

## **Paul Leboea and Theboho Noka**

Two organisers of the National Union of Mineworkers died tragically in a car accident in the Orange Free State on March 7 while travelling to the union's head office in Johannesburg.

They were Paul Leboea and Theboho Noka. Noka was killed instantly while Leboea died in hospital the day after the accident which happened outside Vredefort.

Both were hardworking and sincere unionists whose dedication to the National Union of Mineworkers played a valuable role in building the union into the major force which it has become.

Noka (33), who was born in Maseru, Lesotho, worked as a clerk for Teba, the recruiting arm of the mines, before joining NUM as an organiser at the beginning of this year.

He was an asset to the union, and could speak Tswana, Sesotho, German and English fluently. He leaves behind a wife and three children.

Leboea (30), lived in Ficksburg in the Free State, and also worked for Teba as a clerk last year before joining NUM full-time as an organiser.

He was fluent in English, Afrikaans and Sesotho, and was completely devoted to his work as an organiser. He leaves behind a wife and four children.

NUM expressed its deep regret at the sudden death of the two men, and commended the enthusiasm and courage which they brought to their work.

'It was their original organising work which led to the success of the union,' it said in a statement.

(Tyrone August)