

## Placing Women at the forefront of inclusive growth

Following a competitive selection process from among a range of worthy contenders, I am pleased to announce the appointment of Ms Zama Khanyile as the NEF's Divisional Executive for Venture Capital & Corporate Finance, the second woman professional to occupy the role since its establishment in 2011.

In this function Ms Khanyile will provide operational leadership for the Strategic Projects Fund, which is responsible for supporting black industrialists, as well as uMnotho Fund, whose purview encompasses start-up, acquisitions, expansionary and transformation support for medium-sized black-owned and managed enterprises.

Also making history is Ms Eldene Govender, the first woman investment professional to be appointed as iMbewu Fund Manager since operational inception in 2004. iMbewu's raison d'être is to support the establishment and growth black-owned and managed SMEs, countrywide.

### Propelling historic aspiration

Together we congratulate these two guardians of the Empowerment Dividend, in whose hands and leadership the Executive Committee and I hereby entrust the fulfilment of the historic aspirations of black entrepreneurs in the quest for inclusive growth. Along with other Managers and Executives, Ms Khanyile and Ms Govender will put shoulder to wheel as the NEF takes its mandate on a higher trajectory, determined in our resolve to restore the economic citizenship of the dispossessed.

Please find below Ms Khanyile and Ms Govender's respective resumes:

### Ms Khanyile – epitome of an illustrious career

Ms Khanyile holds a B Com Accounting degree from the Rand Afrikaans University and a B Com Honours degree from the University of Johannesburg;

- She is a qualified Chartered Accountant with the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants;
- Ms Khanyile has over 15 years' professional experience including articles;
- She has worked for organisations such as KPMG Inc as a Supervisor and Audit Manager, as well as the Industrial Development Corporation as a Business Analyst, Senior Business Analyst and as Account Manager;
- Ms Khanyile has been in the employ of the NEF since October 2014 as the uMnotho Fund Manager;
- She has been in the position of Acting Divisional Executive for Venture Capital & Corporate Finance since June 2021 to date.

Ms Khanyile has a highly decorated and illustrious career. She is the current President of the African Woman Chartered Accountants



Ms Zama Khanyile, Divisional Executive for Venture Capital & Corporate Finance

Forum (AWCA). She was listed by the Mail & Guardian among the Top 200 Young South Africans in 2019, and in 2018 Ms Khanyile was named among the Top 100 SADC Trailblazers by The Young Independents.

Also in 2018 she was named among SAICA's Top 35 Under 35 Chartered Accountants. The above awards and achievements show what a stellar pioneer Ms Khanyile is. As the Divisional Executive her star qualities will grow from strength to strength.

### Ms Govender – a formidable reputation for excellence

- Ms Govender holds a Bachelor of Commerce in Economics & Informatics degree from the North West University;
- She has over 15 years' working experience and has worked for organisations such as ABSA Bank as a Small Business Portfolio Manager, Business Partners as a Portfolio Manager and for Standard Bank as a Manager for Equity & Leverage Finance;
- Ms Govender has been employed by the NEF since February 2011 as Senior Investment Associate and was subsequently promoted to Investment Principal for iMbewu Fund in April 2016;
- She has been the Acting iMbewu Fund Manager since December 2018;



Ms Eldene Govender, iMbewu Fund Manager

A self-driven and highly motivated individual, Ms Govender has built a reputation as an indefatigable professional with a reputation for excellence.

She is a seasoned dealmaker who is passionate about B-BBEE and as a leader, she is known for her empathy, mettle and commitment to driving the commercial success of the businesses whose applications she oversees.

### Growing our own timber

Both Ms Khanyile and Ms Govender are part of a long line of appointees who have risen from within the ranks of the NEF. As an organisation that grows its own timber, the NEF is an academy of knowledge that is at the forefront of providing innovative finance and unique non-financial support to propel black entrepreneurs as catalysts for economic recovery and growth.



Ms Philisiwe Mthethwa, NEF CEO

Our country's developmental deficit is huge and deep. It requires for all institutions to have the very finest at the helm. It is for this reason that the NEF will continue to nurture and refine talent as an organisation where merit and distinction are founded on the crucible of patriotism.

Please join me in wishing Ms Khanyile and Ms Govender exceptional success in their vocations.

**NEF CEO, Ms Philisiwe Mthethwa**