

**KHULUMANI STATEMENT FOR
HANDING-OVER CEREMONY
December 16, 2010**



Twelve years after the Human Rights Hearings of the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) concluded in 1998, the issue of delivering on redress for the victims and survivors of apartheid gross human rights abuses, has been mainstreamed in the South African media.

Just over one month ago, the South African Department of Justice and Constitutional Development acknowledged that government had failed to adequately embrace the urgent needs of victims and survivors of apartheid gross human rights atrocities through reparative and rehabilitative measures. The department expressed the view that their stringent adherence to the very limited number of some 17,000 victims identified by the South African TRC had left those who had made some of the greatest sacrifices in the achievement of a democracy in South Africa in situations of destitution and exclusion. Government acknowledged both its legal and its moral obligation to provide reparative justice to victims and survivors, especially given the several opportunities created for perpetrators to be pardoned or to be given immunity from prosecution.

While South African officials take stock of the measures still needed to redress a horrendous and costly past, Daimler as the lead defendant in the South Africa Apartheid Litigation, has stubbornly refused to acknowledge its complicity in the perpetration of the crimes of apartheid. As Khulumani's German partners submit their calls to Daimler today, demanding that Daimler come clean on its past complicity with the apartheid regime, which it equipped with the commodities used to kill and severely injure opponents of the hated apartheid state, Khulumani also calls on Daimler AG to take a stand to assist in redressing this abhorrent past.

By instituting actions to make amends for its complicity in committing harms against civilians in South Africa during apartheid, Daimler AG would counter the serious reputational damage it has sustained for its contribution to the commission of these historical crimes. Daimler's STAR continues to be associated with this history of apartheid death and destruction. This is a memory that has not been erased in South Africa whose citizens experienced its own Holocaust aided and abetted by the corporate complicity of Daimler AG amongst others.

**Issued by Marjorie Jobson, National Director of Khulumani Support Group,
a national membership organisation of 65,000 victims and survivors of apartheid atrocities**