

Report of the Engagement between Presiding Officers, Chairpersons and Heads of Institutions Supporting Democracy (ISDs)

21 June 2023

Compiled by the Office on Institutions Supporting Democracy

Contents

1. Background	EXEC	UTIVE SUMMARY	4
3. 1. The Task Team Report	1.	Background	5
3.1. The Task Team Report	2. Pu	rpose and Introductory Remarks by Deputy Speaker, Hon. Lechesa Tsenoli	5
3.1.1. Determination of an Appropriate Model for addressing SA's Human Rights Challenges	3. Ma	ain Discussion Points	5
3.1.2. Shifting of ISD budgets from the Executive to Parliament's vote	3.1. T	The Task Team Report	5
4. Presentation on the State of Readiness for the 2024, National Elections- Chairperson of the IEC, Mr Moepya	3.1.1	. Determination of an Appropriate Model for addressing SA's Human Rights Challenges	6
Mr Moepya	3.1.2	. Shifting of ISD budgets from the Executive to Parliament's vote	6
4.1. Discussion Points. 5. Strengthening the Accountability Relationship between Parliament and the ISDs. 5.1. Recommendations emanating from the Agenda Discussions. 5.1.1. Parliament and ISD Relationship should be underpinned by Mutual Accountability. 5.1.2. Strengthen the Interface between Chairpersons and ISDs. 5.1.3. Collaboration with Key Stakeholders. 5.1.4. The Need for Scenario Planning and Building Resilience. 5.1.5. Induction and Capacity Building. 5.1.6. Institutionalise POs and FISD engagements. 6.1. POLICY PRIORITIES OF PARLIAMENT ON ISD-RELATED MATTERS. 10. G.1. Strategic Objective 1: Framework for Remuneration and Mechanisms for Regulating Conflict of Interest. 10. G.1.2. Strategic Objective 2: Standardisation of Appointment Procedures and removal Procedures of Commissioners. 11. G.1.3. Strategic Objective 3: Shifting of Budgets of Institutions Supporting Democracy from the Executive to Parliament. 12. G.1.5. Strategic Objective 4: Determination of a Model for addressing SA's Human Rights challenges. 13. G.1.5. Strategic Objective 5: Develop legislation on the "Accountability and Independence Act" of ISD: 14. G.1.5. Strategic Objective 5: Develop legislation on the "Accountability and Independence Act" of ISD: 15. Intermediate/Transitional Action Points. 16. G.1.6. Strategic Objective 6: Initiatives to improve the accessibility of ISDs to the Public –Single Precinct. 17. G.1.7. Strategic Objective 7: Programme on Capacity Building – including Induction 18. G.1.8 Strengthening Complimentary Oversight 19. G.1.8 Strengthening Complimentary Oversight 19. G.1.8 Strengthening Complimentary Oversight 19. G.1.8 Strengthening Complimentary Oversight		•	
5. Strengthening the Accountability Relationship between Parliament and the ISDs			
5.1. Recommendations emanating from the Agenda Discussions			
5.1.1. Parliament and ISD Relationship should be underpinned by Mutual Accountability			
5.1.2. Strengthen the Interface between Chairpersons and ISDs			
5.1.3. Collaboration with Key Stakeholders	5.1.1	. Parliament and ISD Relationship should be underpinned by Mutual Accountability	8
5.1.4. The Need for Scenario Planning and Building Resilience			
5.1.5. Induction and Capacity Building	5.1.3	. Collaboration with Key Stakeholders	9
5.1.6. Institutionalise POs and FISD engagements	5.1.4	. The Need for Scenario Planning and Building Resilience	9
6.1. POLICY PRIORITIES OF PARLIAMENT ON ISD-RELATED MATTERS	5.1.5	. Induction and Capacity Building	9
6.1. POLICY PRIORITIES OF PARLIAMENT ON ISD-RELATED MATTERS	5.1.6	. Institutionalise POs and FISD engagements	10
6.1. Strategic Objective 1: Framework for Remuneration and Mechanisms for Regulating Conflict of Interest	6. TH	EMATIC AREAS	10
Interest	6.1. F	POLICY PRIORITIES OF PARLIAMENT ON ISD-RELATED MATTERS	10
Commissioners			
Executive to Parliament			
6.1.5. Strategic Objective5: Develop legislation on the "Accountability and Independence Act" of ISDs Immediate Action Points			11
Immediate Action Points			
Immediate Action Points		, , ,	
6.1.6. Strategic Objective 6: Initiatives to improve the accessibility of ISDs to the Public –Single Precinct			
Precinct	Inter	mediate/Transitional Action Points	12
6.1.8 Strengthening Complimentary Oversight			12
	6.1.7	. Strategic Objective 7: Programme on Capacity Building – including Induction	13
8. Approach and Methodology14	6.1.8	Strengthening Complimentary Oversight	13
	8.	Approach and Methodology	14

