



4 September 2023

SHORT STATEMENT AND REQUEST REGARDING ADDITIONAL GRAVES IDENTIFIED AT THE MULALO SITE (CASEID.: 20723; PERMITID.: 4018)

Note that this document only gives attention to aspects the archaeologist was appointed for. A second letter from AVBOB is provided as they deal with other aspects such as social consultation and serves as undertakers for the project. It is named – Mulalo questions re extra graves.

Six graves, from two different sites at Mulalo were to be exhumed on 31 August and 1 September 2023. At Grave site 1 there is four graves and at Grave site 2, there is two. During the work, on 31 August, Chief Mahlangu, visited the site. At grave site number 1 (GPS: 26°37'13.30"S 29°09'44.20"E), he indicated two features which he believed to be graves.

These features were not noted earlier, likely due to excessive vegetation growth during previous visits to the site. The chief also did not indicate these during a previous visit to the site. He recognised these as graves, as they are typical of the way his people buried their dead but did not have any specific knowledge of these graves before. Chief Mahlangu has given permission for the exhumation of the graves earlier (see permission on SAHRIS).

Since there are four known graves at site 1 (graves numbers 1-4), the ones pointed out are numbered 5 and 6. The co-ordinates for these additional graves are: e 1

- No 5 - GPS: 26°37'13.34"S 29° 9'44.54"E (Figure 1-3)
- No 6 - GPS: 26°37'13.18"S 29° 9'44.58"E (Figure 4-5)



FIGURE 1: GRAVE 5 NORTH TO SOUTH VIEW



FIGURE 2: GRAVE 5 CLOSE UP NORTH TO SOUTH VIEW



FIGURE 3: GRAVE 5 EAST TO WEST VIEW



FIGURE 4: GRAVE 6 NORTH TO SOUTH VIEW



FIGURE 5: GRAVE 6 EAST TO WEST VIEW

It is requested that the permit be extended to include these two graves and that no additional social consultation be done since it has been done before and no one came to the fore identifying these.

Yours faithfully

Prof AC van Vollenhoven: Director