



The Land Claims Court

Judges' Chambers

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MEDIA STATEMENT

Correction

13 May 2021

LAND CLAIMS COURT CALLS FOR COOPERATION OF ROLEPLAYERS IN EXPEDITING LAND RESTITUTION CLAIMS

The Land Claims Court has initiated a project to expedite land restitution claims and is calling on all relevant parties involved in prosecuting land claims to participate in its project to efficiently and fairly bring outstanding claims to finality.

According to a report by the Commission on Restitution of Land Rights ('the Commission') to the Land Claims Court on 18 November 2020, there were some 7049 outstanding land claims as of June 2020. Of these, 81 claims have been referred to the Land Claims Court since 28 July 2016. This is the date that the Constitutional Court delivered its judgment in *Land Access Movement of South Africa and Others v Chairperson of the National Council of Provinces and Others* [2016] ZACC 22 ('LAMOSA 1'), which preceded its judgement in *Speaker of the National Assembly and Another v Land Access Movement of South Africa and Others* [2019] ZACC 10 ('LAMOSA 2') where it directed the Commission to report to this Court on the issue of outstanding claims.

The Land Claims Court, which is mandated to adjudicate all contested land restitution claims, is unable to adjudicate such claims unless they are referred to it. The slow rate of processing and of referring land claims to the Court is therefore impeding the expeditious adjudication thereof.

With a view to expediting land restitution claims, the Court is impressing on the Commission and all parties involved in prosecuting land claims to participate in its project to efficiently and fairly bring outstanding claims to finality. To this end, the Court has also considered it appropriate to issue directions and impose deadlines on all parties and the Commission.



The Court looks forward to the cooperation and renewed commitment of all stakeholders in bringing all outstanding claims to finality and achieving the objectives of the legislation expeditiously and fairly in the interests of all affected parties.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Y S Meer', written above a horizontal line.

Judge Y S Meer
Acting Judge President
Land Claims Court

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