



Drone Council of South Africa (NPC)

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INAUGURAL WEBINAR: MINISTER NDABENI-ABRAHAMS DELIVERS KEYNOTE ADDRESS AT THE LAUNCH OF DRONE COUNCIL SOUTH AFRICA

Johannesburg, 14 July 2020 – The Drone Council South Africa, will host its virtual Inaugural webinar on Wednesday, 15 July 2020 to launch the council and update global stakeholders in the private and public sector on progress.

The high-profile guest list includes a keynote address by the **Honourable Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams (Minister of Communications and Digital Technologies)**.

Mr Irvin Phenyane, Chairperson of the Drone Council South Africa said “Our sluggish response to global drone technology trends has put us on a backfoot and has exposed South Africa’s lost opportunities. South Africa was the first country in Africa to approve drone (RPAS) regulations, but subsequent international investment has gone elsewhere in Africa. South Africa is now “playing catch-up”. However, after 16 months of consultation, there is now industry consensus that all stakeholders must be rallied under one national strategy. Therefore, the launch will be held under the theme “**strategic partnerships to accelerate a national growth strategy for the drone industry**”.

The webinar will include a panel of international speakers from international investors who have helped to grow the drone industry elsewhere in Africa. As an example, California based Zipline will showcase the enormous success of the drone industry in other African countries. Zipline developed their capacity to deliver essential services before and during the Covid 19 era in rural Rwanda and Ghana. Similarly, other global operators on the panel will also present case studies of drone economy successes in other African industries like Kenya and Malawi. These include Swoop Aero from Australia, Wingcopter from Germany Astral Aero from Kenya.

“New drone technology skills for graduates, current aviators and unemployed youth are being considered. Many developing countries are now using drone technology in many industries like town planning, project monitoring, rail services, road maintenance, crop spraying, delivery of goods and the security industry. The accelerated growth of the drone industry is paramount to the economic growth of our country. As a result, four CEO’s of State Owned Entities will present the way forward and catch up plan for the country” said Phenyane.

The Zoom Webinar will be hosted on Wednesday, the 15th July 2020 at 10h00

Webinar ID : 830 7857 8433

Password : 385 934

Ends

Visit:

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About Drone Council South Africa

A platform of affiliation by various established companies and new entrants into the drone industry. Our main objectives are to facilitate growth of the South Africa drone economy through

- Drone industry collaboration
- Business incubation
- Industrial sectoral optimization and investment
- Massification of drone pilot training
- SA industry global competitiveness
- Industry transformation
- Harnessing manufacturing and maintenance capacity

To learn more about what we do and to be a member, kindly visit www.dronecouncil.africa