



SPEECH BY ADELAIDE RUITERS: FOUNDER AND CEO OF ADELAIDE RUITERS MINING AND EXPLORATION PTY LTD SOUTH AFRICA (A.R.M.E)

AT THE CELEBRATION OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 8 MARCH 2017

MEDIUM CONFERENCE ROOM, NEW AUC COMPLEX, ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

First of all, Happy International Woman's Day to all the Ladies in this room

Honourable Your Excellency Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, Chairperson of the African Union Commission (AUC)

Everybody participating in this programme, All Protocol Observed

Madame Programme Director

Good afternoon Ladies and Gentlemen

My name is Adelaide Ruiters, and I am the Founder and CEO of Adelaide Ruiters Mining and Exploration Pty Ltd, also known as ARME, a Black Woman Previously Disadvantaged Owned South African Mining and Exploration Company.

Thank you to the organisers of this very significant and prestigious celebration, for inviting me here today, it is a very proud moment for me indeed. You have invited me here, since you have heard, that on 17 February 2017, I have been conferred, the Woman Super Achiever with an Award in Mumbai India by the World Women Leadership Congress 2017. At this event, when I received the award, I made a Speech. I said that I am receiving this award, on behalf of all the Women on the Continent of Africa, who like me, have struggled to build businesses, and who will indeed, in future, also struggle to build businesses. It is always challenging for us as women to build our own businesses, however, we as women have overcome many challenges throughout the Ages. It is said that "we as women are the backbone of society. You strike a woman you strike a Rock". We as women, can do anything. That is what brought me to be here today.

I am here today, very much Honoured, to present this Award to you Honourable Your Excellency Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma. It is just fitting for me, to present this award to you, since I have accepted this award, on behalf of all the Women on the Continent of Africa. What makes this moment extra special to me, is that I am Proudly South African, and you are too. So, as a South African, I am honoured that I am here today also representing South African Women, at the Head Quarters of the African Union in Addis Ababa, to use this platform to inspire all women on the continent to also go out there, be successful and fulfil their dreams so as to make a difference in the lives of the people of the African Continent, in whatever

business they wish to do. Don't give up, always persevere, if you believe what you are doing is the right thing.

Therefore, Honourable Your Excellency Dr Dlamini Zuma, it is just fitting for me to read the speech I have made in Mumbai, when I received this award on behalf of all the Women in Africa.

SPEECH MADE BY ADELAIDE RUITERS RECIPIENT WOMAN SUPER ACHIEVER AWARD INTERNATIONAL WORLD WOMEN LEADERSHIP CONGRESS MUMBAI INDIA 17 FEBRUARY 2017

Thank you very much Dr Bathia, Dr Parikh and the Organisers of this prestigious event for the Honours. My name is Adelaide Ruiters, I am from South Africa, and I am the Founder and CEO of Adelaide Ruiters Mining and Exploration Pty Ltd, a Phosphate and Industrial minerals company to produce and beneficiate fertilizers for the Agriculture industry.

May I ask, that all other delegates from the African continent also raise their hands?

I have started this mining company with very limited resources, in fact during a time when I was retrenched and just got divorced. It is a long story indeed, however, let me mention to you that I applied for and registered the rights on my ID at first, since I did not have a registered company as yet at the time. How did I do it? I did not have money to pay consultants, and I approached a university graduate to help me develop my project (the Environmental Aspects) as well as locating previous drilling data from our South African Council for Geoscience and I located the previous Geologist and Metallurgist who worked on this particular Phosphate Deposit before the rights were awarded to me (I gave them shares in my company as well). I am accepting this award on behalf of all the Women on the African Continent, and with this award I wish to inspire all women from the African Continent and Globally, to also start their own mining companies. It can be done. I have. It is a known fact, that the African Continent is well endowed with economically viable mineral resources, and I believe, that we as Africans should take charge and own, develop and beneficiate our mineral resources on our continent, so that our mineral resources can truly serve the people from our African Continent.

