



Date: 16 June 2023

**CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE TO THE PRESIDENT-ELECT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA, HIS EXCELLENCY PRESIDENT CYRIL RAMAPHOSA**

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On behalf of the United Africa Royal Assembly, I am honored to congratulate you on your re-election as The President of the Republic of South Africa and success in forging a historic government of national unity. We are in agreement that the recent elections reflect the people's desire for unity and collaborative governance to achieve a democratic society rooted in non-racialism, non-sexism, and justice, ensuring stability and peace for all.

The post-Apartheid South African government has recognised traditional kings, chiefs, and leaders as vital to tribal and cultural leadership and development, resulting in progressive policies that remain exemplary across our great African continent to-date. Your previous term continued these commendable efforts, notably with the enactment of The Traditional Courts Act of 2022. However, significant challenges persist, notably including unrecognized kingships, challenges with role allocation to traditional leadership, and the imperative need for capacity building and enhanced cooperative governance models.

We believe that stronger integration of traditional leadership could greatly support your new government's priorities of tackling poverty, unemployment, and inequality. This includes formalizing their inclusion in decision-making processes, empowering them in governance and community development, and supporting the creation of tribal banks tailored to the specific needs of different communities.

The United Africa Royal Assembly looks forward to the continued much-needed support for traditional leadership institutions in South Africa. We offer you our wholehearted support in your second term and look forward to fruitful partnerships in your endeavors..

**HIH PRINCE ESTIFANOS MATEWOS**  
**PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED AFRICA ROYAL ASSEMBLY**

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