

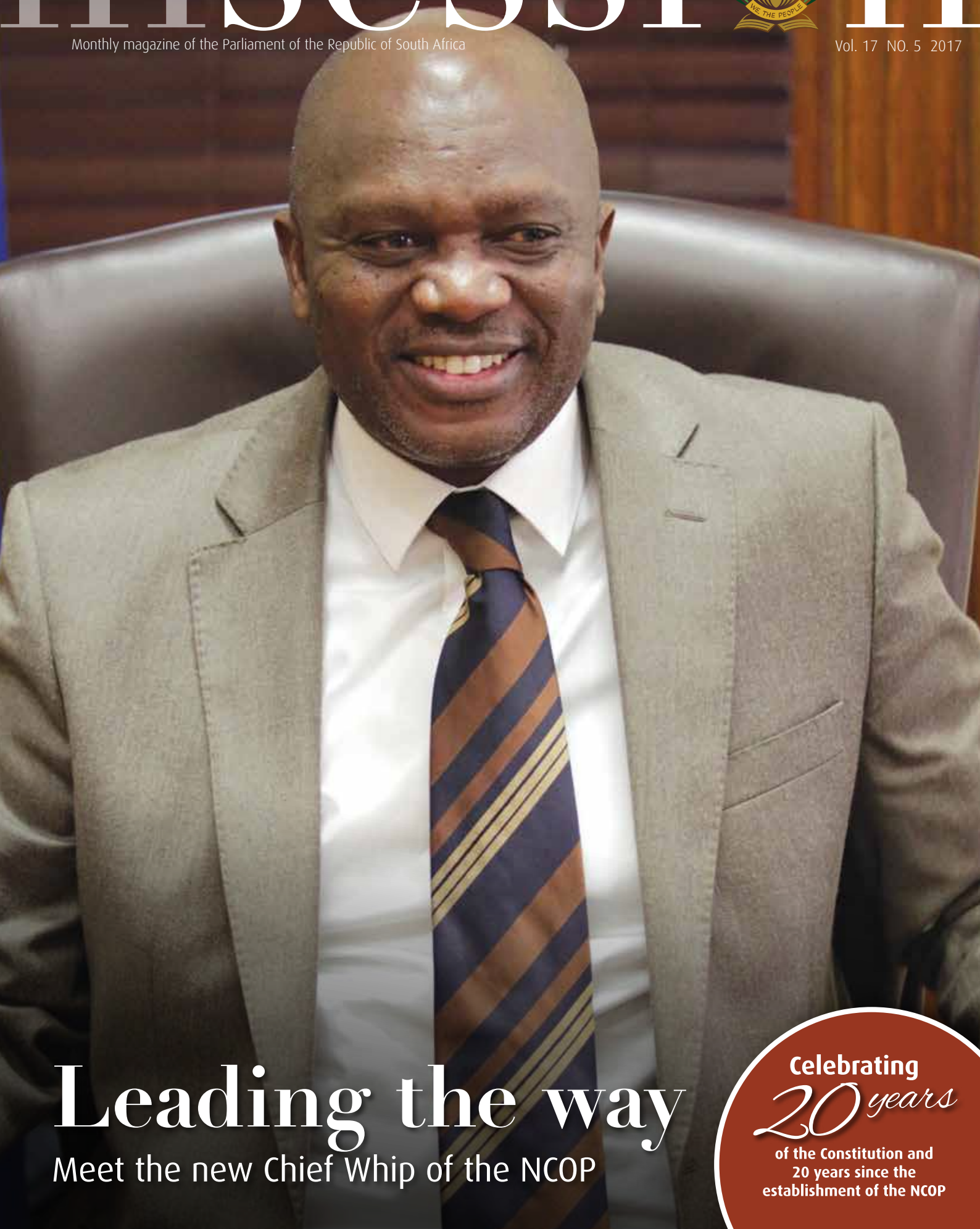
Following up on our commitments to the people.

# in session



Monthly magazine of the Parliament of the Republic of South Africa

Vol. 17 NO. 5 2017



## Leading the way

Meet the new Chief Whip of the NCOP

Celebrating  
*20* years  
of the Constitution and  
20 years since the  
establishment of the NCOP



**PARLIAMENT**  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Mace of National Assembly

## Vision

An activist and responsive people's Parliament that improves the quality of life of South Africans and ensures enduring equality in our society.

