

To: SAFI Stakeholders
From: SAFI Chairman – Mr. Penwell Lunga
Date: 29th September 2023

RE: SAFI: MANAGEMENT RESTRUCTURE & ROLE CHANGES

The current economic challenges facing South Africa resulting in tough trading conditions are well published. Newly released data shows the South African economy is unlikely to grow by more than 0.3% in 2023, crippling power cuts, volatile commodity prices, and a challenging external environment contribute to the country's weak growth. These factors have placed a strain on the sustainability of its funders and negatively affected SAFI's operational capacity.

In light of the above, the Board has reviewed the SAFI operating model to ensure our continued sustainability and viability and a decision has accordingly been made to strategically redeploy our human resources as follows:

- The Managing Director, Bernadette Isaacs, will be leaving SAFI at the end of September 2023 and, she will hand over to Greg Boule, the SAFI Vice Chairman, in an acting role who has decades of Industry experience.

We want to thank Bernadette for her contribution to the Industry and the SAFI team, she has played a major role in the establishment of a regional Western Cape Furniture Initiative (WCFI) in 2009 and the transition to a national Industry body the South African Furniture Initiative (SAFI) in 2016. With her 19 years of progressive experience in the fields of Human Resources, Project Management, Skills Development, and Executive Management she has been an integral part of driving the vision, strategy, and implementation of programmes that have contributed to the development of the furniture sector and the organization.

The SAFI Board would like to reassure the industry stakeholders that they will be kept up to date regarding the finalization of the new operating model for SAFI.

Yours Faithfully,



Penwell Lunga