9.	Conclusion	. 14
Annex	ure 1 APOLOGIES TENDERED – FOR MEETING OF 21 JUNE 2023	. 15
Annex	ure 2: Attendance Register for Meeting of Presiding Officers, Chairpersons and ISD Heads- 2	21
June 2	023	.16

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On 21 June 2023, the Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly (NA) convened a consultative engagement between the Presiding Officers (Pos), relevant chairpersons of Committees in Parliament and the Heads of Institutions Supporting Democracy (ISD's) comprising of Heads of Institutions Supporting Democracy (ISDs), to discuss matters of mutual interest and to identify strategic themes for further processing. The meeting was held at the headquarters of the Independent Communications Authority of SA (ICASA), with the Office on Institutions Supporting Democracy (OISD), assuming its responsibility as the Secretariat.

The agenda of the meeting included: Reflections on the Task Team Report concerning Amalgamation and the Shifting of ISD Budgets to Parliament; Remuneration of ISD Office Bearers; Strategic Priorities of Parliament concerning ISD Related Matters; and Induction for Members of Parliament in the 7th Parliament. A detailed presentation entitled: "the state of readiness to hold the 2024 national elections", was made by the chairperson of the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC), Mr Mosotho Moepya.

The outcome of the meeting included a renewed mandate to continue strengthening and deepening the relationship between Parliament and Institutions Supporting Democracy. In this regard, the meeting agreed on several immediate and intermediate strategic interventions and the need for the continued quarterly engagements.

In the main, the meeting confirmed the relevance of the following strategic priorities elaborated below as-

- 1. Framework for remuneration and mechanisms for regulating conflict of interest.
- 2. Standardisation of appointment procedures and removal procedures of Commissioners.
- 3. Shifting of budgets of Institutions Supporting Democracy from the Executive to Parliament's vote.
- 4. Determination of a Model for addressing SA's Human Rights challenges.
- 5. Develop legislation on the "Accountability and Independence Act" of ISDs
- 6. Initiatives to improve the accessibility of ISDs to the public single precinct
- 7. Capacity Building and Training/induction Programmes for Legislators about the Mandates and Functions of Institutions Supporting Democracy.

It was agreed that at the next meeting scheduled for 13 September 2023, the Presiding Officers and the OISD would report on progress, and provide a road map, containing clear time frames, targets and milestones for the implementation of the above strategic priorities.

The meeting also directed an agenda item for the next engagement covering "the need to unpack the causality of the prevailing trust deficit by society in our core institutions such as national government, local government and parliament. The meeting further agreed that the identified projects should be recorded in Parliament's Legacy Report as part of the handover to the 7th Parliament.

This report covers the main discussion points emanating from the engagement and crystallises the discussion points into thematic areas with action points and suggested timeframes.

1. Background

On 21 June 2023, the Deputy Speaker of the NA convened a consultative engagement between the POs, relevant chairpersons of Committees in Parliament and the Forum of Institutions Supporting Democracy (FISD) comprised of Heads of ISDs, to discuss matters of mutual interest and to identify strategic themes for further processing and implementation.

The meeting was held at the headquarters of ICASA, with the OISD, assuming its responsibility as the Secretariat.

The agenda of the meeting included: Reflections on the Task Team Report concerning Amalgamation and the Shifting of ISD Budgets to Parliament; Remuneration of ISD Office Bearers; Strategic Priorities of Parliament concerning ISD Related Matters; and Induction for Members of Parliament in the 7th Parliament.