## Mission

Parliament aims to provide a service to the people of South Africa by providing the following:

- A vibrant people's Assembly that intervenes and transforms society and addresses the development challenges of our people;
- Effective oversight over the Executive by strengthening its scrutiny of actions against the needs of South Africans;
- Participation of South Africans in the decision-making processes that affect their lives;
- A healthy relationship between the three arms of the State, that promotes efficient co-operative governance between the spheres of government, and ensures appropriate links with our region and the world; and
- An innovative, transformative, effective and efficient parliamentary service and administration that enables Members of Parliament to fulfil their constitutional responsibilities.

## Strategic Objectives

1. Strengthening oversight and accountability
2. Enhancing public involvement
3. Deepening engagement in international fora
4. Strengthening co-operative government
5. Strengthening legislative capacity



Black Rod of National Council of Provinces



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**COVER:** The new Chief Whip of the National Council of Provinces, Mr Seiso Mohai.

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**SPEAKING TO THE YOUTH:** Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, Mr Lechesa Tsenoli.

young citizens to reject anything that “smells of the criminality of violence. Not in my family. Not in my neighbourhood. Not in my community.” He urged young people to be the ones to “break the walls of silence that often hide criminality”.

He especially appealed to the youth to stop being only job seekers, and instead to use their creativity and initiative to become job creators. He encouraged the youth to set up partnerships and make use of the opportunities provided by the public sector to innovate and introduce solutions to the problems they see around them.

The Deputy Speaker’s message for the youth went further. “Never lose the great value of respect for the elderly. They have experience. They know what has happened in the past. Draw as much as possible from their experience and their wisdom.”

He reminded the youth of their responsibility to keep alive the values borne out of the struggle against apartheid. “Those values do not die.”

He warned that it was up to the youth to halt “the eroding influence of greed, of acquisitiveness and individualism that kills the sense of community that we [in the ANC] have espoused as an approach to dealing with problems”, which comes from “deep African values, from a non-racial system that looks at people as human beings, irrespective of where they come from and their background”.

He listed what he, as a veteran of the Mass Democratic Movement, expects of the upcoming generation. Respect

## Deputy Speaker wraps up Youth month

**As** Youth Month – the 41st since Soweto students changed the course of South Africa’s history – drew to a close, the Deputy Speaker to Parliament, Mr Lechesa Tsenoli, called young people “to the front”. He spoke to *Moir Levy*.

In calling the youth forward, he said: “That is where you belong. Educate yourselves. Acquire skills, seek opportunities to create jobs.”

Alongside his counterpart in the National Council of Provinces, Mr Tsenoli is responsible for sectoral events such as youth parliaments. He took the opportunity to appeal to the emerging generation of new leaders to “create social interventions in your neighbourhoods that will make a big difference to the quality of life of those who come after you and those who have come before you”.

He said young people, now more than ever, must intervene in their neighbourhoods and communities, especially to protect the more vulnerable. “Young people see the problems in their neighbourhoods.” He said it was up to them to stand up and be counted when domestic violence placed people at risk.

When it comes to crime and violence, young people must not be the perpetrators. “Protest is good,” he said. “It opens our eyes to what needs to happen [and] must lead to practical solutions.” But he urged

people. Demand equal pay for equal work. Do away with discrimination wherever it raises its ugly head. Be consistent. Do not allow cultural or religious reasons to “suppress the potential creativity that society needs to solve the many problems that we have in South Africa”.

“Those values are absolutely crucial,” he said, returning again and again to the three major challenges facing South Africa today: poverty, inequality and unemployment. “These will only be effectively dealt with if all people, irrespective of their race, colour, creed

or gender, get involved in solving the problems and creating solutions.” His strongest words were reserved for an appeal to end violence against women and children, which he called “one of the crudest manifestations” of the problems our society faces.

He attributed this scourge to “the past traumatisation that occurred in our society. Open state violence inevitably got into families and individuals as a method for resolving issues.”

Despite concerted public reconciliation efforts of the past, South Africa has still

not yet found a way of resolving conflict, even within our communities. “We have not produced infrastructure in our society to deal with healing the past.”

Mr Tsenoli wants to see an urgent end to violence in the home, at the workplace, on farms and in the streets, but he cautioned that healing needs state intervention. South Africa needs to first deal with the violence that people suffered in the past at the hands of the state and certain employers by engaging in individual, neighbourhood and community-linked initiatives to tackle these problems. 🙏

**CALL TO ACTION:** Mr Tsenoli called on the youth to get involved in their communities.







UMnu Tsenoli ucele lusha kutsi lutimbandzakanye etindzabeni temimango yalapho luhlala khona.

