



Press Release

Johannesburg, May 13, 2021



BOAF, C2C and AHS ANNOUNCE THE INDUCTION OF Mr. Edwin N.C Banda TO THE 10,000 POL – 18 MAY 2021 AT THE ROYAL INDIA RESTAURANT AT 6PM

C2C and Banking on Africa's Future (BOAF) - 10,000 Points of Light (POL) in collaboration with Africa Heritage Society (AHS) is pleased to induct Edwin N.C Banda, a practicing attorney and the founding CEO of Banda and Associates, located at 325 Rivonia Boulevard, Rivonia, to the 10,000 POL Hall of Fame.

BOAF-10 000POL Initiative Director, Mr. Jagjit Singh, said: "I am pleased to welcome Mr. Banda to this exciting and inspiring initiative.

As the BOAF family, we have been challenged to provoke conversations on the role of lawyers in shaping and defining the personality of Africa and to ask basic and foundational questions on what is a lawyer and what it takes to be an excellent legal practitioner.

It is for this reason that I want to give a special welcome to Mr. Banda whose induction into the 10 000 Points of Light stands as a representation and an inspiration to the legal fraternity.

I wish that when we reach the 10,000 target of people who we refer to as the Points of Light (POLs), we will at-least have about 500 lawyers drawn from the depth and breadth of the African continent."

Mr Singh added that, just by identifying exceptional legal minds and promoting conversations on Africa's unlimited possibilities, there is no doubt that many people will be provoked and inspired to play their part in delivering an Africa which is full of active citizens that respect the rule of law.

Mr. Banda brings to the table his experiences and insights on what is required to make Africa great.

He also revealed that as BOAF, they had talks about a platform-based business model for lawyers as a way of responding to the challenges of surviving in this new normal as solo actors or small firms.

"I believe that the pathfinding experiences in the restaurant business which is being utilised by companies like Takealot, Uber Eats, Mr. D. and others will soon be used by law firms to promote their businesses."



Africa Heritage House
325 Rivonia Boulevard
Sandton
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As such, I am excited to learn from Africa Heritage Society Chairperson, Mr. Mawere that the lawyer, Mr. Banda also believes in the power of mutuality and has already agreed to use his firm as a platform for aggregation and optimization on legal matters.” Singh highlighted.

In accepting his nomination for induction, Mr. Banda said "I am humbled to be part of this initiative.

I have been talking to Mr. Mawere about the urgency and need for this platform-based business model for lawyers and I have noticed that it is not in dispute that acquiring clients who can support especially fragmented black law firms is not easy.

The prohibitive overheads needed to operate a viable law practice have seen many practitioners vacate the profession or face censure by the Legal Practice Council, a development which is highly unfortunate.

More-so, the Covid-19 pandemic has ushered a new and unprecedented era requiring innovative responses and thus proving that a platform-based business model is the way to go.” Said Banda

He added that as a Banking on Africa’s Future (BOAF) inductee, he will play his part in building a community of lawyers who believe that shared services can best deliver quality outcomes to clients in solving community problems.

Africa Heritage Society Chairperson, Mr. Mawere said that he was elated by Mr Banda’s recognition as a Point of Light and hoped that the shared experiences will be noticed and encourage others to see the same light.

“Through sharing experiences, there can be no doubt that clients will benefit and in turn accessibility and affordability issues related to the legal services industry will be solved.

I have been enriched in understanding the importance of the law as a vehicle to solving problems and the value of a practitioner who knows what he is doing.” Said Mr Mawere.

He also added that when people are inducted into the hall of fame, it is not about egos, but it is rather a genuine attempt to expand people’ reach to competent practitioners in a given field.

BOAF MEDIA Director, Mr. Frederick Koomson, said: "I am pleased to welcome Mr. Banda to this initiative.

I recall meeting Mr. Banda when I was looking for help to solve immigration problems after having been recommended by Mr. Mawere who share the same business address with Mr. Banda and everything went well.

The Visa Facilitation Service office in Rivonia is located near Mr. Mawere's office at 325 Rivonia Boulevard and this makes it easy and convenient to access home affairs services.

In a world where the legal services industry is so broad and diverse, you will find that not all lawyers are efficient and knowledgeable on the law and thus we have to be active and vigilant in order to identify the best lawyers in a mixed bag of legal practitioners." Said Koomsen.



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