AGRI SA

Mediaverklaring

5 September 2018

Agri SA stel sy saak teen OSV

Agri SA het vanoggend sy mondelinge voorlegging aan die Grondwetlikehersieningskomitee by die Parlement gelewer. Agri SA is en bly teen enige wysiging van artikel 25 van die Grondwet gekant.

Die volgende is 'n kort opsomming van die voorlegging:

- **Om artikel 25 te verander sal nie die beoogde uitkomstes lewer wat nodig is om die nalatenskap van die verlede te verander nie.** Trouens, artikel 25 soos wat dit nou is, bied reeds die regering die nodige wetgewende magte om te verseker dat grondhervorming op 'n ordelike wyse en volgens voorgeskrewe prosesse geskied. **Geen verandering is nodig nie.**
- Wat wel moet verander is die burokratiese stelsel, die huidige grondhervormingsbeleid en -programme.
- Agri SA vra die regering om te kyk na die werk wat reeds deur kommersiële boere gedoen is, om nuwe boere regoor die land te bemagtig.
- Belangrike prioriteite sluit in om eienaarskap en verblyfsekerheid vir almal te verseker. Nie net kan eienaarskap mense bemagtig nie, dit herstel ook hul waardigheid en dit gee die basis vir welvaartskepping.

Agri SA erken die vernedering, pyn en ekonomiese lyding wat Suid-Afrikaners moes verduur weens ontneming, gedwonge verskuiwings en uitsluiting. Agri SA is verbind tot grondhervorming en ondersteun alle wetgewende prosesse voortspruitend uit artikel 25 se huidige bewoording. Agri SA neem aktief aan verskeie prosesse wat op grondhervorming, boer en landbou-ontwikkeling gemik is, deel.

Regeringsdepartemente wat met grondhervorming, landbou-ontwikkeling en die nodige ondersteuningstelses bemoeid is, is dikwels in konflik met mekaar. Daar is min samewerking tussen provinsiale en nasionale departemente en staatsinstellings soos die Land Bank, Dti en Agri-kolleges. Die regering en politici het versuim om suksesvolle grondhervorming te verseker, deur diegene wat verantwoordelik is vir grondhervorming en verwante programme nie aanspreeklik te hou nie.

"Dit is nie die Grondwet wat die mense in die steek gelaat het nie; dit is 'n burokratiese, ondoeltreffende, hoogs gefragmenteerde en nie-verantwoordbare regeringstelsel," sê Christo van der Rheede, adjunk uitvoerende direkteur van Agri SA.

Agri SA bly ten sterkste teen enige wysiging van artikel 25 van die Grondwet gekant. Namens ons lede sal ons enige wesenlike wysiging wat die beskerming van eiendomsreg ondermyn en nie in pas is met internasionale beste praktyke nie, tot in die hoogste howe beveg.

Navrae:

Christo van der Rheede
Agri SA, Adjunk Uitvoerende Direkteur
S: 083 380 3492

Annelize Crosby
Agri SA, Hoof van Sentrum van Uitnemendheid: Grond
S: 082 388 0017

Media release

5 September 2018

Agri SA makes its case against EWC

Agri SA delivered its oral presentation this morning to the Constitutional Review Committee at Parliament. In no uncertain terms Agri SA is opposed to any amendment to Section 25 of the Constitution.

The following is a brief summary of the presentation:

- **Changing Section 25 will not bring about the outcomes we all seek in terms of overcoming the legacies of the past.** In fact, Section 25 as it currently stands do provide the state with the necessary legislative powers to ensure that land reform takes place in an orderly way and according to prescribed processes. **No change is necessary.**
- What needs to be changed is the entire bureaucratic system, the current land reform policies and programmes.
- Agri SA is appealing to government to have a look at the work done by commercial agriculture to empower new farmers all over the country.
- Key priorities are to expand ownership and security of tenure to all of our people. Ownership not only empowers people, it restores their dignity and it lays a solid foundation for wealth creation.

Agri SA acknowledges the indignity, humiliation, pain and economic suffering South African's had to endure due to dispossession, forced removals and racial exclusion. Agri SA is committed to land reform and has been supportive of all the legislative programmes flowing from the current wording of Section 25, and has also participated actively in various processes aimed at land reform, farmer and agricultural development.

Government departments tasked with land reform, agricultural development and providing the necessary support systems are often in conflict with each other. There is little collaboration between provincial and national departments and state institutions such as the Land Bank, Dti and Agri-Colleges. This is a damning indictment on the part of government and politicians who've failed to ensure successful land reform by holding those responsible for land reform and related programmes accountable.

"It's not the Constitution that is failing the people, it is a bureaucratic, inefficient, highly fragmented and unaccountable government system," said Christo van der Rheede, Agri SA deputy executive director.

Agri SA remains firmly opposed to any amendment to Section 25 of the Constitution. On behalf of our members, we will fight any material amendment which undermines the protection of property rights and is out of step with international best practice in the highest courts.

Enquiries:
Christo van der Rheede
Agri SA, Deputy Executive Director
C: 083 380 3492

Annelize Crosby
Agri SA, Head of Centre of Excellence: Land
C: 082 388 0017