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Subject: ISASA Bursars Bulletin 2/2018- Budget Speech

Attachments: Budget Speech Summary 2018.pdf

Dear Bursar

The 2018 National Budget, presented yesterday by South Africa's Finance Minister Malusi Gigaba, is seen by many economists as tough, but positive and confidence-boosting.

The reaction from the markets to the National Budget Speech has been generally positive with both the JSE All-Share and the Rand initially trading firmer. The general consensus among Old Mutual's economists is that the fiscal discipline demonstrated will strengthen the Rand and probably prevent a further credit ratings downgrade. It will also give the Reserve Bank the opportunity to consider cutting interest rates.

Regards ISASA Team