The meeting noted the apologies tendered and adopted the agenda with the addition of an item covering: "strategic support by parliament related to the work of ISDs", which was subsequently joined with agenda item 7 on determining priorities for parliament related to ISDs. The annexure contains the apologies tendered and the attendance register for the meeting.

2. Purpose and Introductory Remarks by Deputy Speaker, Hon. Lechesa Tsenoli

Deputy Speaker Tsenoli noted that the engagement, between POs, chairpersons and the Heads of ISD's was long overdue. These quarterly engagements, initiated in previous terms should resume and continue underscoring their significance in strengthening the relationship between Parliament and the ISDs.

It was stated that the work of ISDs was critical and complimentary to the work of Parliament. It can be argued that ISDs form the 4th arm of democratic architecture and the media, which was a vital and consistent stakeholder, the 5th sector. Reflecting on the successes of our democracy, the establishment of the Commission for Gender Equality (CGE) and the creation of the Multi-Party Women's Caucus, were highlighted as critical achievements to move the needle on women's cross-cutting issues.

"As our democracy evolves, we must ensure that our institutions are continuously improving their functioning and efficacy, especially Parliament. As a collective, we must move with speed to implement." Deputy Speaker, Lechesa Tsenoli

3. Main Discussion Points

3.1. The Task Team Report

Concerning the Task Team Report on Amalgamation and the Shifting of ISD Budgets to the Vote of Parliament, submitted by the ISD Heads for onward processing in the 6th Parliament, Deputy Speaker, Tsenoli opined that the matters elaborated in the report required more

deliberate consultation on the way forward and should include clear implementation timeframes.

3.1.1. Determination of an Appropriate Model for addressing SA's Human Rights Challenges

It was noted that the work on an approach to determining the appropriate model for addressing South Africa's human rights challenges must commence and should be informed by empirical evidence (such as cost-benefit analysis, in-depth studies, evaluation, due diligence, etc.).

3.1.2. Shifting of ISD budgets from the Executive to Parliament's vote

Concerning the shifting of ISD Budgets away from the executive, the Deputy Speaker noted that the Task Team supported the shifting of budgets subject to the clarification of the following conditionalities: a review of legislation / constitutional and legislative pending implications; risk matrix and mitigation strategies; process; system; governance; and management. It was noted that the IEC did not formulate a position on the matter, pending the clarification of the issues listed by other ISDs.

Specifically, the Deputy Speaker noted that the Shifting of ISD Budgets away from the executive should be placed on the agenda of the Executive Authority and the Secretary of Parliament for further processing and finalisation. It was crucial that the Secretary of Parliament, be engaged in the Shifting of ISD Budgets and the implication thereof on the Budget of Parliament. The Deputy Speaker would also further engage the House Chairperson, Committees and Oversight on the ISD-related matters that can be taken up in the remainder of the 6th term.

The Deputy Speaker further noted that a road map for the Determination of an appropriate model for addressing South Africa's Human Rights challenges and the Shifting of ISD Parliaments should be crafted and presented in the next engagement between the Presiding Officers, chairpersons and the FISD.

It was proposed that the OISD work with representatives of the FISD a craft a road map to providing direction on the shifting of ISD Budgets to Parliament, and the Determination of the appropriate model for addressing SA's human rights challenges.

4. Presentation on the State of Readiness for the 2024, National Elections- Chairperson of the IEC, Mr Moepya

The meeting received a briefing by the chairperson of the IEC, Mr Moepya who noted that the term of the National Assembly and legislatures subsists for 5 years; that elections must be held within 90 days of the expiry of the term (no later than Mid-August 2024) following consultation with the presidency and premiers. It was noted that two general voter registration weekends were planned ahead of the elections. The first is planned for 18 and 19 November 2023 and will include registration and voting by South Africans abroad, and prisoners, amongst others. It was emphasised that the amendment of the Electoral Act made provision for the participation of independent candidates for the first time in our country's history.

Concerning legislative matters, it was noted that the Electoral Amendment Act was assented to by the President on 17 April 2023 and was promulgated for commencement on 19 June 2023. Notably, an Electoral Reform Consultation Panel which is authorized in terms of the new Act had to be constituted within four months of the promulgation of the Act (19 June 2023).

