



MINISTRY
HUMAN SETTLEMENTS
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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MEDIA STATEMENT

MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCES TO THE NATIONAL SLUM DWELLERS FEDERATION

The Deputy Minister of Human Settlements Zou Kota-Fredericks has learned with shock of the sudden and untimely death of Mr Jockin Arputham, founder and President of the Slum Dwellers International (SDI).

Mr Arputham, 71, founded SDI, a global network of slum and shack dweller organisation and federations across the globe, in the 1970s for the realisation of sustainable living environments especially in the urban areas.

He built strong representative organisations to partner with governments and international agencies for over 40 years, creating strong connections and relationships throughout the world, including in South Africa.

“Our comrade, our brother and our very special friend who has pioneered people-centered development initiatives ensured that through his selfless commitment, he dedicated his life towards the upliftment of the urban poor globally,” said Ms Kota-Fredericks.

On behalf of the Department of Human Settlements and its stakeholders, she extended her sympathy and condolences to the family of Mr Arputham and his organisation, the SDI.

Words could not express the pain and sorrow of his tragic death, urging that his legacy be upheld in South Africa and around the world through continued collaboration and partnerships to upgrade slums and informal settlements for dignity and quality of life for all.

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