



Embassy  
of the Federal Republic of Germany  
Pretoria

# Press Release

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ADDRESS  
201 Florence Ribeiro Avenue  
Groenkloof Ext 11  
Pretoria 0083  
South Africa

TEL +27 (0)12 427 8900  
FAX +27 (0)12 343 3606

info@pret.diplo.de  
www.southafrica.diplo.de  
www.gicafrika.diplo.de

## **SARB Deputy Governor Mminele receives Germany's highest tribute**

**German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier has bestowed the Great Order of Merit on Aaron Daniel Mminele, the Deputy Governor of the South African Reserve Bank, honouring him for his work in furthering German-South African relations.**

German Ambassador Dr. Martin Schaefer is to hand over Germany's highest tribute to Deputy Governor Mminele on Tuesday, 23 January 2018, at a ceremony also to be attended by German Bundesbank Executive Board Member Dr. Andreas Dombret.

"With this award, our President acknowledges the outstanding contribution Deputy Governor Mminele has made to improving and furthering the relations between our two nations", Ambassador Dr. Martin Schäfer said.

"Through his activities and commitments he has showcased the values that South Africa and Germany share: Deputy Governor Mminele is a believer in the merits of international cooperation and globalization which is inclusive and responsive to the needs of all."

Aaron Daniel Mminele went to school in Hamm, Germany and concluded his vocational training at the Sparkasse Paderborn before starting what was to become a highly successful career at the Westdeutsche Landesbank in Düsseldorf.

Over the past few decades, Mr. Mminele dedicated himself to furthering relations between Germany and South Africa on many different levels, both in a professional and private capacity. As Deputy Governor of the South African Reserve Bank, Mr. Mminele helped deepen the cooperation between the SARB and Germany's central bank, the Bundesbank.

"South Africa and Germany look back on a long history of strong economic ties", said Bundesbank Executive Board Member Dr. Andreas Dombret. "Deputy Governor Mminele rendered outstanding services to this close cross-border cooperation between our two central banks. The Bundesbank is grateful for his valuable commitment."

Mr. Mminele's commitment to improving the ties between South Africans and Germans has not only been confined to financial and economic matters. During 2003 - 2010, he also served as a member of the board of the Deutsche Internationale Schule Johannesburg, including as Deputy Chairman, thus dedicating himself to promoting the collaboration between young people from both countries.

By conferring the Great Order of Merit to Mr. Aaron Daniel Mminele, the German President has recognized Daniel Mminele's exceptional commitment to South African-German relations.

"I am truly humbled and honoured to receive this award from Bundespräsident Frank-Walter Steinmeier, handed over by Ambassador Schäfer. It will serve as a source of inspiration and encouragement to continue to work with colleagues in both Germany and South Africa to enhance the already strong relationship between our countries, and to promote the objectives we share for international financial and economic coordination and cooperation", said Deputy Governor Mminele.

The Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany was instituted in 1951. It is the highest tribute the Federal Republic of Germany can pay to individuals for services to the nation. It is awarded for achievements in the political, economic, social or intellectual realm and for all kinds of outstanding services to the nation in the field of social, charitable or philanthropic work.

**Media Enquiries:**

Kerstin Bittiger

Spokesperson

Head of German Information Centre Africa

German Embassy Pretoria

Phone: +27 (0) 12 427 8936

E-Mail: Kerstin.bittiger@diplo.de