

**DATE: 1 AUGUST 2019**

**ATTENTION: ALL MEDIA HOUSES**

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**RE: SATU AND PRINTING SA JOINT STATEMENT**

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SATU and Printing SA want to express our disappointment and dismay at the apparent apathy being shown to our requests for an audience with the President or members of his executive as directed by the Presidency in a response letter dated 16 April 2019.

To our shock and disbelief, attempts at securing this engagement with namely the Honourable Minister of Communications Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams have come to nought with her office advising us that neither herself or the Deputy Minister will be available to attend the Presidential Summit in September 2019 due to other commitments overseas.

This has also been the case with various ministries whose work affects our industry. We have sent formal letters of invitation with a synopsis of the summit and the proposed program and topics for discussion to the Minister of the Department of Trade and Industry, Mr Ebrahim Patel, Deputy Minister of Economic Development, Ms Nomalungelo Gina, Minister of Department of Labour, Mr Thulas Nxesi and the MEC for Education in Gauteng, Mr Panyaza Lesufi.

We as stakeholders have now reached a point where we neither know nor express much confidence in the President's selected team of ministers ability to arrest the precipice our country finds itself headed for, with Stats SA's figures show unemployment rising to an unacceptable 29%.

We therefore find it ridiculous that an engagement meant to try and find ways to save jobs in an industry employing close to 100 000 people who on a weekly basis face retrenchment or being moved to short time, thus affecting their living standards which for many, already border on poverty levels, would not be entertained by his office or members of the executive.

We look forward to your favourable response.

For any media enquiries please contact the below.

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