# Lisekela lasomlomo libeka inkhulumo yekuphetsa inyanga yelusha

**Njengaloku** *iNingizimu Afrika seyifinyelela ekupheleni kwalenye Inyanga Yelusha – ngumnyaka we-41 kusukela bafundzi baseSoweto bagucula umlandvo – Lisekela laSomlomo wePhalamende, Umnu LechesaTsenoli, ubitele bantfu labasha “embili.” “Kulapho nifanele kutsi nibekhona,” washo njalo ngesikhatsi asePhalamende kuleliviki leliphelile. “Tifundziseni nine ngekwenu. Tfolani emakhono, funani ematfuba ekudala imisebenti.” Lhungyushwe nguJ Ncongwane.*

Akanye nemlingani wakhe lokuMkhandlu Wavelonkhe Wetifundza, Umnu Tsenoli ubukene nemicimbi yetemikhakha lefanana nePhalamende Yelusha. Wasebentisa lelitfuba wacela lesitukulwane lesisakhula sebaholi labasha kutsi “bente tingenelelo tetenhlo etindzaweni lapho bahlala

khona letitakwenta umehluko lomkhulu elizingeni lemphilu yalabo labatawuta emva kwenu kanye nakulabo labafike embikwenu.”

Utsite bantfu labasha, nyalo sengiso sikhatsi kwengca kucala kutsi bangenelele etindzaweni labahlala kuto kanye nasemimangweni, ikakhulu ekuvikeleni labo labasengotini yekuhlaseleka lula.

“Bantfu labasha babona tinkinga etindzaweni labahlala kuto.” Utsite kusemahlombe abo kutsi basukume bente lokutsite nangabe budlova basekhaya bubeka bantfu ebungotini.

Nakufika endzabeni yebudlova nebugebengu, bantfu labasha kufanele kutsi kungabi ngibo lababentako. “Kushuca kuhle,” kwasho yena. “Kuvula emahle etfu kuloko lokudzingeka kutsi kwenteke[futsi]kufanele kutsi kuholele etisombululweni letiphatsekako.”

Kodvwa ucele kakhulu takhamuti letincane kutsi tingavumeli nome ngabe yini “lenuka budlova bebugebengu. Hhayi emndenini wami. Hhayi endzaweni lapho ngihlala khona. Hhayi emimangweni wami.” Ucele kakhulu bantfu labasha kutsi kube ngabo “labawisa letindvonga tekubindza esikhastini lesinyenti lokungito letifihla bugebengu.”

Ikakhulu ucele lusha kutsi luyekele lokuba bantfu labafuna kuphela umsebenti, kodvwa esikhundleni sekutsi lusebentise buciko nemtamo yekutsi lube bantfu labatidalela bona umsebenti. Wagcugcutela lusha kutsi lusungule budlelwane bekusebentisana lusebentise amatfuba lavetwa ngumkhakha wahulumende kutsi bacambe lokusha futsi baletse tisombululo tetinkinga

labatibona lapho bakhona.

Umlayeto weLisekela laSomlomo lawucondzise kulusha wachubeka. “Ningacali niyekele ligugu lelikhulu lekuhlonipha bantfu labadzala. Bantfu labadzala banelwati nesipiliyoni. Bayakwati lokwenteka esikhatsini lesengca. Tsatsani kakhulu kulesipiliyoni sabo kanye nakulokuhlakanipha labanako.”

Wakhumbuta bantfu labasha kutsi kusemahlombe abo kutsi bawagcine aphila lamagugu emzabalazo wekulwa nelubandlululo. “Lawo magugu akafi.”

Wabayala bantfu labasha watsi kusemandleni abo kutsi bavimbe “lomtselela webudli, wekutizuzela wena newekutinaka wena nje kuphela lokunguwo lobulala ummango tsine[kuKhongolose] lesiwusekela njengendlela yekusombulula tinkinga,” lodzabuka “ekujuleni kwemagugu e-Afrika, kuluhlele lolute buhlanga lolutsatsa bantfu njengebantfu, akukhatsalekile kutsi babuya kuphi nekutsi limuva labo linjani.”

Njengamnkantjubovu we-Mass Democratic Movement, wabala tintfo yena latilindzele kulesitukulwane lesitako. Kuhlonipha bantfu njengebantfu. Kufuna kuholelwa lokulinganako ngemsebenti lolinganako. Kususa lubandlululo nome ngabe kukuphi labo luveta khona inhloko yalo lembi. Kwenta tintfo ngekungantjintjantjintji. Kungavumeli kutsi tizatfu tetenkholo nome temasiko “ticindzetele emandla ebuciko sive lesiwadzingako ekusombulula letinkinga letinyenti lesibukene nato lapha eNingizimu Afrika.”

“Lawo magugu amcoka kakhulu,” kwasho yena aphinzaphindza letinsayeya letimcoka iNingizimu

Afrika lebukene nato kulamalanga: buphuya, kungalingani kanye nekubate kwemsebenti.

