

SANEF, government to discuss media issues

South African National Editors' Forum (SANEF) and Government are meeting this coming weekend to examine relations between Government and the media, in the interest of strengthening the democratic culture in the country. The media are invited to a photo-opportunity and open session on Friday afternoon, 15 October 2010, and the closing media briefing on Saturday afternoon, 16 October.



The discussions will take place at the Mount Grace Country House and Spa, Magaliesburg, on Friday 15 October and Saturday 16 October and reflect the importance Government attaches to the media as a sector of society. It follows a preparatory meeting held last month between the deputy president Kgalema Motlanthe and SANEF, where the parties undertook to strengthen relations and deliberate issues of mutual interest and concern.



For media executives, the meeting will present an opportunity to raise directly with Government various concerns of interest to the sector.

Motlanthe will lead the government delegation, comprising a large number of ministers and deputy ministers, while SANEF's chairperson Mondli Makhanya will lead the group of senior editors from

around the country.

The photo-opportunity and open session with include the deputy president's opening statement at 4.30m on Friday 15 October. The closing media briefing will at 4.45pm on Saturday 16 October.

Members of the media wishing to attend are required to submit the following details - name and surname, identity number and name of media organisation by 3pm on Thursday 14 October to bongiwe@gcis.gov.za. Those who fail to do so will not be allowed to attend the event.

For further information, contact Femida Mehtar, SANEF executive director, on +27 (0)84 784 2006.

For more:

- Bizcommunity special section: special focus on media freedom
- Bizcommunity Twitterfall: #ZAmediafreedom
- Press Council of South Africa: Help make journalism in South Africa better
- Right2Know petition: www.right2know.org.za
- Avaaz.org petition: South Africa: democracy at risk
- MediaMattersZA: www.Facebook.com/MediaMattersZa and @MediaMattersZA
- Keep South Africa's Media Free: Facebook and @safreemedia
- SANEF: Media Freedom
- Freedomhouse.org: Freedom in the world
- Google News Search: Protection of Information Bill media appeals tribunal
- Twitter Search: ZAmediafreedom
- Google Blog Search: Protection of Information Bill media appeals tribunal

