



## MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MILITARY VETERANS

Republic of South Africa

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### MEDIA ADVISORY

Date: 29 December 2015

Embargo: None

**SUBJECT: DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE AND MILITARY VETERANS, KEBBY MAPHATSOE, TO LEAD JOINT MINSTREL – CASTLE OF GOOD HOPE COMMEMORATION ON 2 JANUARY 2016**

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> of January 1666, the first foundation stone of the Castle of Good Hope was laid at the foot of the Leerdam Bastion.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> of January is also the same day slaves were permitted to celebrate the beginning of every New Year, thus giving birth to the tradition most commonly known as the 'Tweede Nuwe Jaar' in Cape Town and South Africa, celebrated each year in colourful parades of music and dance.

As the direct descendants of the slaves, the Minstrels will join and play a leading role in the historic unveiling of a 12-month long program of the 350<sup>th</sup> Commemoration of the Castle of Good Hope on the Saturday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of January 2016.

Deputy Minister of Defence and Military Veterans, Hon. Kebby Maphatsoe – MP will be leading the proceedings.

A traditional ceremony, involving various indigenous groups, will take place at the sight of the first corner stone laid at the foot of the Leerdam Bastion of the Castle of Good Hope, as follows:

**Date: 02 January 2016**

**Time: 09h30 for 10h00 [PROGRAM: 10H00 – 12H00]**

**Venue: Castle of Good Hope**

The program of the annual Minstrel Parade is scheduled to commence at 12h00.

We invite all forms of media to cover the commemoration ceremony of the laying of the first cornerstone of this former bastion of colonialism.

Please place your media accreditation RSVPs by no later than close of business on Wednesday 30 December 2015, 5pm.

Also indicate who within your organisation you will be sending to cover both of these auspicious occasions.

The Castle of Good Hope as an entity of the Department of Defence all media accreditation and access to the Castle event and the minstrel event will be strictly controlled.

A media centre with refreshments will be set up at the Darling Street entrance of the Castle of Good Hope on 2 January 2016.

Accreditations will be available for collection from the media centre from 7am – 9.30am on the day.

A full media briefing will take place in the media centre at 9.45am.

Parking will only be available for media and satellite trucks in the paved Castle parking space opposite the Grand Parade (Please indicate if this will be necessary for your organisation in your request for media accreditation).

All other media are requested to park elsewhere within the city and to enter the Castle through the front entrance (the one opposite the Grand Parade).

Please forward all your details and request for accreditation to: [media@capetown-minstrels.co.za](mailto:media@capetown-minstrels.co.za).

For more information please contact:

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**ENDS.**