

## Mthombothi quits SABC News

SABC News Chief Executive, Barney Mthombothi, has resigned his position with immediate effect "to pursue other interests". This follows widespread media speculation that he was about to leave the broadcaster due to a run-in with SABC CEO, Peter Matlare.

Dr Ihron Rensburg, the SABC's Director of Corporate and Regulatory Affairs, issued a statement on 21 June saying that the SABC was not in dispute with Mthombothi over the editorial handling of the Special Assignment programme that dealt with issues at the Grootvlei Prison. He however declined to comment on further speculations regarding Mthombothi's position, saying that it was an absolute principle of the Corporation that issues relating to its employees are private and are dealt with as such.

Mthombothi has declined comment, referring all inquiries to the SABC, but the SABC reveals little detail of the reasons for the resignation, saying only that he was "to pursue other interests". Meanwhile, there is wide speculation that Mthombothi's relationship with CEO Peter Matlare deteriorated following a disagreement over the renewal of a contract of an employee.

Mathatha Tsedu, Mthombothi's deputy, has been appointed acting Chief Executive.