Further, Parliament was expected to pass an Omnibus Bill encapsulating consequential amendments emanating from the Minister of Home Affairs, to amend the following statutes: Political Parties Funding Act; Electoral Commission Act, the Electoral Act and the Electronic Communications Act.

It was highlighted that three court challenges related to the Electoral Act were in progress. This was *My Vote Count*: which was challenging the minimum threshold of R 100 000 as being unconstitutional; arguing that this minimum threshold triggers the disclosure obligation. The applicant avers that it is high and as such must be reduced or cancelled. No directions have yet been issued by the Court. The *Independent Candidate Association:* was challenging the distribution of the seats of the National Assembly between the regional tier and the compensatory tier. The *One South Africa Movement:* challenges two aspects of the electoral system; firstly, the quantum of signatures required for supporting the candidature of unrepresented contestants and secondly, the calculation procedure in the event of vacancies arising when independent representatives cease to hold office.

It was further noted that currently, and as has been the case since 1994, the Act provides for a 200/200 distribution between the regional and compensatory tiers. Notably, the court challenge by the Independent Candidate Association advocating for 350/50 distribution of the seats of the National Assembly, would result in a proportional outcome, and there is a risk of overhang or excessive seats being provisionally allocated.

The appreciable decline in trust in core political institutions, especially national government, local government and Parliament, was highlighted as a significant risk to our democracy. In contrast, the Electoral Commission was evaluated favourably but was not immune to the declining tendency seen with other institutions.

4.1. Discussion Points

The meeting agreed that all role players should be concerned with the increased trust deficit in the core democratic institutions, i.e. popular demand for democracy. There was an urgent need to unpack the underlying causes of the increased trust deficit by society in our core institutions and political parties and should appear as an agenda item at the next engagement of the Presiding Officers, chairpersons and ISDs.

The meeting expressed concern about the prevailing unstable political coalitions that have emerged, and its resultant failure to address the needs of the electorate. It was emphasised that legislation about coalitions should be an urgent priority for legislators. Scenario planning should the national elections yield coalitions, and its resultant challenges should occupy the agendas of legislators and the ISDs.

It was highlighted that the ISD's as defenders of our democracy should assume a stronger role in the promotion of our democracy and should do introspection on whether democracy can co-exist side by side with poverty, and inequality.

It was opined that the need to create opportunities for young people to register and participate in our democracy should be prioritised by the IEC and our core institutions, including political parties.

Concerning artificial intelligence (AI), it was noted that Parliament and the ISDs needed to give attention to the ethics related to this fast-evolving phenomenon.

Action: Concerning the item on the State of Readiness for the 2024 National Elections, Exploring the Underlying Causality of the trust deficit to be unpacked and discussed at the next meeting, 13 September 2023.

5. Strengthening the Accountability Relationship between Parliament and the ISDs.

The meeting reflected on the accountability relationship between Parliament and ISDs and identified numerous strategies to strengthen accountability. In the section below, the main discussion points are synthesised with the accompanied action points that were identified.

5.1. Recommendations emanating from the Agenda Discussions

5.1.1. Parliament and ISD Relationship should be underpinned by Mutual Accountability

The meeting emphasised the need to strengthen and sustain a culture of accountability at all levels between members of parliament (members and officials) as well ISDs (commissioners and officials). By way of example, it was noted that a key area of accountability is to ensure that the collective of parliaments and the ISDs, action and follow up on resolutions and outcomes that emerge following engagements across a range of identified priorities.

Action: The quarterly engagements between the Presiding Officers, chairpersons and ISDs should contain a segment addressing progress on identified strategic initiatives that were agreed to (including immediate, intermediate and long term ones)

5.1.2. Strengthen the Interface between Chairpersons and ISDs

Recognising the accountability and reporting obligations of ISDs to Parliament, the need to strengthen the interface, especially between relevant chairpersons and the ISD's was suggested. Matters that are specific to each ISD should be discussed and identified for take up in the committee space. Committees of Parliament had an important oversight and punitive instrument —the Money Bills Amendment Act at its disposal to influence the executive to implement recommendations in substantive reports and to observe/comply with Public Protector's remedial actions.

