



MEDIA STATEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TO: ALL MEDIA/NEWS EDITORS

DATE: 15 JUNE 2021

SOUTH AFRICAN FARMERS DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION CONDEMNS THE ONGOING FARM ATTACKS

The South African Farmers Development Association (SAFDA) has learned with shock that people are still being attacked in their farms and the police are moving at a slow pace to resolve this crime. One of our members, Mongezi Ntuli (28), who is a farmer in Eteza just outside Richards Bay, was attacked on his farm late on Sunday. Fortunately, his security guards were able to fight off the criminals who ended up running away. "This is not the first time that this incident has happened this is the fourth incident in a space of six months. Criminals always get away with this and nothing has been done to combat this crime. The police are failing to catch these criminals. We fear for our lives, our farms are not safe at all" says Ntuli.

SAFDA calls on government to work closely with the police to reduce farm attacks on farms. People are attacked day in day out but nothing much has been done about the nature of the crime. As SAFDA we want to call on the National Minister of Police to prioritize this. We would like to see the minister releasing statistics on farm attacks and farm killings and how these are being addressed. SAFDA's executive chairman Dr. Siyabonga Madlala said the country has seen so many of these crimes being reported but it is not clear as to what happens to these cases. "We have seen the Minister releasing statistics on different crimes that our country is facing but we have never seen reports on farm attacks, we call on the minister and government to work together to fight this scourge," says Dr. Madlala.

In March this year, SAFDA was one of the organizations that were at the forefront in opposing the bail application of the suspects in the Coka brothers' case who were brutally murdered in Mkhondo (Piet Retief). As an organization that prioritizes the rights and the lives of farmers, we will continue to raise such issues that our farmers face, particularly black farmers. We have called the government to act decisively on this matter to prevent this from spreading further. "We are hundred percent sure that if the government sets an example with one of the cases, we will see less of these killings and attacks happening," says Dr. Madlala.

For Media Enquiries please contact:

Nondumiso Mlondo

SAFDA: Media and Communications Practitioner

073 296 5570

South African Farmers Development Association

Registration number 163-564 NPO

KwaShukela, 170 Flanders Drive
Mt Edgecombe, KwaZulu-Natal
P.O. Box 1769

Mt Edgecombe Country Club, 4301

031 508 7283

info@sa-fda.org.za

www.sa-fda.org.za

