

ANNOUNCEMENT

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BIGEN AFRICA APPOINTS ONE OF SOUTH AFRICA'S MOST RENOWNED ECONOMISTS AS CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD



The directors of Bigen Africa Group Holdings (Pty) Ltd. are proud to announce the appointment of Dr Iraj Abedian to replace Prof Wiseman Nkuhlu as Chairperson of the Board of Directors. Dr Abedian is the Chief Executive Officer of Pan-African Capital Holdings (Pty) Ltd. a shareholder of Bigen Africa.

Dr Abedian obtained his BA (Honours) and MA in Economics from UCT and received his PhD in Economics from Simon Fraser University in Canada in 1993. He was the founder and Director of the Applied Fiscal Research Centre (AFReC) at UCT and he has been a consultant on economic policy issues to public and private sector organisations in South Africa as well as internationally. He was an economic columnist for SOWETAN daily newspaper. In 2003, the Association of Black Securities and Investment Professionals (ABSIP) awarded him the title of **Top Economist of the Year**. He is an honorary Professor of Economics at Pretoria University.

Dr Abedian says of his recent appointment: "I am delighted to have the opportunity to join the Board of Bigen Africa. It is an opportunity to work with a Board made up of some of South Africa's most competent and committed professionals. Bigen Africa runs one of the most successful operations in its field in South Africa and on the continent, and for me it is a privilege to have the occasion to learn from and contribute to the company's remarkable history."

Mr Francois Swart, CEO of Bigen Africa adds: "It is indeed a privilege to have as our chairman, one of South Africa's most respected and foremost economists. I have personally got to know Dr Abedian during our frequent ventures with Pan African Capital Holdings (PACH) our empowerment partners. I am confident, that with Dr Abedian's guidance, we are well placed as an organisation to navigate successfully through these awkward times and face our future with optimism"

Francois Swart
Chief Executive Officer
Bigen Africa

**BIGEN
AFRICA**

engineer'
(-nj-).*n.* **1.** One who designs and constructs military works, esp. a soldier so trained (ROYAL Engineers); (**civil**) ~, one who designs or maintains works of public utility (roads, bridges, canals, etc.); one who works in a branch of engineering, esp. as qualified professional (*chemical, electrical, mechanical, engineer*); maker of engines; person in charge of engine; *engine-driver. **2.** *v.i. & t.* Act as engineer, construct, manage (bridge, work, etc.) as engineer; (colloq.) contrive, bring about **3.** ~**ing** *n.*, application of science for control and use of power, esp. by means of machines.