“Loku kungasonjululwa ngemphumelelo kuphela nangabe bonkhe bantfu, kungakhatsalekile kutsi baluphi luhlanga, libala, inkholo nome bulili, batimbandzakanye ekusombululeni letinkinga kanye nasekuveteni likhambi.”

Emavi akhe wawacinisa kakhulu nakabacela kutsi becedze budlova lobucondziswe kubonmake nakubantwana, lakubite ngekutsi “nguletinye tetintfo letikhombisa sibhuku lesikhulu” setinkinga sive sakitsi lesibukene naso.

Lesibhuku usichaze ngekutsi sabangwa “kuhlukubeteka emoyeni kwasesikhatsini lesengca lokwenteka esiveni sakitsi. Simo sebudlova lobenteka ebaleni bangena emindenini nakulowo nalowo njengendlela yekusombulula tinkinga.

Nanome kube nemitamo lemikhulu yekubuisana esikhatsini lesengcile, iNingizimu Afrika solo isengakayitfoli indlela yekusombulula tincabano, ngisho nasemimangweni yetfu. Sehlulekile kusungula sakhawonchani esiveni setfu lesitawubukana nekwelapha limuva lapho sisuka khona.”

Umnu Tsenoli ufisa kubona kupheliswa ngekushesha budlova emakhaya, emisebentini, emapulazini kanye nasetitaladini, kodvwa wacwayisa ngekutsi kwelapheka kudzinga kungenelele kwembuso. INingizimu Afrika idzinga kutsi kwekucala ibukane nebudlova bantfu lobentiwa kubo esikhatsini lesengca lobentiwa ngumbuso kanye nebacashi labatsite ngekutsi lowo nalowo, bantfu bendzawo kanye nemitamo lehambisana nemmango kute kusonjululwe letinkinga. 🙏



# What June 16 means to me

Young MPs share the inspiration they draw from the youth of 1976

**To** celebrate the contribution of the youth in the fight for liberation and the 41st anniversary of the Soweto uprising, where students took to the streets to protest against the apartheid policy of making Afrikaans the medium of instruction in black schools, some young Members of Parliament (MPs) were interviewed by *Sakhile Mokoena* on the relevance of June 16 and the new struggles facing the youth of today.



SHAPING THE FUTURE: Ms Tasneem Motara

**Tasneem Motara (34, African National Congress)** “June 16 for me is about commemorating young people who took to the streets to define what type of future they wanted, who realised that education was important, but who realised that

the type of education that they were receiving at the time, in 1976, was not going to assist them to become productive older people or even young people back then.

“It was a system that was created

to make them weaker, make them less important and make them less productive and they needed to stand up for what they wanted and define themselves for that time and also the type of future they wanted. So for me June 16 is about commemorating them and realising that as young people, we have it in us to be able to decide what we want for ourselves for our future.

“I think the struggle in 1976 was not just about education. It was about the future, and our struggle today as young people is about the future. What type of future do we want? You can argue and say it is about economic development. You can argue and say it is about opportunities to education. You can argue and say it is about economic emancipation, but it ultimately boils down to the future.

“What is it that we want our future to look like? Do we want to participate actively in the economy? Do we want to own it? Do we want to own the quality of education we receive, an education that will make us active participants, not only in South Africa, but globally as well?

“Parliament plays a central role because young people in South Africa represent the majority of the population. We have a young population, the youth cohort is a majority.

“If we don’t advocate for what young people are saying, the issues and concerns that they are raising, the types of challenges and struggles that they are facing and how to overcome them, we might discover that we are irrelevant with regard to the types of laws that we pass. We might find a disjuncture between ourselves and what is actually happening on the ground.

“Parliament plays a very important role because we must take into consideration those types of solutions and make sure that they fit into the

types of laws that we are passing. We like to speak about the ‘born frees’, the young people who can vote today but who couldn’t vote 20 years ago or prior to the adoption of the Constitution. We have to find ways of bringing South Africans together, from all walks of life.

“The Constitution has given birth to the basis of what we want to create as South Africans. So young people have to locate themselves within the rights and responsibilities enshrined in the Constitution. They also have to be able to use the Constitution,

make use of the rights that we have, those responsibilities, the structures that are there, open to everybody. Have we been able to internalise the Constitution?

“How meaningful is the Constitution to the ‘born frees’? Is it just a piece of paper or are they really internalising what it means to be a South African using the Constitution as a basis for the type of future that we want?”

