



Interim Board at Umgeni Water begins work

Issued by the Corporate Stakeholder Management Unit, Office of the Chief Executive, Head Office, Pietermaritzburg

An interim Board has been appointed at Umgeni Water to begin its tenure with immediate effect. This, it is expected, will bring an end to concerns of some investors who have expressed the view that governance oversight may not be adequate as a result of dissolution of the previous Board when its term of office ended on 30th June 2017.

The appointment of the interim Board also ends the Interim Governance Protocol referred to in an internal communique to staff, as well as in Umgeni Water's Stock Exchange News Service announcement on 8th September 2017. The interim Board will act as the Accounting Authority of Umgeni Water until the Minister of Water and Sanitation appoints a new board, in accordance with requirements of the Water Services Act, No.108 of 1997. It will have full responsibility for governance at Umgeni Water and in order to assist in conducting its work, Board sub-committees, including an Audit Committee, have been re-constituted.

The process for appointment of a permanent Board has already begun with the publication of newspaper advertisements which call for nominations. The Minister has pledged to expedite the appointment process and has also issued an assurance that stakeholders will be engaged in order to ensure transparency in selection of members.

The interim Board comprises seven members, three of whom served in the previous Board, and the rest hold key non-executive positions within the water sector. Members of the interim Board are:

- Ms Ziphazethu Mathenjwa: Chairperson
- Ms Nompumelelo Chamane: Member
- Mr Visvin Reddy: Member
- Mr David Dikoko: Member
- Ms Zodwa Manase: Member
- Advocate Tshidi Hashatse: Member, and
- Mr Midiavhathu Tshivhase: Member



Interim Board



Ms Ziphozethu Mathenjwa
Chairperson



Ms Nompumelelo Chamane
Member



Mr Visvin Reddy
Member



Mr David Dikoko
Member



Ms Zodwa Manase
Member



Advocate Tshidi Hashatse
Member



Mr Midiavhathu Tshivhase
Member

The Minister's decision to appoint an interim Board was endorsed by the National Cabinet at its meeting on 27th September 2017. At this meeting the Minister also briefed the Cabinet on developments at Umgeni Water and about the Ministry's discussions with investors to allay their concerns. The Cabinet was satisfied with work being done by the Ministry to stabilise governance issues at Umgeni Water.

The appointment of three members of the previous Board of Umgeni Water illustrates the Minister's determination to ensure continuation and strengthening of governance oversight. The inclusion of high-profile members of other water sector institutions illustrates the Minister's determination to ensure that the interim Board of Umgeni Water also has members with vast experience in the institutionalised water sector. They also bring to Umgeni Water considerable financial, legal and management experience.

Following Cabinet approval and a meeting between the Minister and interim Board members, the Board began its work immediately by meeting to discuss issues crucial to the organisation. The interim Board has reiterated the organisation's commitment to transparency and good governance and has emphasised that the organisation will continue to meet its obligations to all stakeholders, including holders of its listed notes.