

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **THE MAIZE TRUST**

#### **LARGE DONATION FOR TRANSFORMATION PROJECTS IN THE SOUTH AFRICAN MAIZE INDUSTRY**

Mr. Karabo Peele, Chairperson of the Maize Trust, announced that: “The Maize Trust and the National Agricultural Marketing Council (NAMC) have agreed that the final donation made to the Trust by the old Maize Board should be donated to the Grain Farmer Development Association (GFADA) in order to assist and serve the interests of emerging grain farmers”.

The Maize Trust has decided to make this additional donation available to GFADA in order to stimulate transformation projects in the maize industry. GFADA is a private sector initiative that aims to promote and advance the development and establishment of grain farmers of previously disadvantaged backgrounds in South Africa; more specifically to transform such emerging farmers into becoming independent commercial producers of grain, cereals and oilseeds.

This donation of R30 million to GFADA is done in addition to the Maize Trust’s other annual contributions for transformation purposes and also in addition to the contributions of nearly R9 million that have been made by the Trust to GFADA since 2010. The objectives of GFADA and the particular concept of transformation as applied by GFADA are fully supported by the Trust. The GFADA Board of Directors comprises both industry representatives and representatives of the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries who serve as Trustees on the Maize Trust and Winter Cereal Trust, with an independent Chairperson.

Mr Peele stated further: “The Trust’s donation to GFADA will go a long way in assisting emerging farmers to evolve into commercial producers of grain, cereals and oilseeds. The requirements of emerging farmers will be properly addressed by GFADA and will elevate these farmers to a higher level than merely subsistence or smallholder farming operations”.

End

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