**Ms Hlumela Bucwa (24, Democratic Alliance)**

“June 16 for me serves a symbolic reminder of the struggles when young people came together to say ‘Enough is enough. Our generation will change the status quo’. They were fighting an unjust system that failed to recognise us. This is a reminder for me to say they had a particular mandate to fulfil and, as a young person in 2017, I also have a role and mandate to fulfil. So we should never forget the important role that the youth played then and the responsibility that lies before us as young people today.

“It is fundamental to understand what our mission is, particularly as the new generation. It is simply to fight for quality education. [In the past] I think it was more about an unjust system that they had to eradicate. Because of that system, they were unable to get proper quality education. For me, our struggle is to eradicate the social injustices that still prevail in our society. Some of those are poor education, no access to housing and no access to basic things that we need as human beings. If you give me an education, I am able to extricate myself from poverty and change my personal circumstances.

“Parliament plays a critical role because we are lawmakers. The laws

**QUALITY EDUCATION IS KEY:** Ms Hlumela Bucwa





that we pass affect people directly in society. One of our first responsibilities is to get a mandate from our people to understand their struggles and challenges. When we make laws and policies, we should ensure that they provide economic opportunities, and proper educational access and success to the youth. So we play a fundamental role in alleviating their dire situation and the challenges they face, such as all sorts of social ills and poverty.

“We have a critical role as lawmakers to change the circumstances of the youth. The Constitution is one of the key pillars that keeps us together. I was four years old when it was adopted, but to read it, particularly the Bill of Rights, those rights must not just be words on paper. They need to be lived experiences, they need to be practical.

“It is pointless to say ‘I have the right to education, but there is no proper access to education. I can’t say you have a right to basic services, but I’m not granting you those services. The Constitution should serve as a guiding document to what we need to do as lawmakers is to ensure that South Africans have access to better things in life, in accordance with the rights that are enshrined in our Constitution.”

### **Mr Solly Malatsi (31)**

“June 16 means as young people we must be at the forefront of making South Africa a better place. I think what it also means is that young people shouldn’t wait for society to provide solutions. We should be at the forefront of making this country what we want it to be, because if we don’t nobody else will, or those that do so might speak on our behalf. We have the voice and we have the space



**WE HAVE A VOICE:** Mr Solly Malatsi

now. Some of us are in Parliament to be those leading voices, to make South Africa a better place for young people, old people and everyone who lives in it.

“The struggles of the youth are plenty. There is high unemployment and education is increasingly expensive, but I think the challenge of young people is basically to be heard. There is so much greatness among young people and young people are not looking for handouts, they are looking for proper support. They are looking for a platform to be heard and they are looking for opportunities so that

they can show their greatness in society, be it in education, in the economy or in sport.

“Young people are not waiting for some magical intervention to make them better. All they need is to be heard and to be given opportunities that will support their dreams, so that they can aspire to be the greatest generation that South Africa has ever produced. Parliament is a big platform and for those young people who have the opportunity to serve in Parliament, it is even more significant because this is where the people we used to admire used to be.

“Parliament can be sensitive to young people’s voices and not suffocate those voices. The majority of parliamentarians aren’t young people, so young people’s voices have to constantly battle to be heard. Parliament must not look at the robustness and energy of young people as something negative.

“As young people, we cannot be diplomatic when our interests are not taken seriously. We have the energy and it’s high time that such energy is seen as a positive ingredient because we can’t be quiet while the interests of young people are being ignored.

“As young people we realise that the Constitution has unlocked many opportunities and we realise that without the Constitution, our democracy will not have a heartbeat.

“The Constitution is also a reminder of the massive responsibilities that we have as the current leaders and future leaders of this country. To always be mindful that to bring meaning to the leadership opportunities that we have, is to play by the book and show the utmost respect for our Constitution. To ensure we don’t just say that when we are within the space of Parliament and even in society, we must embody the spirit of the Constitution, so that we know that we are the shining examples that we have always aspired to be.

“We must also ensure that we give hope to young people that the respect for the Constitution is not just a box-ticking exercise, but the lifeblood of our aspirations as young people and as leaders.”

**Mkhuleko Hlengwa (30, Inkatha Freedom Party)** “June 16 means a lot of things to young people, because it is a reminder of where we come

from, but also where we need to take the country. South Africa is besieged with a lot of challenges and the youth of 1976 challenge us to rise to the occasion of dealing with our own challenges in our lifetime.

“It might be a different time, but the energy of the youth continues to resonate in 2017 and continues doing so moving forward. June 16 tells us as young people today, standing on the shoulders of historic giants, who were able to put their lives at risk for our own benefit, the biggest question is: are we prepared to do that as the youth of 2017 for future generations?

