



## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

### **SABC REACHES AGREEMENT WITH IMG TO BROADCAST SELECT MATCHES OF 2019 RUGBY WORLD CUP**

**Johannesburg – Friday, 20 September 2019** - The South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC) is pleased to announce that it has reached an agreement with IMG, for the radio rights to broadcast select matches of the 2019 Rugby World Cup. The agreement includes the broadcast of four matches featuring the National Rugby team, the Springboks, as well as two semi-finals and the final match.

SABC radio stations RSG and Radio 2000 will carry live commentary, whilst Umhlobo Wenene will provide reports during the match.

The SABC's Acting Chief Operations Officer (ACOO), Ms Sylvia Tladi stated "The public broadcaster is aware of the fact that Rugby is a loved sport in our country. We are pleased that we were able to negotiate and get to a point where, in the interest of the public and in fulfilling our mandate, the SABC would be able to provide the South African public, an opportunity to follow the Springboks on radio, as they fight to claim the title of being rugby world champions in Japan. Although there will be a loss, the organisation ensured that it was minimal, as the public broadcaster needed to find middle ground in fulfilling its public mandate, whilst looking at the financial sustainability of the corporation.

**END**

**Issued By: Group Communications**

**Media Enquiries: Ms. Vuyo Mthembu (SABC Spokesperson)**

**[Mthembuv@sabc.co.za](mailto:Mthembuv@sabc.co.za) | T. 011 714 2236 | C. 083 300 9221**