

MEDIA ADVISORY

Unisa and the National Press Club host the 12th Annual Percy Qoboza Memorial Lecture

Approved for public release

DATE: 18 OCTOBER 2022

This year marks the 45th anniversary of Black Wednesday, which commemorates the day in 1977 when the apartheid regime silenced independent voices by closing certain publications. To reflect on the importance of this day, the National Press Club, in partnership with the University of South Africa (Unisa) and the family of the late social activist Percy Qoboza, will host the 12th Annual Percy Qoboza Memorial Lecture tomorrow, 19 October 2022 in Pretoria.

The memorial lecture is held annually in commemoration of 19 October 1977, the date on which the apartheid government banned *The World*, *Weekend World* and other publications. The lecture also honours the late Percy Qoboza, editor of *The World* and later of *City Press* newspapers.

This year's lecture will be delivered by Prof Onkgopotse JJ Tabane, under the theme '*Media Freedom in light of the 2022 World Freedom Index which points to worrying signs for freedom of expression in Southern Africa, with several countries recording sharp declines*'.

Prof Tabane is a seasoned journalist, an expert in the communications field, Adjunct Professor and Director: Communication and Marketing, Unisa SBL. He is also a columnist for the Sunday Times and The Star, an author of Let's Talk Frankly and an Anchor of eNCA's Power To Truth. He serves as non-executive chairman of the Utembezi Tourism Group and chairman of the Indalo Yethu Trust.

The Premier of Gauteng, Panyaza Lesufi is scheduled to deliver the message of support.

The lecture will take place as follows:

Date: Wednesday, 19 October 2022

Time: 10:30 for 11:00



Venue: Unisa Muckleneuk Campus, Senate Hall, 3rd floor, Winnie Madikizela Building, Preller Street, Muckleneuk

Members of the media are invited to attend.

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For RSVPs, and interview request, please contact Unisa Senior Media Officers: Media Relations Tommy Huma on 072 218 6197 / 012 429 3981/ humatm@unisa.ac.za OR Edgar Rathelele on 063 731 5456 / 012 429 6712/ ratheme@unisa.ac.za

ISSUED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH AFRICA – MEDIA AFFAIRS AND THE NATIONAL PRESS CLUB

