

MEDIA RELEASE: 18 JULY 2018

THIRD (3rdND) UPDATE: HONOURING FALLEN COLLEAGUES OF UNDERGROUND FIRE INCIDENT AT PALABORA COPPER MINE

Palabora Copper (PTY) Ltd confirms with sadness and grief that we have lost **six** (6) of our beloved colleagues during the fire incident that we experienced at one of our underground conveyer belts during the early hours of **Sunday, 15 July 2018**.

When the incident happened, **two hundred and twenty six** (226) colleagues were on shift and two hundred and twenty (220) were successfully rescued with **eighty eight** (88) sustaining marginal injuries. Out of the injured **eighty eight** (88), **eighty four** (84) were treated on site by the mine's medical doctor who was also on the scene at the time, **three** (3) were transported to Marula Medical Centre – 24 hour clinic that Palabora Copper (PC) has constructed for the people of the Ba-Phalaborwa early this year. **One** (1) employee, who sustained intermediate harm was taken to Tzaneen Medi-Clinic and was released on Tuesday, 17 July 2018.

We continue to suspend our mining operations to enable the investigation establish the root cause of the fire as part of prevention of future repeats. Safety and health of our employees are critical to our existence and values. The tragedy that we experienced on **Sunday, 15 July 2018** is the first of its kind in the history of Palabora Copper.

Our deepest condolences and sympathy are with the families of our below beloved colleagues who have lost their lives during the incident:

- 1) Mr. Peter Sekgobela: Operator from PC Mining Services
- 2) Mr. Peter Selowa: Operator from A-Z Conveyers (A-Z Conveyers is PC's Underground Conveyor Maintenance Contractor)
- 3) Mr. Shaun Mashigo: Operator from A-Z Conveyers
- 4) Mr. Russel Warne: PC Co-Coordinator from PC Mining Services
- 5) Mr Vula Eckson Mayindi: PC Lube Truck Operator
- 6) Mr Elliot Maake: Operator from PC Mining Services

The pictures of the colleagues are attached.

The memorial service to honour their lives will be held tomorrow (**Thursday, 18 July 2018, from 10h00**) inside PC's premises.

PC would have appreciated journalists to be present in honouring these fallen heroes. However, due to enormous access and safety induction processes that mines adhere to as part of ensuring "**Zero Harm**" it will not be possible to give access to more than **50 journalists (local and international)** requesting for access to attend the memorial service. We sincerely apologise to the members of the media fraternity for this setback.

ENDS

Issued by:

Lydia Radebe
External Affairs and Communications Manager
Palabora Copper (PTY) Ltd
Tel: 082 887 1451; Email: Lydia.Radebe@palabora.co.za