The need for Parliament to process recommendations made by ISDs in their substantive reports to avoid subsequent challenges like for example the Hammanskraal water issue, Mangaung prison issue, amongst others, as all these matters were at some point dealt with by ISDs and with reports submitted to Parliament but not actioned.

Action: Each ISD is to identify two issues, specific to it, for ventilation with the House Chairperson of Committees for take-up with the relevant committee.

5.1.3. Collaboration with Key Stakeholders

The importance of raising awareness and exploring collaborative efforts with Parliamentary stakeholders such as with the National Council of Provinces- Taking Parliament to the People, the Speaker's Forum and platforms such as the Chair of Chair Committee should be utilised to leverage support on ISD related matters and broader societal matters.

The need to ensure that ISDs are engaged on planned Oversight visits, especially in circumstances where they (ISDs) have issued and submitted a substantive report on the subject matter with specific findings and recommendations. For example, the Hammanskral water disaster as per the FFC Report.

Action: Parliament's oversight programmes to include participation of respective ISDs to foster collaboration between Parliament and the ISDs: i.e. complement the oversight. (the reports of ISDs to inform these processes.)

5.1.4. The Need for Scenario Planning and Building Resilience

It was emphasised that Institutions, including Parliament, needed to protect themselves against a range of risks, some of which are unforeseen. COVID-19, for example, disrupted many parliaments around the world, preventing them from continuing business as usual.

The recent calamities i.e. floods, and droughts have also underscored the need for greater preparedness by core institutions. These calamities highlight the need for parliaments to be forward-looking, resilient and adaptable. Information and communications technology (ICT) is often a key feature of that adaptability.

Action: There is a need for Parliament and the ISDs to focus its gaze on lessons learned, knowledge sharing and adaptation strategies in the wake of the likelihood of increasing calamities that are occurring more frequently. (Collaboration, Collaboration effort: in respect of both foreseen and unforeseen scenarios is necessary.

5.1.5. Induction and Capacity Building

It was noted that in the 5th Parliament, the OISD collaborated with the ISDs to document the respective constitutional mandates of all ISDs, their experiences during the 25 years of democracy, and proposals on how best Parliament and ISDs should work together in the Sixth Term. Following the development of the Inductions Manual, ISDs were not provided with an opportunity to participate in the formal onboarding program of Parliament. Notably, the ISD Heads expressed strong disappointment in the lack of accommodation by Parliament in its onboarding programme.

Beyond this however, the DS agreed that ISDs needed to be afforded space with Members of Legislatures, to disseminate information, and impart knowledge and training, enabling parliamentarians to engage more meaningfully with the work of ISDs, especially in areas of human rights and other related cross-cutting matters.

Action: The 7th Parliament should ensure that ISDs are afforded an opportunity to induct the new members of Parliament on the mandate and functions of ISDs. This would strengthen efforts to ensure that the NA and its committees discharge Parliament's constitutional obligations in respect of the ISDs in a systematic, coherent, comprehensive and efficient

manner. The induction should be augmented by further development training programmes envisage for members and staff of all legislators.

5.1.6. Institutionalise POs and FISD engagements

The meeting appreciated the importance of Presiding Officers, relevant Committee chairpersons and the FISD meeting quarterly to amongst others take stock of progress on initiatives that were agreed to and to enhance effective collaboration. A calendar of meetings for the remainder of the 6th term was tabled. Thus, there is a need to "institutionalise" (and not to personalise) the POs and ISD engagements and resolutions, including innovations like joint meetings of all relevant structures or committees when considering ISD reports.

Action: The meeting urged the scheduled quarterly meetings continue into the 7th Parliament to ensure that institutional memory is not lost in the next administration. Site visits to ISDs must be resumed.

6. THEMATIC AREAS

6.1. POLICY PRIORITIES OF PARLIAMENT ON ISD-RELATED MATTERS

Based on the discussions and in particular the challenges and opportunities that were identified, the below strategic themes with action points are set out below. Within this context, the OISD's strategic initiatives are aligned as per the thematic areas, with clear milestones, and targets further elaborated in a revised strategic plan.

