

## MEDIA ADVISORY

### ***Unisa to host Advocate Mojanku Gumbi, founder of Mojanku Gumbi Advisory Services and former Special Advisor to South African President Thabo Mbeki***

#### **For immediate release**

14 October 2019

The University of South Africa (Unisa) is to host the African Intellectuals Seminar on Wednesday, 16 October 2019 in Pretoria. Advocate Mojanku Gumbi, will deliver the keynote address on “*African and her perennial, elusive quest for peace – A critical examination*”

Adv. Gumbi, is a Senior Advisor at Albright Stonebridge Group (ASG), where she works with companies from a wide range of industries to expand their African and global footprint. She is one of Africa’s foremost political strategists and public policy practitioners and a founder of Mojanku Gumbi Advisory Services.

She was a Special Advisor to South African President Thabo Mbeki from 1999 to 2008. From 1994 to 1999, she was an Advisor to then Deputy President Mbeki in the Mandela administration. During this time, she spearheaded South Africa’s economic diplomacy, ensuring a global presence for South African companies, as well as peace-making initiatives in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Cote d’Ivoire, Sudan, Lesotho, Somalia, the Balkans and the Middle East.

Also during the administration, Adv. Gumbi advised on domestic policy issues including the reform of the local healthcare industry, the expansion of South African telecoms operators to the rest of Africa and the world, banking and mining sector reforms.

Adv. Gumbi was one of South Africa’s principal negotiators at the Seattle and Doha rounds of the World Trade Organization, and served as President Mbeki’s personal representative to the G8, where she played a leading role in the establishment of the G5 Group (Brazil, China, India, Mexico and South Africa).

Prior to serving in the Presidency, Adv. Gumbi acted as the Head of the Adjudication Secretariat of the Independent Electoral Commission during South Africa’s first democratic elections in 1994.

The African Intellectuals Project, Knowledge Systems and Africa Futures Programme, is an initiative of championed by the Principal and Vice Chancellor, Professor Mandla Makhanya. The programme also forms part of a series of academic and public lectures, and business/academic roundtables aimed at promoting innovative ideas, debates, discussions and



research ingenuity on discourses and processes of envisioning and constructing Africa's development and its futures.

The lecture is to take place as follows:

Date : Wednesday, 16 October 2019

Time : 10:00 – 13:00

Venue : Function Hall, 4th Floor, Kgorong Building, Unisa Muckleneuk Campus, 1 Preller Street, Tshwane

Members of the media are invited to attend.

For RSVP and interview request please contact Mr Tommy Huma (Senior Media Officer) on 012 429 3981 / 072 218 6197 / [humatm@unisa.ac.za](mailto:humatm@unisa.ac.za)

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**Issued by:**

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