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## **THE POWERS AND THE ROLE OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE COUNCIL (MEIBC)**

The MEIBC Constitution Section 13 (1) described and defined the powers of the General Secretary.

13 (1) (The Council shall appoint a Council Secretary, whose duty it shall be to conduct the correspondence of the Council, attend all meetings of the Council and the Management Committee, record minutes of such meetings and circulate copies thereof to representatives and alternates. He shall keep such books of account as shall be prescribed by the Management Committee, and shall, in addition, perform such duties as may be assigned to him by the Council or Management Committee).

As long as the General Secretary conduct himself in line with the above provision of the Constitution the question of biasness does not arise and any allegation of deplorable governance record by Secretariat of the Council is denied and rejected. We implement the decision of the MANCO taken democratically at the meeting, if the minority is not happy with these decisions they cannot blame the office or the General Secretary of the MEIBC.

The General Secretary of MEIBC in 2014 admitted that the industry had already lost 700 000 jobs, this statement is sometimes in my view used for selfish interest and out of content. Our industry through Metal Industry Benefit Funds Administrator (MIBFA) is in a campaign of tracing more than 1 million beneficiaries of Pension surplus, these people were once upon a time employed by the industry. It is the fact though that the industry is losing jobs and this is in my honest view is not only influenced by high wages there are a lot of other factors that include employment of foreign employees, electricity, dumping of cheap Chinese products , general economic hardship, etc.

The Council remain a neutral vehicle to monitor and enforce parties' gazetted agreements. The General Secretary will continue conducting himself in accordance with the provision of the MEIBC Constitution.

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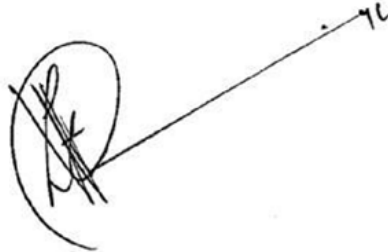
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Yours in Collective Bargaining



Thulani Mthiyane  
**General Secretary**