6.1. Strategic Objective 1: Framework for Remuneration and Mechanisms for Regulating Conflict of Interest

The meeting recommended, in particular, the following immediate and intermediate action points:

Immediate Action Points

- OISD (Parliament)-A letter drafted for the attention of the Minister of Justice requesting the inclusion of the Public Service Commission(PSC) and the Pan South African Language Board (PanSALB), in the Remuneration Amendment Act and a remit for the Amendment to include the PSC and the Remuneration Act in respect of ISDs.
- ISDs- Draft a Concept Paper on the current Remuneration Structure and the prevailing shortcomings, for the attention of the President. The chairperson of the FISD to coordinate this process
- Parliament- The Executive Authority to initiate a strategic engagement with the Presidency about the frustrations and experiences of ISD members regarding remuneration.

Intermediate/ Transitional Action Points

- ISD Heads and POs to engage the Remuneration Commission before the forthcoming planned meeting. The OISD to facilitate the engagement.
- FISD: To draft a concept paper detailing and covering issues relating to the alignment of benefits and other conditions of service as applicable to all Commissioners vis a vie that of political Office bearers but not made applicable to "some" ISD members/commissioners even though the they are office bearers in terms of the Remuneration Act). Security of tenure differs from one office to another and this must be addressed. A Task Team of 3 principals (ISD heads) was proposed to guide this process.

6.1.2. Strategic Objective 2: Standardisation of Appointment Procedures and removal Procedures of Commissioners

It was noted that the vast differences in the appointment procedures of commissioners and members of the various ISDs remain the biggest challenge resulting in fundamental inconsistencies on how Parliament processes ISDs-related statutory appointments. Appointment procedures should amongst others ensure that there is no role for the Executive; provide for greater fairness, transparency and inclusivity- providing for uniformity and differentiation where needed.

Immediate Action Points	Intermediate/ Transitional Action Points	
OISD- to develop a framework for the standardisation of Appointments for submission at the next meeting, 13 September 2023.	 A Task led by a Committee Chairperson, the ISD Heads to review the founding legislation of ISDs (supported by OISD, researchers and the FISD (secretariat). FISD/Parliament -to produce Legislation about standardisation. Parliament - the Oversight and Accountability Model to be adjusted in line with the proposed Legislation, the STP to be engaged by the Ds and OISD. 	

6.1.3. Strategic Objective 3: Shifting of Budgets of Institutions Supporting Democracy from the Executive to Parliament

It was noted that the current funding approach compromises the perceived independence of ISDs as the budgets of ISDs remain located within the budgets of specific national government departments, and there is a lack of common identifiable processes to be followed by the ISDs for their budgets. Further, some ISDs do not get or are not afforded an opportunity to present and justify their budget requests with Treasury. This is a conspicuous problem relating to independence as it creates the impression that they are accountable to the specific government department by which they are funded.

Immediate Action Points Intermediate/ Transitional Action Points Deputy Speaker- place shifting of ISD The Executive Authority together with the budgets on the agenda of the Executive Heads of ISDs to engage the National Treasury on the Implementation Plan re: Authority. The Presiding Officers to engage the Shifting of ISD Budgets. Secretary of Parliament on the shifting of The chairperson of SCoag and Deputy ISD Budgets and the implications thereof on Auditor to recommend an implementation the budget of Parliament. plan on addressing the conditionality The OISD working with representatives of outlined in the Task Team Report. the FISD to develop a road map to providing direction on the shifting of ISD Budgets to Parliament. The roadmap to be presented at the next engagement of POs, Chairpersons and ISD Heads.

6.1.4. Strategic Objective 4: Determination of a Model for addressing SA's Human Rights challenges

The meeting affirmed the need for Parliament to determine, through conducting a study on the efficacy of the affected ISDs and evaluating their impact, the most appropriate model for addressing human rights and other related challenges in South Africa.

Immediate Action Points	Intermediate /Transitional Action Points	
OISD in conjunction with the FISD (CEOs) to develop Terms of Reference for the approval of the Presiding Officers, Chairpersons and ISD Heads.	 Parliament-the Chairpersons of the PC Justice and Constitutional Development and PC: Women, Children and People with Disabilities together with the Chairpersons of the SAHRC and the CGE to produce empirical proposals (cost-benefit analysis, in-depth studies, evaluation, due diligence, etc.) about a suitable human rights model. Parliament/ISD Heads- to develop a clear road map on amalgamation. 	

