



STATEMENT BY FORMER PRESIDENT F W DE KLERK ON SOUTH AFRICA'S ELECTION TO MEMBERSHIP OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I should like to congratulate the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, and all those who were involved in helping to secure South Africa's election to the United Nations Security Council.

This singular honour – and the overwhelming vote that South Africa received in the General Assembly – is an indication of the esteem in which South Africa is held in the international community. Much of this esteem has its roots in the balanced and constructive role that South Africa now plays in so many areas of global relations – and particularly with regard to our exemplary contribution to peace in Africa.

I hope that South Africa's election to the Security Council will be the precursor to our appointment before too long to a permanent seat in an expanded Security Council.

**ISSUED BY THE F W DE KLERK FOUNDATION
CAPE TOWN, 18 October 2006
ENQUIRIES: Danie Keet (082 453 4350)**