

MEDIA STATEMENT

RIM Reassures Tourism Partners and Stakeholders Following Isolated Payment Incident

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

12 April 2026

Cape Town, South Africa – Robben Island Museum (RIM) acknowledges the recent concerns raised in the media regarding an isolated incident involving the diversion of payments to a non – RIM bank account from tour operators. As custodians of one of South Africa’s most iconic tourist destinations, RIM remains committed to transparency, accountability, and safeguarding the interests of its partners, visitors, and the public.

RIM acted immediately upon identifying the incident by implementing containment measures and initiating the appropriate governance processes. The matter was subjected to an independent forensic investigation, currently there is an internal disciplinary process, and a criminal case has been opened with the relevant authorities. In line with legal and procedural requirements, RIM is unable to provide further detail at this stage. The internal processes have taken some time to conclude; however, we can confirm that two tour operators affected by the incident have been fully refunded.

RIM wishes to take this opportunity to caution members of the public and its partners to remain vigilant. Any suspected irregularities or concerns relating to RIM banking details or payments should be reported directly to RIM through its official communication channels for verification.

RIM regrets any concern caused and remains committed to protecting stakeholder interests and maintaining the integrity of Robben Island as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

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