

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

**Approved for Public Release**

**Date: Tuesday, 11 April 2023**

### **Unisa Chancellor, Dr Thabo Mbeki and Vice Chancellor, Prof Puleng LenkaBula to confer degrees and diplomas at Unisa graduations in Mbombela**

The Chancellor of the University of South Africa, His Excellency former President Thabo Mbeki will preside over a graduation ceremony of the university to be held in Mbombela, Mpumalanga Province on Saturday, 15 April 2023 at 18:00.

The Principal and Vice Chancellor of Unisa, Professor Puleng LenkaBula will join the Chancellor during the ceremony. She is also scheduled to preside over two earlier graduations on the same day; at 10:00 and 14:00 respectively.

The graduation ceremony is a continuation of the nationwide Unisa Autumn graduation series, which commenced on 22 March and will conclude 08 June 2023. They will be held in seven regions of the university, namely Pretoria, Durban, Cape Town, East London, Mbombela, Polokwane and Bloemfontein. There are all-in-all 87 graduation ceremonies planned during this period, which will see approximately 35 000 students graduating in the year Unisa celebrates its 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. A few hundred of these will be walking the stage on 15 April 2023 to receive their qualifications.

Hence, the university will also use the occasion of the graduation ceremonies to celebrate its 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Since its establishment on 26 June 1873, Unisa has played a significant role in shaping the futures of many ordinary and illustrious people in the country and on the African continent and has been at the forefront of the spawning of the university system in the country.

The graduation ceremonies themselves present a great opportunity for the graduandi to celebrate the fruit of their hard work, and to share this moment with their families and friends.

Members of the Media are invited to attend and cover the graduations as follows:

Date: Saturday, 15 April 2023

Venue: AFM Communio

Time: 10:00, 14:00 & 18:00

**Ends/**

ISSUED BY UNISA MEDIA AFFAIRS

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