“June 16 is important for all young people, and to me it means that we need to keep on going. The struggles of youth in 2017 remain the high levels of unemployment, which stand at record high of 27%. We have the challenges of access to quality education. Fees must fall is one such challenge. We have an economy that is not growing and we have high levels of poverty. We have a situation where social ills are enveloping our young people. The issue of women abuse; these are all things which touch on young people.

“We may have attained political freedom in 1994, but in 2017 we find ourselves on the back foot, and we have become nothing more than voting fodder. When we vote for five years, there is an absence of interaction, there is an absence of engagement and that needs to change. And the only way to change is if the youth of 2017 stand up to be counted on a daily basis.

“As an active citizenry we want to be at the forefront, challenging issues constructively, providing solutions and ensuring that in such a manner we are listened to and what we

need happens.

“I strongly believe that there is a new energy in South Africa now, where young people are rising to the challenge and wanting to be heard. The proliferation of social media in South Africa has been an added advantage of making the youth’s voice heard. It is where new discussions are taking place and we are able to speak across different cultures and different languages.

“South Africa, through social media, has come together. Parliament has a huge role to play in youth development because it is at the heart of decision-making. It is where the final decisions are taken. You have a situation where even now Parliament does not have a youth structure. How are some people supposed to be part of it if there is not even a structure?

“I’ve been here in Parliament since 2012, and every year for the past five years I have raised this issue with the Presiding Officers, with the Chief Whips and it has come to nothing and it becomes important because if you have gender-sensitive budgeting, it follows that you need youth-sensitive budgeting.

“As young people we are not in that space of decision-making and you need to make sure that you formalise that space. It’s no use relying on me as an individual Member of Parliament just because I’m a young person, because whatever I say does not have the authority of an official structure.

“Secondly, that structure will assist in ensuring that whatever government departments bring to Parliament – policy, budgeting and so on – that





**YOUTH-SENSITIVE BUDGETING:** Mr Mkhuleko Hlengwa

structure will be able to benchmark those things against the collective interests of young people.

“So you need to have an organised parliamentary structure for young people to be able to express themselves, which will rise above the divides of politics and embrace the challenges of young people so they can move forward in unison.

“We welcome the celebration of the Constitution, 20 years on. It is important because we are reminded once again that South

Africa is free and democratic. The Constitution guarantees us rights, but what is important for us young people is to note that rights come with responsibility. The Constitution protects us even from ourselves.

“The Constitution is the national vision of the type of society that we want and if all of us keep a clear focus on the Constitution, we will be able to take significant strides forward. The Constitution maintains a healthy system of checks and balances, but most importantly, it reminds us of where we come from, our unequal

past, an oppressive past. We are now 23 years into our freedom, equality and democracy, with a progressive, free Constitution.

“Now is the time for us to ask ourselves the serious question: have we met the expectations of the Constitution? Now is the time to assess whether we have achieved the vision of the Constitution and, most importantly for us, to defend the provisions of the Constitution, the independence of the judiciary, the independence of the Chapter 9 institutions and whether amendments ought to be made, for example on the land question. Are the provisions of the Constitution adequate in addressing the land question?

“The Constitution needs to become a living document for young people, for us to interact with it. We want to develop a black intelligentsia in South Africa, a youth intelligentsia in South Africa, which is able to grapple with the complex issues of our times and be able to chart a national vision anchored in the NDP [National Development Plan], anchored in the Constitution, anchored in the liberation dream, where all of us are equal, have equal opportunities, where the dignity of the black person is restored, and where most importantly, we no longer have to fear that we might go back to the past.

“Recent events challenge us that we must never take the Constitution for granted. The realities of state capture, corruption, and fraud all undermine the gains the Constitution seeks to advance for all of us. As young people we must be the custodians of the Constitution because we are not just leaders of tomorrow, we are leaders and we will be accountable tomorrow for the decisions we take today.” 🗣️

# NCOP has a new Chief Whip

**The** newly elected Chief Whip of the National Council of Provinces (NCOP), Mr Seiso Mohai, believes the NCOP's success should be measured by its contribution to changing the living conditions of the people, writes *Sakhile Mokoena*.

During an interview with *InSession* and Parliament's TV channel (408 on DStv) he said: "We always assert that we measure our success based on the changing conditions of the lives of the people.

"We believe that the NCOP, together with the innovations that it introduced, like Taking Parliament to the People and Provincial Week, which relate more concretely in the provincial sphere of government, ensure that it brings together the different spheres of government to attend to burning questions that face our communities. It has really made a huge improvement," said Mr Mohai.

In the Constitution, the role of the NCOP's Chief Whip is defined as, among other things, to coordinate provincial inputs and ensure that minority parties participate in the core business of the House (the NCOP).

