



**For Immediate Release**

**To: All Media**

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**SUBJECT: THE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH COUNCIL (ARC) IS ONCE AGAIN CERTIFIED AS A TOP EMPLOYER IN SOUTH AFRICA**

The Agricultural Research Council (ARC) has once again earned the prestigious distinction of being recognised as a Top Employer for 2024. Achieving certification as a Top Employer demonstrates an organisation's commitment to creating an improved work environment, as evidenced by exemplary human resources policies and practices. This certification underscores the organisation's dedication to enhancing its people-related practices by benchmarking against industry leaders.

The Top Employers Institute evaluates and certifies organisations based on their participation in the HR Best Practices Survey, covering six HR domains and 20 topics such as People Strategy, Work Environment, Talent Acquisition, Learning, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, and well-being. This recognition reflects the ARC's ongoing efforts to improve its approach to people management and align itself with industry best practices.

Dr. Litha Magingxa, CEO & President of the ARC, emphasised that this certification signifies the ARC's commitment to enhancing people practices and acknowledging the invaluable role of its employees, who are considered the heartbeat of the institution. He further highlighted that the certification goes beyond a mere acknowledgment; rather, it signifies a pledge to cultivate and enhance practices that value and empower employees at all times. Dr. Magingxa emphasised that within the organisational framework, employees play an indispensable role in driving the ARC's mission and success. This recognition, therefore, serves as a testament to the ARC's dedication to creating a workplace culture that not only meets industry standards but goes above and beyond to prioritise and appreciate the invaluable contributions of its workforce.

Dr. Hilton Vergotine, in his role as the Acting Group Executive for Human Capital, conveyed his excitement regarding the Agricultural Research Council's (ARC) successive certification as a Top Employer. He emphasised the significance of this accomplishment, pointing out that it exemplifies the ARC's dedication to positioning itself as a preferred employer in the country. The 2024 certification, in his view, serves as a clear indication of the ARC's ongoing efforts to create an attractive and fulfilling workplace environment, setting a standard for excellence in

human capital management within the country and acknowledging that employees are the organisation's most important asset.

The Top Employers Institute has globally certified and recognised 2,052 Top Employers across 121 countries/regions spanning five continents.

## **ENDS**

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### **About the Agricultural Research Council**

The Agricultural Research Council is a premier science institution that conducts research with partners, develops human capital, and fosters innovation in support of the agricultural sector. The ARC provides diagnostic, laboratory, analytical, and agricultural engineering services, post-harvest technology development, agrochemical evaluation, consultation, and advisory services, food processing technology services as well as various surveys and training interventions. For more information visit the ARC website at: [www.arc.agric.za](http://www.arc.agric.za)