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21 May 2024

MEDIA STATEMENT – NO EMBARGO

TO: ALL NEWS EDITORS

CLIMATE COMMISSION AND THE VAAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY TO HOST A PUBLIC COLLOQUIUM TO EXPLORE THE ROLE OF TECHNOLOGY IN JUST TRANSITION – LOSS AND DAMAGE

The Presidential Climate Commission (PCC) in collaboration with the Vaal University of Technology (VUT) will convene a public colloquium to explore the role of technology in addressing Just Transition - Loss and Damage on Wednesday, 22 May at the Quest Conference Estate in Vanderbijlpark, south of Johannesburg.

Hosted under the theme: “The role of technology in Just Transition and Loss and Damage: Run up to COP29”, the symposium will serve as a platform for academics, policymakers, industry leaders, and civil society representatives to share insights and develop strategies to inform the country’s response to COP29, focusing on innovative solutions and policy recommendations.

PCC Commissioner, Dr Shafick Adams from the Water Research Commission and Prof Khehla Ndlovu, VUT Vice-Chancellor & Principal, will co-host and preside over the colloquium. A key feature of the event would be a panel discussion on the Innovative Technologies in Mitigating Loss & Damage led by PCC Commissioner, Ms Makoma Lekalakala from Earthlife Africa and the Panel Discussion on the Technology for Just Transition led by Prof Khaled Abou-El-Hossein, Executive Dean of the Faculty of Engineering & Technology at VUT.

The colloquium is one of a series of public awareness initiatives spearheaded by the PCC running up to the much-anticipated COP29 which is scheduled to take place in November this year in Baku, Azerbaijan. The gathering will also mark the establishment of a courageous relationship between the two entities to pool the collective wisdom spanning VUT's four faculties and channel it towards tackling the intricate challenges posed by climate change.

Members of the media are invited to attend and cover this event.

Date: Wednesday, 22 May 2024

Time: 09:00-16:00

Venue: Quest Conference Estate

Media RSVP: Ignicious Masilela on ignicious@climatecommission.org.za or 071 960 5317.

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