



World Federation of Diamond Bourses



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - 16 December 2013

In memory of MADIBA

The World Federation of Diamond Bourses (WFDB) made the decision to participate in the 10 days of national mourning after the sad passing of Nelson Mandela, one of the greatest liberators and humanitarians the world has ever seen, before making any public statement.

“Madiba’s passing was an incredible loss for his family, the people of South Africa and the entire global community,” Ernie Blom, President of the WFDB and a South African himself, said on Monday. “Our thoughts are with each and every one who loved this incredible leader who inspired us all.”

Five days after Mandela’s passing, 90 000 people gathered at the FNB Stadium near Johannesburg to honour the anti-apartheid famed Nobel Peace Prize winner and first democratic elected president of South Africa. President Obama was joined by more than 100 world leaders, Mandela’s family and tens of thousands of South African citizens as they celebrated Mandela’s legacy at **the official memorial service. Mandela was laid to rest on Sunday, 15 December, at his boyhood home of Qunu.**

“The man who knit together South Africa was a man of many words. Words that will continue to inspire for years and years to come,” Blom said.

“Lead from the back, and let others believe they are in front.” – Nelson Mandela
