

## Extraordinary networking opportunity with AU leaders on environment and mining

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Face-to-face networking sessions with ministers from the African Union (AU) to discuss the need for cooperation between mining and extractive processes and World Heritage Sites in Africa are being arranged during the 40th anniversary conference of UNESCO-World Heritage (WH) being held in Johannesburg from 26-29 September 2012 under the auspices of the African World Heritage Fund (AWHF).

Organised by the AWHF, the short appointment-only meetings will take place on 26-27 September from 09:00-16:00 at the Kopanong Hotel & Conference Centre in Benoni.

Many AU ministers, representing Ministries of Tourism, Culture, Environment and related interests, have confirmed their attendance. So far, there is representation from Algeria, Botswana, Cameroon, Côte D'Ivoire, DRC, Egypt, Ghana, Lesotho, Libya, Mali, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

South Africa will be represented by Paul Mashatile, Minister of Arts and Culture; Marthinus van Schalkwyk, Minister of Tourism; and Edna Molewa, Minister of Environmental Affairs and Water.

The business-networking lounge for stakeholders to engage directly with decision makers in the areas mentioned above and with one another will promote a better understanding of the dual needs of resource exploitation and cultural preservation and promote trade exchange in Africa.

As there are limited slots available, please contact Teresa Jenkins on +27 (0)11 480 4922 or email teresa@lithacommunications.co.za or email the director of the AWHF, Dr Webber Ndoro at <u>WebberN@awhf.net</u>.

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