

**MEDIA STATEMENT**

Date:Monday, 12 July 2021

Embargo: None

Subject: **THE SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL DEFENCE FORCE TO DEPLOY SOLDIERS IN GAUTENG AND KWAZULU NATAL PROVINCES TO ASSIST LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES**

The South African National Defence Force (SANDF) has commenced with pre-deployment processes and procedures in line with a request for assistance received from the National Joint Operational and Intelligence Structure (NATJOINTS) to assist law enforcement agencies deployed in Gauteng and KwaZulu Natal Provinces respectively to quell the unrest that has gripped both Provinces in the last few days. The deployment will commence as soon as all deployment processes are `in place.

The duration and number of deploying soldiers will be determined based on the assessment of the situation on the ground by the relevant law enforcement agencies. Furthermore, it must be emphasised that the SANDF`s deployment objective is to provide safety and a safe working environment for members of the SAPS and other law enforcement agencies whilst they carry out their Constitutionally mandated law and order duties. SANDF deployment-related information updates will follow in due course.

 ​​ **Ends.**

**Issued by**: ​ South African National Defence Force

 (**Defence Headquarters)**

Pretoria

**Enquiries**: Brigadier General Mafi Mgobozi

 (**Director Defence Corporate Communication)**

083 410 1126