

Press Statement

Johannesburg: 14 February 2015

Hlongwane loses his Constitutional Court bid to NAFCOG Presidency

A Constitutional bench of 11 Justices led by South African Chief Justice Mogoeng and Deputy Chief Justice Moseneke dismissed with costs an application for leave to appeal by a splinter group of the National African Federated Chamber of Commerce and Industry (NAFCOC) led by Rev Joe Hlongwane. This judgement was made on 11 February 2015.

Hlongwane and his followers were seeking to appeal a November 21, 2014 Judgement of the Supreme Court of Appeal which ruled that the meeting of 06 December 2012 which Hlongwane and his band of followers had sat and installed themselves as NAFCOG leaders was unlawful.

Joe Hlongwane has for the past two years publicly claimed to be the president of NAFCOG based on that meeting he held with his followers on 06 December 2014. The same meeting purported to have removed the sitting NAFCOG President Lawrence Mavundla and his executive from their positions. The matter was brought to the Supreme Court of Appeal after Mavundla and his executive successfully won a leave to appeal against a high court judgement by Judge Monama that had ruled in favour of Hlongwane.

This Judgement by the Constitutional Court, the highest court in the land, effectively puts an end to Hlongwane's efforts to lay claim to the leadership of the 50 year old business chamber. An attempt by Hlongwane and his followers to act as NAFCOG executive will be a contempt of the Supreme Court Judgement which ruled that his leadership claim was unlawful, void and of no force or effect.

This Judgement also effectively confirms Lawrence Mavundla as the duly elected President of NAFCOG, having been re-elected on 22 September 2014 for a further 5 year term.

The NAFCOG leadership of Mr Lawrence Mavundla welcomes this judgement and hopes that this judgement paves way for NAFCOG to concentrate on supporting its members, help them grow their businesses and venture into other innovative business avenues.

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