



COUNCIL
FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE
SOUTH AFRICAN
CONSTITUTION

MEDIA STATEMENT

15 October 2013

CASAC welcomes decision on Marikana funding

The Council for the Advancement of the South African Constitution (CASAC) welcomes the decision by Judge Tati Makgoka in the South Gauteng High Court ordering Legal Aid South Africa to fund the legal representation of workers who were injured in the Marikana massacre last year. We hope that this judgment will now mark the end of the protracted battle by the injured workers to secure their legal participation in the Farlam Commission of Inquiry.

CASAC Chairman Siphon Pityana says:

“We urge Legal Aid SA to respect this judgment, adhere to it and not to appeal it. There is little to be gained from further legal wrangling over funding; indeed any appeal will only serve to further deepen the wounds of these injured workers. Our overriding concern is for Judge Farlam to be able to expeditiously fulfil his mandate by identifying those responsible for the loss of life”.

The interests of justice demand that all parties involved in the tragic massacre be afforded an opportunity to participate fully in the Commission. It is only by hearing the testimony of all parties can Judge Farlam make his findings with regards to what happened on 16 August last year.

We trust that the Commission will now be able to proceed with its work without further delay and report as soon as possible. We call on all parties to co-operate to ensure that this is achieved.

Enquiries:

Lawson Naidoo

073 158 5736

lawson@casac.org.za