



**naamsa**  
THE AUTOMOTIVE BUSINESS COUNCIL

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# PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE | Friday, January 14, 2022**

## **naamsa | The Automotive Business Council NOTES THE HIGH COURT DECISION TO DECLARE AARTO UNCONSTITUTIONAL AND INVALID**

**PRETORIA: Friday, January 14, 2022:** naamsa | The Automotive Business Council has noted the Pretoria High Court's decision on the constitutionality of the Administrative Adjudication of Road Traffic Offences [AARTO] Acts. The Organisation Undoing Tax Abuse [OUTA] challenged the constitutional validity of AARTO and the AARTO Amendment Act, and asked the court in 2021 to declare both the main Act and the Amendment Act unconstitutional. Judge Annali BASSON found in favour of OUTA and agreed that "the legislation unlawfully intrudes upon the exclusive executive and legislative competence of the local and provincial governments envisaged in the Constitution, preventing local and provincial governments from regulating their own affairs".

"naamsa will carefully study the High Court's decision in the coming days. For the longest period, the automotive industry has been a partner and will continue to make its own contribution to curb road traffic accidents and fatalities in South Africa. We will continue to invest in vehicle safety technologies and improve on how vehicles are engineered and manufactured so that we can reduce accidents and save lives on our roads, said Mikel MABASA, naamsa CEO.

"It is clear from the arguments put forward in this case that AARTO in its current format is perceived not to be the best intervention that would improve road safety and save people's lives. Many stakeholders have also argued that the current legislative changes were mainly skewed towards retributive revenue collection measures than an intervention that will help reduce the scourge of road fatalities in South Africa", MABASA said. "We should use this judgment as a progressive development that will allow all key stakeholders to reconnect and go back to the drawing board so that we can have meaningful engagements that will assist the country to develop policies that will help reduce road traffic fatalities and save lives. South Africa needs effective road safety programmes and naamsa together with all its members and partners are ready to contribute towards sustainable solutions", says MABASA.

**ENDS**

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**National Office Bearers:** President: **Neale HILL** | Managing Director | Ford Motor Company  
Vice-President: Manufacturing OEMs | **Billy TOM** | President and Chief Executive Officer | Isuzu Motors South Africa  
Vice-President: Retailing OEMs | **Gary SCOTT** | Chief Executive Officer | Kia South Africa  
Vice-President: Heavy Commercial OEMs | **Filip VAN DEN HEEDE** | Managing Director | UD Trucks  
Immediate Past President: **Andrew KIRBY** | President and Chief Executive Officer | Toyota South Africa Motors

**Executive Director:** Chief Executive Officer: **Mikel MABASA**

**Registration Details:** naamsa NPC: 2021/358607/08 | VAT No.: 4070109972 | PBO No.: 930/023/609

## ABOUT THE SA AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY

- the automotive industry contributes 4.9% to GDP [2.8% manufacturing and 2.1% retail];
- in 2020, the export of vehicles and automotive components reached a record amount of R175.7 billion, equating to 13.9% of South Africa's total exports;
- the industry accounts for 18.7% of the country's manufacturing output;
- vehicles and components are exported to 147 international markets;
- we are the country's 5th largest exporting sector out of all 104 sectors;
- the manufacturing segment of the industry presently employs in the order of 110,000 people across its various tiers of activity [from component manufacturing to vehicle assembly];
- combined with the industry's strong multiplier effect, the industry is responsible for approximately 457,000 jobs across the South African economy's formal sector.

## NOTES FOR EDITORS

- Since 2021 **naamsa** introduced associate membership that offers tangible benefits such as access to information, visibility to key industry issues, business exposure, as well as related discounts.
- **naamsa** is a pre-eminent industry representative that actively and responsibly represents, promote, advance, and protect the interests of local manufacturers and assemblers of passenger, light, and heavy commercial vehicles as well as major importers and distributors of new vehicles in South Africa. We represent 41 companies;
- Our vision is to be the most credible and respected thought leader and partner of a globally competitive and transformed automotive industry that actively contribute to the sustainable development of South Africa;
- Enquiries: Mikel M. MABASA, Chief Executive Officer, [mikel@naamsa.co.za](mailto:mikel@naamsa.co.za),
- Contact Numbers: +27 12 807 0152 or +27 82 909 6621;
- More information can be found on [www.naamsa.co.za](http://www.naamsa.co.za).

**naamsa** OFFICES: PRETORIA | Friday, January 14, 2022