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MEDIA STATEMENT

Agbiz calls on all leaders and South Africans to uphold the Constitution and Rule of Law

“Events of the past week should be a major wake-up call to all South Africans. From Julius Malema’s anti-white and ‘land nationalisation without compensation’ utterances, to the totally absurd and unacceptable ‘coffin case’ racism, and lastly to the wanton and reckless abuse of our state and democratic institutions for palpable self-interest and sickening patronage, these need to be roundly and unequivocally condemned by all reasonable South Africans seeking to make South Africa their home under its Constitution and Bill of Rights,” Dr John Purchase, CEO of Agbiz, said today.

South Africa is a Constitutional Democracy where the rule of law reigns supreme. It has, by all accounts, one of the most progressive Constitutions on the globe, which includes a sound Bill of Rights providing trumping provisions to protect each individual in this country. Each South African, given the legacy of apartheid, and a divided and violent past, needs to take responsibility for embracing the Constitution and living its values every day. This is even more true for those individuals who have been placed in positions of responsibility to uphold the Constitution, such as the whole legal fraternity and all politicians. If they cannot, or do not want to embrace this responsibility bestowed on them, they must go.

“Given increased evidence of unacceptable behaviour and polarisation, Agbiz calls on all South Africans to endeavour to embrace the Constitution, comply with the legislation emanating from it, and live the values it espouses to ensure sustainable and thriving individuals and communities. Where individuals transgress they must be investigated and prosecuted without fear or favour. This is especially true for public figures that are entrusted with leadership positions to uphold the Constitution and Bill of Rights,” Dr Purchase said.

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