

MEDIA RELEASE

17 JANUARY 2012

### **SAPIA APPOINTS BPSA CEO AS 2012 CHAIRPERSON**

Gerard Derbesy, CEO of BP Southern Africa (BPSA) has been elected chairperson of the South African Petroleum Industry Association as of January 2012.

The chairperson is appointed annually on a rotational basis amongst SAPIA member companies and this year the responsibility rests with BPSA.

Avhaphani Tshifularo, Executive Director of SAPIA says he is confident that Derbesy will ensure that SAPIA continues to serve in the best interests of the South African petroleum industry.

“Derbesy comes with a wealth of Refining and Marketing experience in the oil industry, stemming from over 15 years in a variety of roles in Continental Europe, the UK and the US, with responsibility for areas including Refining, Commercial Optimisation, Supply and Marketing.

“He is an exceptional leader and is ideally suited to represent the SA petroleum industry at both a local and international level,” says Tshifularo.

BPSA CEO, Gerard Derbesy says he is humbled by the responsibility the industry has placed on him.

His 2012 agenda includes strengthening relationship between SAPIA and the government. “This remains a key objective, given the strategic nature of the petroleum industry and its significance to the SA economy”, says Derbesy.

“Promoting transparency, including social and economic growth for the broader good of all South Africans, while tackling issues of transformation and finding more long-term solutions to security of supply will be among the areas that will receive my most immediate attention,” he says.

Derbesy succeeds Dr Benny Mokaba, Chairman of PetroSA and is the 18<sup>th</sup> industry leader to chair the association since its establishment in 1994.

ENDS

Issued on behalf of BP Southern Africa by Lange 360. For further information please contact Glenda Zvenyika, BP’s External and Corporate Communications Manager on 011 488 5397.