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Department:
Defence
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA RELEASE

DATE: Thursday, 05 December 2013

EMBARGO: None

SUBJECT: THE SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL DEFENCE FORCE SUPPORT THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT DURING THE SECOND NATIONAL YOUTH CAMP: 06 - 19 DECEMBER 2013

The Department Social Development, in partnership with the Department of Defence and Military Veterans, will host the second National Youth Camp at the South African Army Combat Training Centre (SAACTC), Lohattha in the Northern Cape Province, over period 06 to 19 December 2013.

The Youth Camp will bring together one thousand young people across race, ethnicity, gender, class and language from all nine provinces under the theme: **“Working together for Youth Development towards a dug free South Africa”**.

The prime objective of this initiative is to promote National Identity, Nation building, Social cohesion, Patriotism and a strong sense of citizenship among young people of South Africa.

The South African Government recognises the challenges associated with adolescents and youth and is committed to continue prioritising investments aimed at equipping and developing young people.

During the Youth Camp, young people will participate in discussions around the many challenges they face, including living without parents (child headed households), access to education and skills training, unemployment, alcohol and substance abuse, sexual abuse, youth pregnancy, social and cultural integration, HIV/Aids, etc.

The discussions are held with the view to assist youth to draw up community development plans and their own lives. Youth will also undergo life skills and leadership development.

Members of the media are invited to cover the Youth Camp over the period 07 – 19 December 2013.

Ends

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