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The KZN Gaming and Betting Board KZN is the provincial regulator of all legalized gaming and betting operations in the Province. The entity reports to the KZN Provincial Department of Economic Development Tourism and Environmental Affairs. The entity is mandated to ensure that all licensees abide by the KZN Gaming and Betting Act through among others, protecting the public interest, stimulating economic development and job creation. The South African Bookmakers Association (SABA), was founded in 1951, the association is the leading voluntary body for bookmakers. The South African Bookmakers' Association members include some of South Africa's biggest betting shop operators along with other medium, small and standalone operators, their membership includes both on course and off course operators.

The South African Bookmakers Association is a strategic partner and key stakeholder of the KZN Gaming and Betting Board. It is in this vein that the KZNGBB and the SABA have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding. One of the key areas of the partnership includes the training and development of the Bookmaking industry. One of the key initiatives that have been developed in respect of job creation coupled with training and development is the *Bookmakers Clerk Skills Programme* which will be fully administered by SABA.. The programme was developed as a result of research undertaken by the Association. One of the outcomes of the research indicated that there was a need to create an accredited programme for employees working with the betting industry to drive job creation and empower communities as a result.

The Bookmakers Clerk Skills Programme forms part of the inaugural course offering of the newly established South African Bookmakers' Training Academy. The programme will serve as a vehicle for job creation within the Bookmaking industry. The KZN Gaming and Betting Board has a mandate to transform the gaming and betting industry and create a platform for previously disadvantaged communities' access to the gaming industry. To that end, the learnership programme thereby fits into the Transformation agenda of the KZNGBB*.

The South African Bookmakers Association has a training division which have developed training manuals which involve content which explains the manner in which the Bookmaking industry operates, responsible gambling as well as the regulatory information which governs the industry. The course will receive accreditation by the relevant SETA. The course will comprise of theory as well as practical in terms of on the job training at bookmaker establishments for the duration of the programme. The KZNGBB and SABA hereby proudly launches the inaugural training and development programme for in the betting industry.