MEDIA STATEMENT
ISSUED BY THE ROAD ACCIDENT FUND
DATE: 11 SEPTEMBER 2015

RAF’S FINANCIAL CONTROLS PRAISED BY AUDITOR-GENERAL

The Road Accident Fund (RAF) has achieved the monumental milestone of a clean unqualified audit for the third consecutive year following the entity’s prudent and responsible management of public funds in 2014/2015, which came about as a result of the business continuing to improve service delivery.

One of 11 public entities that were honoured by the Auditor-General (AG) at a ceremony yesterday, the RAF was commended for having strong governance attributes of good financial controls, a robust financial team and strong leadership guidance. RAF Board Chairperson Ntuthuko Bhengu, Board Audit Committee chairperson Dumisa Hlatshwayo and Chief Executive Officer Dr Eugene Watson, were present to receive the accolade on behalf of the organisation.

The AG’s report is an independent and objective appraisal of the RAF’s financial statements, controls, compliance and performance information. Identifying the public entity as a going concern, the AG reported that irregular expenditure was reduced by 21% and there were no material findings on compliance and internal controls.

RAF’s Board congratulated Executives, staff and the regions for their contribution and collective efforts in upholding the highest standards of Ubuntu.

Dr Bhengu said the clean unqualified audit, which comes on the eve of the Annual Financial Report’s public release, is a validation of the RAF staff’s continuous hard work and achievements in the midst of huge financial and operational challenges. “It is an expressed independent recognition of the entity’s sound management and we will continue with our judicious financial practises when channelling public money towards the care and support of claimants and beneficiaries.”

RAF CEO Dr Watson was equally full of praise: “Well done to our Finance team for all the effort, as well as every other unit for their contribution to a collective success.”
The RAF Chairperson said the achievement was an indication that the RAF is in good hands as it transforms, and that monies are being spent wisely.

“We are at an advanced stage with our preparations for the new compensation system under the Road Accident Benefit Scheme (RABS). The ‘no-fault’, fixed benefit scheme will ensure smooth alignment with government’s comprehensive social security system, thus ensuring the RAF ceases being a cash cow for unscrupulous stakeholders,” said Dr Bhengu.

“RABS will also allow expanded access to those previously and currently excluded by virtue of fault, including lower income groups, public and private transport passengers, widows, orphans and other dependants.”

Issued by the Road Accident Fund’s Media and Public Relations Unit

Linda Rulashe: Senior Manager Media & Public Relations. Tel: (012) 621-1605.
Mobile: 083-386-3929. Email: LindaR@raf.co.za

Ernest Nkuna: Media and Public Relations Officer. Tel: (012) 649-2220.
Mobile: 084-074-5782. Email: ErnestN@raf.co.za