****

ROYAL BAFOKENG NATION

Office of Kgosi

P O Box 1, Phokeng, 0335,

Republic of South Africa

www.bafokeng.com

Media Release

22 August 2012

For Immediate Release

**BAFOKENG KING ACCOMPANIES TRADITIONAL LEADERS TO SITE OF MARIKANA TRAGEDY**

Kgosi Leruo Molotlegi, King of the Royal Bafokeng Nation, has welcomed traditional leaders, today, August 22, who have travelled to Rustenburg to assist the families of the victims killed at the Marikana mine last week. Kgosi Leruo is accompanying His Majesty King Mpendulo Calvin Sigcawu of Xhosa Kingship, among other traditional leaders, to the site of the violence, approximately 50 kilometres east of Bafokeng territory, to pay respects at the site of the tragedy. Many of the dead hail from rural areas of the Eastern Cape and beyond, and leave large numbers of grieving dependents behind.

“This is a time that calls on us to take stock of South Africa’s violent past, the enduring inequalities, the limited employment opportunities and the vulnerability of migrant labour communities”, Kgosi Leruo said on Tuesday. The king cancelled the annual planning breakaway of his Supreme Council, scheduled for the coming weekend, in anticipation of the memorial services and funerals. “My elders and councillors should be at their posts, ready to comfort and ready to lead,” Kgosi Leruo said.

The Bafokeng monarch and his fellow traditional leaders will express their condolences to the grieving families over the next few days, and will also meet to discuss ways to prevent future such tragedies.

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

Enquiries

Martin Bekker 014 566 1451

Email: martin.bekker@bafokeng.com

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

Notes to editors

The Royal Bafokeng Nation: *A Forward-Thinking Traditional Community*

The Royal Bafokeng Nation is a vibrant African community where tradition meets modernity in Big Five country. Located in the Rustenburg Valley in South Africa’s North West Province, the 150,000 people who reside on the Royal Bafokeng Nation’s land are beneficiaries of some of the most innovative approaches to development. These include holistic education reform, the use of sport to generate social and economic momentum, and converting dividends from a single mineral resource into the world’s leading community-based investment company.

The king of the Royal Bafokeng Nation is *Kgosi* Leruo T. Molotlegi, 36th in a long line of visionary traditional leaders. Thanks to the pioneering spirit of the king’s ancestors, the Bafokeng community owns 1000 km2 of land situated on part of one of the largest reserves of platinum group metals in the world. PLAN ‘35, the strategic blueprint for the community’s future, aims to uplift an impoverished community, using long-term strategic interventions to create a socially, economically, and environmentally sustainable region true to its African heritage and traditions.

The Royal Bafokeng Nation enjoys traditional governance, innovative social service mechanisms, and world-leading investment strategies; it is a model of progressive leadership on the African continent. Bafokeng governance combines elected, appointed, and hereditary leaders committed to long-term, future-oriented planning.