



SOUTH AFRICAN HERITAGE RESOURCES AGENCY

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**MEDIA STATEMENT 2024 | Suspension of Auction**



After the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) learnt of the intended auction of approximately 74 items associated with former President Nelson Mandela, it engaged with Guernsey's Auction House and Dr Makaziwe Mandela to suspend the auction to allow the ongoing legal proceedings to be finalised. SAHRA welcomes the decision by Guernsey's Auction House to suspend the auction. This decision aligns with our commitment to the conservation of South Africa's cultural heritage, and we appreciate the recognition of the sensitivity surrounding these significant artefacts.

As SAHRA pursues the application for leave to appeal the recent High Court judgment related to the export of heritage objects, the suspension of the auction is a responsible and considerate approach. It allows the ongoing legal proceedings to be concluded and affords SAHRA the opportunity to pursue its objective of preserving the cultural heritage of our nation.

We value the cooperation of Guernsey's Auction House in this matter.

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