers in especially the ministry and Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries. "We engaged with other stakeholders and financial institutions in an effort to deal with the survival of the sector and to maintain the food production base of the country. In this regard we require Mr Zuma to pronounce on his views of how this situation will be handled from a government perspective and what measures government will consider" Möller said.

Möller added that Agri SA is well aware of the possible impact of the current drought on rural communities and farmworkers in particular. The drought measures under consideration will surely take this dimension and impact of the drought into consideration.

"As the agricultural sector is an integral part of the general economy we are obviously concerned with the state thereof and specifically unemployment, the negative perception of the international world with respect to foreign investment into our country, the approach of rating agencies in relation to South Africa, the low level of economic growth and issues like corruption, energy supply, the performance of state owned enterprises and general control over the nature and magnitude of public expenditure." We trust that president Zuma will extensively deal with these matters as well in his address.

"I'm of the opinion that a real, penetrating and an honest focus on basics is required to take the country forward. The National Development Plan can, in my view, still provide the appropriate platform in this regard and I trust that the president will express renewed commitment in this regard" Möller said.

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