I do thank our South African Government the Department of Mineral Resources (Western Cape Regional Office), for creating an enabling environment allowing in particular women like myself to also own and develop mining rights in South Africa. I also thank my funders and partner, Anglo American Sefa Mining Fund who own 13% equity in my company, for supporting my project since 2016 and enabling to bring me to where I am today, and to also assist with the much needed transformation in our South African Mining Industry. I also thank my technical team, Mr Jan van der Merwe (Project Geologist) and Dr Gert van der Linde (Project Metallurgist) who played a very key role and helped me lay a very firm foundation to develop my mining project before Anglo American invested in my project. And lastly I do thank my family and God for giving me this opportunity to try and inspire other women to do the same. I thank you." **Speech Ends.**

And with this, I would also like to add, that through my mining project, I will be mining phosphates, and will be beneficiating phosphates to produce fertilizers for the Agriculture Industry, and also possibly produce a food grade phosphoric acid for the food and beverages industry in South Africa. As I have said in my speech in Mumbai, that the minerals on our African Continent must be owned, mined and beneficiated by us from and on the African Continent, therefore, my fertilizers, I am hoping, will not only help with the sustainable growth of our agriculture industry in South Africa, but also to benefit the African Continent, by exporting the fertilizers to the rest of Africa. This will help us in Africa, to be in charge of our own food security. There is no need for my company Adelaide Ruiters Mining and Exploration Pty Ltd also known as "ARME" to sell our phosphates to a company overseas, and then it gets exported back to the African Continent at very high prices, that sometimes our African Farmers cannot afford. This is my vision, my dream Honourable Your Excellency Dr Dlamini Zuma, that through my company ARME, I will help our African Continent with the challenge of securing our own food security while driving women led industrialisation and job creation in a responsible manner. And, to inspire more women in Africa, to also apply for mining rights, to develop and own our mines, and to beneficiate the minerals so that our minerals will benefit us the people from Africa, grow our African economy and create jobs. It is true, Honourable Excellency Dr Dlamini Zuma, that the Mineral Resources of the African Continent must serve its people, it must be owned by its people, it must be beneficiated by its own people, only then will we see true Economic Prosperity for the people of our continent. **This is my Vision and motivation to help achieve this goal.** And, I also offer my services, in which ever way I can be of assistance to the Women, Gender and Development Directorate of the African Union Commission to help inspire women from Africa to enter mining and to achieve this goal so that our African Continent can also prosper.

Secondly, through my phosphate mining project and company ARME, that I help the African Union Commission to realise the vision of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme, also known as the CAADP, which was endorsed at the Africa Union Heads of State Summit as a New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) programme as early as July 2003. The overall goal of CAAPD is to "help African countries reach a higher path of economic growth through agriculture-i.e. development, which eliminates hunger, reduces poverty and food security, and enables expansion of exports, and to help Africa prosper". We as Africans must be in charge of this programme and be in charge of our continents destiny.

And lastly, Honourable Your Excellency Dr Dlamini Zuma, I would also if possible when you are back in South Africa, hopefully share with you more about my story, my journey, my project, over a cup of coffee, in particular about the many challenges I have faced as a woman, trying to enter the Male Dominated Mining Industry, if you will allow me. It is a long story indeed; we might have to share two cups of coffee's. It has been a very difficult and long road indeed that I have followed. However, I persevered and never lost focus I had a dream. The end result me standing here today, being able to present this award to you. **With This, I hereby present the "Women Super Achiever Award", that was conferred to me Adelaide Charlene Ruiters, CEO and Founder of Adelaide Ruiters Mining and Exploration Pty Ltd also known as ARME, on 17 February by the World Women Leadership Congress 2017 in Mumbai, which I have publicly accepted on behalf of all Women in Africa, to You,**

Honourable Your Excellency Dr Dlamini Zuma, to hold in 'trust' for all the women entrepreneurs and industrialists in Africa.

I thank you.

Adelaide Ruiters

CEO and Founder of Adelaide Ruiters Mining and Exploration Pty Ltd



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