6.1.5. Strategic Objective5: Develop legislation on the "Accountability and Independence Act" of ISDs

Parliament must develop legislation related to the "Accountability and Independence of Constitutional Institutions. The purpose of the legislation would be to recognize and regulate the interrelationship between ISDs and Parliament's oversight function while ensuring their respective independence. To enhance the effectiveness of these institutions Parliament should consider the constitutional injunction of section 234 concerning "adopting a Charter of Rights consistent with the provisions of the Constitution."

Immediate Action Points	Intermediate/Transitional Action Points
OISD and ISD CEOs -to confer and develop Terms of Reference.	 Parliament-In the 7th Parliament, a Task team led by Chairpersons of the PC Justice, SC Appropriations, SCoag and comprising the PP, FFC and PSC to be constituted to develop draft legislation. Legislation to be considered and adopted by Parliament.

6.1.6. Strategic Objective 6: Initiatives to improve the accessibility of ISDs to the Public – Single Precinct

Concerning accessibility, one of the challenges faced by ISDs is that they are largely urbanbased. Therefore, there is a need for ISDs to be innovative and ensure that they become more accessible to the public, particularly in rural areas. However, it remains equally significant to ensure that provincial offices are kept operational only where a demonstrable need can be shown.

Immediate Action Point	Intermediate/Transitional Action Points	
The OISD and FISD secretariat -to develop	A Task Team comprising the ISD CEOs and	
Terms of Reference for submission at the	OISD -to develop a proposal on a Single	
next engagement of the Presiding Officers,	Precinct for ISDs.	
chairpersons and ISD Heads.	Presiding Officers and ISD Heads to engage	
	the Ministers of Public Works and National	
	Treasury on proposals agreed to.	

6.1.7. Strategic Objective 7: Programme on Capacity Building – including Induction

It was proposed that the 7th Parliament should convene a workshop on the mandate and functions of ISDs. This would strengthen efforts to ensure that the NA and its committees discharge Parliament's constitutional obligations in respect of the ISDs in a systematic, coherent, comprehensive and efficient manner.

Immediate Action Points	Intermediate/Transitional Action Points	
 OISD/ISD CEOs- to update the Manual on the Mandates and Functions of ISDs. OISD to facilitate the process. The Manual is to be approved by the ISD Heads, Presiding Officers and Chairpersons. ISD CEOs and OISD to develop a capacity Building Strategy for Legislators. 	 Parliament-Executive Authority to authorise a workshop on the mandates and functions of ISDs and the constitutional obligations of Parliament in this regard, as part of the induction of the 7th parliament programme. OISD and FISDs to collaborate with Speakers Forum on capacity building and training for members and staff of legislatures. 	

6.1.8 Strengthening Complimentary Oversight

The need to strengthen collaboration and complementary oversight was emphasised with the following recommendations:

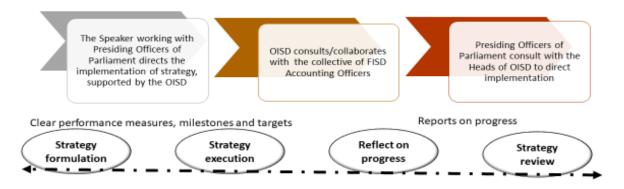
Immediate Action Points	Intermediate Action Points
Parliament- Institutionalise calendar of	Parliament- Institutionalise calendar of
meetings between PO's, chairpersons and ISD	meetings between PO's, chairpersons and ISD
Heads. The DS Office to assist.	Heads. The DS Office to assist.
Parliament- OISD- schedule of site visits to be	Parliament- OISD- schedule of site visits to be
circulated for the attention of the DS	circulated for the attention of the DS
Parliament- Presiding Officers/OISD- facilitate	Parliament- Presiding Officers/OISD- facilitate
the participation of ISDs in oversight	the participation of ISDs in oversight
programmes.	programmes.

8. Approach and Methodology

The meeting agreed that discussion points emanating from the engagements between Parliament and the FISD should be converted where relevant into clear actionable projects. Identified strategic projects must be accompanied by governance arrangements to ensure accountability for the implementation of these programmes and projects. Reporting on progress should be added as an agenda segment in envisaged quarterly engagements.

