

MEDIA RELEASE - 8 October 2003

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SANPARKS APPOINTS MR DAVID MABUNDA AS NEW CHIEF EXECUTIVE

The South African National Parks Board today (Wednesday, 08 October 2003) announced the appointment of Mr David Madoda Mabunda as the new Chief Executive Officer of SANParks.

Cabinet today confirmed Mr Mabunda's appointment to this crucial position and thereby ratified the recommendation of the SANParks Board, which was made on 23 September 2003 .

Mr Mabunda will assume his new role with effect from 1 November 2003 . He replaces Mr Mavuso Msimang, who has been appointed Chief Executive Officer of SITA (State Information Technology Agency).

Congratulating Mr Mabunda on his appointment, the Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, Mohammed Valli Moosa, said Mr Mabunda's commitment to ensuring the continuation and strengthening of environmental programmes, underpinned by his understanding of the importance of sound ecotourism and marketing strategies, will be a strong element he will be bringing into this role. Mr Mabunda is currently studying for his PhD in Integral Tourism Marketing.

"His wealth of experience as the Director of Kruger National Park since 1998 will stand him in good stead to face the conservation challenges of the future," said Minister Moosa. "Mr Mabunda will be inheriting a dedicated team of Directors who, together with the Board, are eager to support him in leading and guiding the organisation".

The SANParks Board chairperson, Mr Murphy Morobe, the Board members and SANParks staff wished Mr Mabunda every success. The Board will in the meantime set in motion a similar process to find a suitable replacement for Mr Mabunda in the Kruger National Park .

Murphy Morobe
Chairperson: SANParks

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