



CoAL Chief Executive Officer – John Wallington: MoA signing ceremony 1 September 2011

The signing today of this Memorandum of Agreement is a significant event for all the signatories and particularly for CoAL.

This agreement is a declaration of intent with the goal of creating and developing a sustainable model of co-existence which should set new and more inclusive standards to be aspired to. With the help of the DEA and SanParks we are seeking to be pioneers in finding the right balance between conservation and economic development. We have a responsibility to protect the natural and cultural richness of the Heritage Site whilst substantially increasing the size of the economy and thereby creating jobs that our country desperately requires.

South Africa is blessed with significant mineral resources which are reflected in the significant role that it plays as the core of the economy of our country. Analysis indicates that mining contributes up to 18% of the GDP, employs directly and indirectly over one million people and exceeds 50% in foreign exchange earnings.

This agreement is essentially a declaration of intent with the goal of creating and developing a sustainable model of co-existence which should set new and more inclusive standards to be aspired to.

CoAL today commits itself to working with the DEA and Sanparks as the managers and custodians of the Mapungubwe National Park to assist in ensuring the outstanding universal value of the World Heritage Site is protected, maintained and ultimately enhanced.

We continue to invite **all** interested stakeholders to be part of the process so that together we ensure that the excesses of the past are not repeated.

Thank you