



RECONCILIATION MONTH KEY MESSAGES

BRIEF:

South Africa will mark National Reconciliation Day on 16 December 2020 with a focus on racism and gender-based violence. In South Africa, we not only commemorate Reconciliation Day but also dedicate the entire month of December to reconciliation. This year's commemoration marks the 25th anniversary of the Day of Reconciliation.

National Reconciliation Day was adopted at the start of our democracy when it was envisioned that reconciliation, peace and stability would be a defining character of our new democratic dispensation. Each year we have an opportunity to reach out to one another to deal with our past, reconcile and build a new nation.

This vision of a nation reconciled is embedded in our democratic Constitution.

Theme: United in Action Against Racism, Gender Based Violence and Other Intolerances

Key Call to Action: We challenge South Africans to confront their preconceived ideas about race and racism.

Sub Call to Action: The nation is called upon to reconcile and united against the fight on Racism, Gender Based Violence and Femicide (GBVF)

Official Hashtags: #ReconciliationMonth2020 #ReconciliationDay2020 #UniteAgainstAllIntolerances

KEY MESSAGES	SUPPORTING STATEMENTS
<i>We have a duty to build a united and cohesive nation.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reconciliation Month reminds us that together we can bridge the divide created by apartheid and move our society forward. • It is an opportunity to celebrate how far we have come in building a cohesive society and to continue to realise a society founded on non-racialism. • Reconciliation is also about each person taking the responsibility to fight racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in the country. • South Africa belongs to all who live in it and we must appreciate and respect our diversity and unique heritage which unites us as a nation. • Fulfilling the promise of building a united, non-racial, non-sexist and prosperous country for all, takes us closer to realising Vision 2030 of the National Development Plan.
<i>Every South African must play their part to end the scourge of GBVF.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Men must know and declare that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rape stops with me. ▪ Domestic violence stops with me. ▪ Sexual assault stops with me. ▪ I am part of the solution.

KEY MESSAGES	SUPPORTING STATEMENTS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We must say no to the culture of silence. • We must ensure that our places of work are safe and secure. • Say no to workplace bullying. • Report sexual advances or innuendos in the workplace.
<p><i>Improving the quality of life of all citizens will free the potential of each person.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reconciliation is linked to transforming our society by broadening the participation of all South Africans in the development of the country. • Addressing land dispossession and creating opportunities for people who previously disadvantaged is critical to our transformation agenda. • Sustainable development that improves the lives of all South Africans requires proper succession planning, mentoring, training and skills transfer. • Reconciliation requires that we end inequality in all its forms, not only in access to land, but in access to water, education and skills, to employment, to housing, to health care and to basic services.
<p><i>South Africa belongs to all who live in it, united in our diversity.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The fight against racism is everyone's responsibility, become involved and work with others to stamp it out. • Speak up when you witness discrimination. Interrupt racist talk and make it clear that it has no place in our society. • Let us work together to expose institutional racism and wherever racism is treated as the norm. • Changing entrenched perceptions and stereotypes will not be easy but it starts with each one of us. • This generation must continue to work towards a society free from racial, social, economic and class barriers.