



ADA Board Strategic Planning Session



The Agribusiness Development Agency Board of Directors were pictured during the board strategic planning session held in preparation for the new financial year. **Back Row: L-R,** Mr Aubrey Mthembu, Mr Mthandeni Khumalo, Mr Zenzele Ndlela, Acting CEO for Agribusiness Development Agency, Mr Nhlanhla Khambule and Dr Edwin Ngidi, Board Chairperson, **Front Row: L-R,** Ms Thandeka Ntshangase, Ms Nonhlanhla Linda and Advocate Khayelihle Thango.

The Agribusiness Development Agency (ADA) Board of Directors hosted their strategic planning session to prepare for 2019/2020 financial year. The session was held from the 12-13th December at the Ocean Reef Hotel in Zinkwazi. Amongst those who attended the session was the MEC for Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD), Mr Themba Mthembu, the ADA Executive Committee and the Management Committee. Addressing the attendees during the session, the MEC registered his expectations of the Agency in the new financial year. He stated that the relationship that the ADA and DARD has should play a key role on the Agrarian

Revolution. He further outlined the expected future focus for the ADA as follows: coming up with a clear plan on how the Agency will assist communities that have received their land back through land restitution programmes, training and development for farmers, developing a clear funding model for the Agency and identifying key commodities that the Agency will focus on.

The MEC also mentioned that he expects the Agency to come up with a plan of how it will tap into R50 billion budget that is set aside for agriculture by the Presidency. He then called for the Board, senior management and the rest of the agency to work together in transforming the Agency to create jobs and export market opportunities.

The Radical Socio Economic Transformation Programme (RASET) was amongst the topics that were discussed as the ADA will be at the forefront to drive the programme. "As the Agency is gearing towards running the programme, the ADA is expected to work towards becoming the entity of choice when it comes to agribusiness", Mthembu continued.

The Board Chairperson Dr Ngidi thanked everyone that attended the session and particularly the staff that has worked tirelessly for the whole year to ensure that the Agency's mandate is realised. He then stated that moving forward the ADA will focus on projects that are catalytic in nature and that, as the Board they will work hard to come up with a clear funding model to ensure that more projects get funded.