



06 April 2017

## **USAf Statement on Mass Actions Planned nation-wide for 07 April 2017**

Civil society has planned marches and meetings for Friday, 07 April 2017 and in the week commencing 10 April, relating to the high levels of political instability that have engulfed South Africa in the past week.

“Universities SA recognises the importance of these events to the nature and strengthening of our democracy,” CEO, Professor Ahmed Bawa just announced. “We also recognise them as civil society’s challenge to what appears to be a deep fragmentation of the State with serious implications for the university system.”

Universities SA has engaged its member institutions on this matter. Each university is through its internal processes working out how best to respond to students’ and staff requests to participate in the events taking place nation-wide.

“Universities SA hopes that the planned events are peaceful and constructive, and draw on and contribute to our democracy,” Prof Bawa concludes.

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