



rural development & land reform

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Rural Development and Land Reform
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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MEDIA STATEMENT REPORTS REGARDING A LAND CLAIM IN RESPECT OF SEVERAL PROPERTIES AROUND CENTURION

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The Minister of Rural Development and Land Reform (DRDLR), Ms Maite Nkoana-Mashabane has noted with serious concern the inaccurate reports regarding a land claim in respect of several properties around Centurion.

Through the Commission on Restitution of Land Rights, a land claim by Mr Zulu Kleinboo Mahlangu in respect of several properties in the City of Tshwane located around Centurion (Rooihuiskraal, Olivenhoutbosch, the Reeds, Doornkloof and other suburbs) was received. The land claim was lodged on behalf of 39 families who were allegedly dispossessed of land rights on the affected properties and have applied for the restitution of those land rights.

In compliance with the Restitution of Land Rights Act no 22 of 1994 read with Rule governing the procedure on land claims, a meeting was held by the Commission on the 10th December 2018 at Leriba Lodge to provide formal notice and guidance to current landowners and interested stakeholders on the laws and procedures applicable when a land claim is lodged upon particular properties.

The current property owners were further informed of the provision of the Restitution of Land Rights Act which enjoins the commission to avoid major social disruptions whilst settling land claims. Therefore this means, given that the area is a build-up area, it will not be physically feasible to restore the claimed land to the claimants. As a result, the land claims commission will in this instance engage with the claimants to look at options of alternative land or financial compensation or any other redress which is feasible in the circumstances as provided for in the law.

"I therefore would like to reassure all the property owners in the affected area of Centurion that they have no reason to panic, be unnecessarily alarmed, frustrated, or yield to unwarranted pressure and tension as a result of land claims published by the Gauteng Office of the Land Claims Commission. All property owners in the area of Centurion covered by this land claim, should remain assured that as a responsible government we will ensure that a just and equitable option to settle the land claims will be sought and their properties will not be affected at all; there is no need to be alarmed and to engage lawyers and structures like Afriforum as that is totally unwarranted and will be a waste of their hard earned monies", says Minister Maite Nkoana Mashabane.

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