

**Sibanye Gold Limited**  
**Trading as Sibanye-Stillwater**  
Reg. 2002/031431/06  
Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa  
Share code: SGL  
ISIN – ZAE000173951  
Issuer code: SGL  
("Sibanye-Stillwater", "the Company" and/or "the Group")



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## MARKET RELEASE

### **Review and update of the tragic seismic incident at Sibanye-Stillwater's Driefontein operations**

**Johannesburg, 7 May 2018:** On Saturday 5 May 2018, Sibanye-Stillwater announced that all 13 of its employees who were trapped underground at its Masakhane mine, Driefontein operations had been recovered and brought to surface by mine rescue personnel.

Six of the employees, were successfully rescued and transported to hospital, and remain in a stable condition.

It is with much sadness and regret however, that the Board and management of Sibanye-Stillwater confirms that seven of the 13 employees who were retrieved, passed away from injuries sustained during the incident.

The families of all of the employees have been contacted and assisted with transport to the mine, and have been receiving necessary support and counselling, which will be ongoing.

The Board and management of Sibanye-Stillwater wishes to extend their sincere condolences to the families, friends and colleagues of the affected employees and all others impacted by this disaster.

“Our deep level mining layouts and support systems are designed to cater for this level of seismicity and I assure you we will, together with the Department of Mineral Resources (DMR) and other stakeholders, be conducting a comprehensive investigation into this incident, in order to establish the cause of the incident and what actions need to be taken, to ensure this never happens again. The health and safety of our people is paramount and we remain committed to taking any actions necessary, which will support our quest for zero harm in the workplace”, Neal Froneman, CEO of Sibanye-Stillwater stated.

A day of mourning and memorial service for the deceased colleagues, has been declared for the entire Driefontein operations on Thursday 10 May 2018, with employees from the Masakhane mine, observing a further day of mourning on Friday 11 May 2018. Funeral services for the deceased colleagues will be held on Saturday 12 May 2018.

A thorough in-loco inspection and investigation by management, the DMR and other stakeholders, will be conducted at a date to be established by the DMR. Normal operations at the rest of the Driefontein operations, resumed on Saturday 5 May 2018.

The Sibanye-Stillwater Board, would like to reiterate their appreciation for the untiring efforts of all involved in recovering the trapped employees. This includes, primarily, the mine rescue teams and Sibanye-

Stillwater employees, who worked continuously to rescue our colleagues under extremely challenging conditions, but also management who oversaw the rescue operations and other stakeholders such as the DMR, who provided invaluable support and advice.

**Background on the incident:**

A seismic event (measuring 2.5 on the Richter scale) occurred on the western side of the Driefontein operations at approximately 12:15 on Thursday, 3 May 2018. Immediately after the location (epicentre) of this seismic event was identified by Sibanye-Stillwater's extensive underground seismic monitoring systems, the teams working in the western side were contacted to ascertain if there had been any related safety concerns. One of the teams did not respond on the first call, and a rescue process was immediately triggered. An emergency control room was established and paramedics and mine rescue teams deployed to the mine. The unaccounted for team subsequently responded and it was established that the installed support and other safety systems in the area had prevented significant damage, and as a result, there were no injuries or safety issues resulting from the seismic event.

A mine rescue team had already been deployed and was making its way underground, when an unrelated second seismic event (measuring about 2.2 on the Richter scale) occurred at about 13:20, on the eastern side of the Masakhane mine approximately 2.5km away from the first event.

Although of a lower magnitude than the first event, the second seismic event caused a working stope (40 level,-27 East, 7 West panel), which was close to the epicentre of the seismic event to be inundated with loose rocks, trapping 13 employees working in the stope. No other stopes in the mine were affected and all remaining employees at Driefontein were safely evacuated from the underground operations.

Shortly after the incident, rescue efforts began in earnest. All relevant stakeholders including the DMR and unions were alerted about the incident and once the missing employees had been identified, efforts to contact their families were made. The families were offered transport to the mine, where they received regular updates on the rescue mission, and support, trauma counselling and medical care.

Specially trained rescue teams from Mine Rescue Services, supported by Sibanye-Stillwater employees and guided by management in the emergency control room, worked relentlessly in extremely challenging conditions, for more than 40 hours to rescue and recover the missing employees, with the last employee being recovered at about 07:30 on Saturday 6 May 2018. The fact that there were no further injuries despite the trying conditions, is testament to the training and commitment of these teams. We would like to thank all of the Mine Rescue Services brigadesmen from across the SA Mining industry, who volunteered for this essential service. A special note of appreciation goes to our own employees who volunteered and worked non-stop through the entire rescue period alongside the Mine Rescue Services brigadesmen. You are all true heroes.

Blasting operations were suspended across the Driefontein operations following the seismic event. Blasting operations subsequently resumed at the unaffected Driefontein mines on Saturday, 5 May 2018.

Ends.

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