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## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

**TO ALL MEDIA  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
DATE: 20 MARCH 2026**

### **NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL MARKETING COUNCIL WELCOMES NEWLY APPOINTED BOARD MEMBERS**

The National Agricultural Marketing Council (NAMC) extends its heartfelt congratulations and warm welcome to the new board members appointed by the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, Mr. John Steenhuisen (MP), effective from 10 March 2026.

These appointments align with the NAMC's mandate to provide strategic advice to the Minister on agricultural marketing matters, promote equitable market access, and support the transformation and development of South Africa's agricultural sector. The newly appointed Council will guide the organisation in fulfilling this mandate, ensuring that policies and programmes strengthen the agricultural economy, foster inclusivity, and contribute to national food security.

"The appointment of this Council is a critical step in advancing the NAMC's mission. I am confident that the diverse expertise represented will help drive transformation, improve market access, and ensure that our agricultural sector continues to grow sustainably for the benefit of all South Africans," said Minister Steenhuisen.

The Council is comprised of the following members appointed to serve for a period of four years:

1. Prof. Andre Jooste (Chairperson)
2. Dr. Sharon Thembi Xaba (Vice-Chairperson)
3. Dr. Kathleen Mary Hurly
4. Dr. Bonile Simon Jack-Pama
5. Dr. Muhammad Kadwa
6. Ms. Hlaleleni Jenetha Mahlangu
7. Ms. Ramatsimela Jacqueline Maisela
8. Mr. Happy Tihame Mohane
9. Prof. Khathutshelo Nephawe
10. Ms. Unati Speirs

The Minister urged board members to always be exemplary and demonstrate the highest level of integrity and understanding of their fiduciary duties, while also extending sincere gratitude to the outgoing Council for their dedicated service and invaluable contributions in strengthening the agricultural marketing framework and advancing the organisation's objectives.

The Minister's remarks underscore the importance of strong governance and dedication to the organisation's mission. Dr. Simphiwe Ngqangweni, Chief Executive Officer of NAMC, added: "On behalf of the entire organisation, I want to thank the Minister for reinforcing governance through the thoughtful appointment of council members. I also extend my warm congratulations to each new council member and look forward to working closely with them to advance our shared mission of providing marketing advisory services to key stakeholders in support of a vibrant agricultural marketing system in South Africa."

**THE END**

Issued by the National Agricultural Marketing Council

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