



## Press Release

*For Immediate Release*

### Channel 7's Mouton to participate in RAF Memorial Journalists Fellowship Programme

*Marlise Mouton will attend the 2016 RAF Memorial Journalists Fellowship Programme this September, a prestigious programme that provides broadcasters and journalists the opportunity to learn about the United Nations at the UN Headquarters in New York City.*

**Windhoek, 2 June 2016:** Marlise Mouton, who will be attending the 2016 Reham Al-Farra (RAF) Memorial Journalists Fellowship Programme this September, is the first person from the Land of the Brave to attend the Programme in 18 years.

Mouton is excited about her acceptance to the Programme and says, "It will be an excellent opportunity to network with other journalists from other parts of the world and to shadow UN journalists while I am there. It's also a great opportunity to attend some of the meetings at the United Nations General Assembly and visit some leading media organisations in New York City."

A dedicated journalist, Mouton began her broadcast career in 2005 at Channel 7 Media Network for Christ, with her main duties being news reporting and writing, mostly in Afrikaans. She received a special award for news reporting and writing from the Afrikaans Language and Cultural Association (ATKV) for her work. Today she coordinates the station's news office, which reports most of its local and international news in Afrikaans.

The Programme Mouton will attend, which was mandated in December 1980 by UN General Assembly Resolution 35/201 (paragraph III-9) and renamed in September 2003 "Reham Al-Farra Memorial Journalists Fellowship Programme" to honour Ms. Reham Al-Farra, a young UN staff member killed in the bombing of the UN Headquarters in Baghdad, is designed for young, full time journalists working in print, web-based, radio and television media from developing countries and countries with economies in transition.



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“UNIC Windhoek is excited that Marlise Mouton will take part in the Programme this year, as it will be a great opportunity for her to learn about the United Nations and use her talents to spread what she learns with the Namibian public,” says Anthea Basson, the National Information Officer to Namibia who serves as the focal point for the RAF Programme in the country.

Mouton explains her passion for journalism. “I cannot imagine a world without words, sentences, pictures, stories. I believe journalists are the little creators, created by the ultimate Creator and without us, the world would be dull. I have a great love for community and development journalism, because I believe in the power journalists have in developing and uplifting society,” Mouton says.

Mouton will become the fourth Namibian to participate in the Programme, following in the footsteps of Ms. Angie Kapeliana and Mr. Protasius Ndawendapo who both participated in the programme in 1990 and Mr. Leevy-Lee Abrahams who participated in 1998.

Upon completion of the four week Programme, which will be held at the UN Headquarters in New York from 8 September – 5 October 2016, participants are expected to continue working in journalism or broadcasting and help promote better understanding of the United Nations in their home country. Mouton hopes that she can become a correspondent for her radio station while being in New York and report directly from the UN to be able to put Channel 7 further on the map.

Planning to work very hard while participating the Programme, Mouton says, “I think that this experience will shape more self-confidence in every individual who will be part of the experience.”

Mouton and the other 2016 participants will join the 551 journalists who have taken part in the Programme in the past.

### **Issued by:**

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