The effective functioning of the NCOP also resides with its Committees. "We deal with a range of issues: provincial mandates, contestation of issues arising from provinces to the national sphere and national legislation. These make a meaningful

contribution to the national sphere of governance by practically highlighting areas that constitute gaps in terms of policy and delivery of services, but also strengthening the relationship among the three spheres of government: national, provincial and local.

"In my position, I have to play a key role to ensure that the NCOP upholds the discipline and rules of the House, and serves all Members of the House equally. We maintain discipline and decorum of the House. We speak about the notion of the people's Parliament, the extent to which Parliament reaches out to the people and how the views of the people find resonance in our work. How do we respond to the concerns and frustrations that the people express?"

This year, the NCOP celebrates 20 years since its establishment. Mr Mohai said this provides an exciting moment to reflect on the NCOP's strengths and also identify areas that require improvement.

"Also, most importantly for the party that I belong to, this is the year of policy reflection, where we take stock over a period of time to ask: is the NCOP in its current configuration

fulfilling its mandate and how should we redefine the role of the council of provinces? What are the new areas of innovation that we want to bring to the fore? I believe that this provides an opportune moment for us to critically look into areas that need to be strengthened in this current period," said the Chief Whip.

Mr Mohai said that part of his focus will be to mobilise all parties in the NCOP "not to lose focus on our task of serving as a forum for provincial interests, and also making a meaningful contribution in identifying gaps where they exist".

The fifth Parliament adopted the concept of an 'activist Parliament', as a guiding principle during this term. "I think the key issue that we need to deal with in the 'activist Parliament' is to be at one in terms of the conceptualisation of the key indicators of what constitutes a people's Parliament, so that this should not be mere sloganeering. This is so that there are clear indicators upon which we base ourselves to say this is a people's Parliament."

Mr Mohai's political activism began on the dusty streets of what was then South Africa's largest informal settlement, Botshabelo, in the Mangaung area in the 1980s. The settlement was established in 1979 in terms of apartheid policy to reserve urban areas for white people and keep black people in rural ones.



**LEADERSHIP FOR SUCCESS:** NCOP Chief Whip Mr Seiso Mohai.

“I participated in the youth formations. You will recall that [various] student organisations formed the South African Youth Congress (Sayco) until the 1990s, when political organisations were unbanned and the African National Congress (ANC) Youth League was re-established. I became the Chairperson of the ANC Youth League upon its re-establishment in the southern Free State.”

Mr Mohai became a Member of Parliament in 1999 and served on the Portfolio Committees on Communications, Education, and Public Service and Administration. Between 2002 and 2004 he served as Chief Whip of the ANC in the Free State provincial legislature, before being appointed MEC for Public Works, Roads and Transport, a position he held until 2009.

Between 2009 and 2013 he served as MEC for Finance, before the ANC redeployed him to Parliament. “After the 2014 elections, I was appointed Chairperson of the ANC Parliamentary Caucus, which is a position I still held until I was appointed as NCOP Chief Whip. I have also served in other capacities as Chairperson of the Select Committee on Appropriations, as well as serving as a Co-Chairperson of the Joint Committee on Financial Management of Parliament. This is a new Committee, established in 2016, which has the important role of exercising oversight over Parliament’s financial management, budget and so forth.” 🇿🇦





## Kha vha țangane na Tshimebi Tshihulwane tshine tsha khou tou bva u khethwa tsha Khoro ya Lushaka ya Mavunđu

**Tshimebi** *Tshihulwane tshine tsha khou tou bva u khethwa tsha Khoro ya Lushaka ya Mavunđu (NCOP) Vho Seiso Mohai vha fhulufhela uri u bvelela ha NCOP hu tea u elwa nga u longa tshanda hayo kha u shandukisa nyimele dza vhutshilo ha vhathu, Vho Sakhile Mokoena vho ħwala nga u ralo. Yo pindulelwa nga Livhuwani Madiba.*

Tshimebi Tshihulwane tsha NCOP wo țalutshedzwa sa, vhukati ha miñwe minzhi, u konanya mahumbulwa a mavunđu na u kwhațhisedza uri mahoro mațuku a shela mulenzhe kha mushumo muhulwane wa Nnđu (NCOP).

Nga tshifhinga tsha nyambedzano na *InSession* khathihi na TV ya Phalamennde (Tshanele ya 408 kha DSTv) vho ri: “Ri kwhațhisedza tshifhinga tshoțhe uri ri ela mvelelo yashu zwi tshi bva kha nyimele dzi shandukaho dza vhutshilo ha vhathu.

