

UK AND SOUTH AFRICA BOOST GROWTH IN TV SECTORS WITH NEW CO-PRODUCTION AGREEMENT

London, Thursday 7th July 2016

The UK and South Africa have signed a new television agreement which will strengthen ties within the broadcast industries, encourage the sharing of knowledge and ideas and drive economic growth through television co-production.

The terms of the agreement, which builds on the existing Film Co-production Treaty, were negotiated by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and the BFI, with the Department for Arts and Culture for the Republic of South Africa.

Television co-productions that qualify under the terms of the Treaty will be able to access the benefits of national status in each country. In South Africa these include a higher rate production rebate, while in the UK qualifying television co-productions will be able to access the UK's High-End Television Tax Relief, the Animation Television Tax Relief or the Children's Television Tax Relief.

UK/South Africa feature films that have qualified under the existing Co-production Treaty include *The Salvation* (director Kristian Levring, starring Mads Mikkelsen and Eva Green), *Africa United* (director Debs Paterson and starring Eriya Ndayambaje and Roger Jean Nsengiyumva), *Tiger House* (director Thomas Daley and starring Kaya Scodelario and Dougray Scott) and *Dredd 3D* (director Pete Travis and starring Karl Urban and Olivia Thirlby).

Ed Vaizey, Culture Minister said: *"British television production is a tremendous success story, but we need to make sure the UK remains well placed to take advantage of the opportunities that come through international collaboration. This new deal enhances our already strong relationship with South Africa and will help television*

production companies in both countries realise the benefits that come with co-production.”

Amanda Nevill, BFI CEO said *“The UK’s TV production sector is stronger than ever and its quality, creativity and originality is admired all over the world. The inclusion of television in the existing, successful film Co-production Treaty represents exciting new opportunities for growth and collaboration between the UK and South Africa and will be of great mutual benefit to both countries.”*

Max Rumney, Deputy Chief Executive of Pact, said: *“There is well-established collaboration between UK and South African TV production companies. Therefore, it’s important to the independent production sector that these relationships are strengthened and formalised, and Pact’s members look forward to creating more co-production opportunities with our South African counterparts.”*

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About the BFI

The BFI is the lead organisation for film in the UK with the ambition to create a flourishing film environment in which innovation, opportunity and creativity can thrive by:

- Connecting audiences to the widest choice of British and world cinema
- Preserving and restoring the most significant film collection in the world for today and future generations

- Championing emerging and world class film makers in the UK - investing in creative, distinctive and entertaining work
- Promoting British film and talent to the world
- Growing the next generation of film makers and audiences

The BFI is a Government arm's-length body and distributor of Lottery funds for film. The BFI serves a public role which covers the cultural, creative and economic aspects of film in the UK.

It delivers this role:

- As the UK-wide organisation for film, a charity core funded by Government
- By providing Lottery and Government funds for film across the UK
- By working with partners to advance the position of film in the UK.

Founded in 1933, the BFI is a registered charity governed by Royal Charter.

The BFI Board of Governors is chaired by Josh Berger.