By way of illustration, the below slide outlines governance and accountability arrangements to facilitate the implementation of strategic programmes and initiatives.

ITEM 8: CONCLUSION AND THE WAY FORWARD



9. Conclusion

The draft OISD strategy framework of the 7th Parliament and a draft annual performance plan of the current financial year will thus be presented in the next meeting. The strategy framework and APP will cover both routine work (consideration of ISDs-related appointments, substantive reports, performance information including tracking of resolutions) and strategic initiatives / projects (such as the determination of remuneration, allowances and conditions of service of office bearers serving in ISDs).

As per the emphasis in the meeting, the strategy framework and APP provides for a systematic and coherent approach to of improving collaborative efforts, with clear projects, and accompanying timeframes, enabling stakeholders to be better able to step up collective action to build stronger and more resilient systems, with parliament and the ISDs at the core, for the benefit of all.

The next meeting date was announced as 13 September 2023.

q

Annexure 1.- APOLOGIES TENDERED – FOR MEETING OF 21 JUNE 2023

<u>Nr</u>	<u>Name</u>		
	<u>ISDs</u>		
1	Prof. Bongani Christopher Majola/ South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC)		
2	Ms. Asanda Luwaca/ National Youth Development Agency (NYDA)		
3	Ms Tsakani Maluleke, Auditor General of SA		
	<u>Parliament</u>		
	Hon N Mapisa- Ngcula /Speaker of the National Assembly		
4	Hon A Masondo/Chair of the NCOP		
5	Hon Mr A J Nyambi: House Chairperson Committees; NCOP		
6	Hon Ms W. Ngwenya: House Chairperson Oversight &Institutional support: NCOP		
	<u>Chairpersons</u>		
7			
8	Hon Ms. N Ndaba/ Portfolio Committee on Women , Children and People with Disabilities		
9	Hon Ms B Dlulane/ Portfolio Committee Sports, Arts and Culture		
	Parliamentary Office Bearers		
10	Mr X George /Secretary of Parliament		
11	Mr M Xaso/Under Secretary of the National Assembly		

Annexure 2: Attendance Register for Meeting of Presiding Officers, Chairpersons and ISD Heads- 21 June 2023

No	Name	Institution
1	Mr SL Tsenoli	Deputy Speaker
2	Mr CT Frolick	House Chair: Committees, Oversight and ICT
3	Mr S Buthelezi-	Chairperson -SCoAG
4	Mr MS Chabane	Chairperson-PC on Home Affairs
5	Mr. GB Magwanishe	Chairperson- PC Justice and Correctional Services
6	Mr FC Xasa	Chairperson- Portfolio Committee on Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs
7	Mr B Maneli	Chairperson: PC on Communications
8	Ms T Magweba	Portfolio Committee on Public Service & Administration
No.	Name	Institution
		205
9	Adv Nthabiseng Sepanya-Mogale (chairperson)	CGE
10	Mr Moepa Mosotho (chairperson	IEC
11	Dr Luka David Mosoma (chairperson)	CRL
12	Dr Patience Nombeko Mbava (chairperson)	FFC
13	Ms Yolisa Kedama (acting chairperson)	ICASA
14	Prof Lollie Makhubu-Badenhorst (chairperson)	PANSALB
15	Adv. Kholeka Gcaleka (acting Public Protector)	PPSA
16	Prof. Somadoda Fikeni (chairperson)	PSC
17	Adv JB Sibanyoni	SAHRC
18	Mr Vusumuzi Mkhize (CEO)	SAHRC
19	Ms A Maharaj	CEO- FFC
20	Mr Chen – Wei Tseng	Acting CFO(which ISD)
21	Mr P Charles	Office of the PP

No	Name	Institution
22	Ms N Nojozi	Advisor to the Speaker-
		Parliament
23	Mr Kaya Zweni	Head: OISD
24	Mr Andile Mphunga	Senior Manager:
		Oversight Support: OISD
25	Ms Lynette Sait	Manager: Strategic Liaison
		and Coordination- OISD
26	Mr Denzil Bouman	Office of the House
		Chairperson
27	Mr Harry Masenya	Liaison – Office of the DS.