Vhathuni na Vhege Ya Mavunđu zwine zwa kwama nga maanđa sia ĭa muvhuso wa Vunđu, i ĭo kwhațhisedza uri i țanganyisa masia o fhambanaho a muvhuso uri a sedzise mbudziso dzi konđaho dzo livhanaho na zwitshavha zwa hashu. Yo ita mvelaphanđa khulwane vhukuma,” Vho Mohai vho amba nga u ralo.

Kushumele kwo kwhațhaho kwa NCOP ku bvededzwa nga Komiti dzayo. Ri shuma ro sedza zwithu zwo fhambanaho, ndaela dza mavunđu, mihumbulo yo fhambanaho u bva kha mavunđu u ya kha sia ĭa lushaka, na theo ya mulayo ya lushaka.

“Ri tenda uri NCOP, khathihi na tshanduko ntswa dzine ya khou dzi ĭisa, u fana na U isa Phalamennde

Kha Mulayotewa, mushumo wa

Hezwi zwi ĭisa thikhedzo i pfađzaho kha sia ĭa vuhvusi ha lushaka nga u sumbedzisa vhupo vhune



**MAFHUNGO A MAVUNDU:** Nnđuya Khoroya Lushakaya Mavundu.

ha bveledza zwikhala malugana na mulayo na nđisedzo ya tshumelo, na u dovha ya khwaŧhisa vhushaka vhukati ha masia mararu a muvhuso – wa lushaka, wa mavundu na wapo.

“Kha vhuimo hanga, ndi tea u tamba tshipiđa tshihulwane tsha u khwaŧhisedza uri NCOP i tevhedza vhulayi na milayo ya Nnđu, na u shumela Mirađo yoŧhe ya Nnđu nga nđila i linganaho. Ri tevhedza vhulayi na tshirunzi tsha Nnđu.

“Ri a amba nga muhumbulo wa Phalamennde ya vhatu, uri Phalamennde yo swikelela vhatuni zwingafhani na uri kha mushumo washu mihumbulo ya vhatu i dzhielwa nŧha hani. Mbilaelo na nđado dzine vhatu vha dzi sumbedzisa ri dzi tandulula nga nđilade?”

Uno űwaha, NCOP i khou pembela miűwaha ya 20 u bva tshe ya thomiwa. Vho Mohai vho ri tshifhinga itshi tshi űetshedza tshikhala tshi takadzaho tsha u sedza kha maanđa ayo na u dovha ya topola masia ane a ŧođa khwiniso.

“Zwiűwe hafhu zwa vhuŧhogwa, kha űihoro űine nda vha murađo waűo, hoyu ndi űwaha wa u sedzulusa phoűisi hune ra dzula fhasi ra sedza phoűisi nga nthihi nga nthihi ra űi vhudzisa: Naa NCOP kha tshifhinga tsha zwino i khou bveledza ndaela yayo na uri ri nga ŧalutshedza hani nga huswa mushumo wa khoro ya mavundu?”

“Ndi masia maswa a muhumbulo afhio ane ra tea u a ŧahisa? Ndi tenda uri hezwi zwi ri űea tshikhala tsha u sedzisisa zwavhuđi masia

ane a ŧođa u khwaŧhiswa kha tshifhinga tsha zwino,” Tshimebi Tshihulwane vho amba nga u ralo. Vho Mohai vho amba uri tshipiđa tsha mushumo wavho hu do vha u kuvhanganya mahoro oŧhe kha NCOP “uri sa foramu ya madzangalelo a mavundu, a songo bva nđilani ya mushumo washu wa u shumela vhatu, na u űea thikhedzo i pfadzaho kha u topola zwikhala hune zwa vha hone”

Phalamennde ya vhuŧanu yo ŧanganedza muhumbulo wa “Phalamennde ya vhuwelatshanduko” sa tsumbanđila kha tshifhinga tsha themu iyi.

“Ndi humbula uri fhungo űihulwane űine ra fanela u sedza khaűo kha “Phalamennde ya vhuwelatshanduko”, ndi u tendelana mulagana na kuhumbulele kwa zwisumbi zwiűulwane zwa uri ndi zwifhio zwi vhubaho Phalamennde ya vhatu, uri hu sa sokou vha u amba fhedzi hu si na zwi no itwa. Uri hu vhe na zwisumbi zwi re khagala zwine ngazwo ra kona u amba uri heyi ndi Phalamennde ya vhatu.”

Polotiki ya vhuwelatshanduko ya Vho Mohai yo thoma kha bada dza mabuse dza vhupo ha mikhukhuni vhuűulwanesa Afurika Tshipembe, Botshabelo, ngei Mangaung miűwahani ya 1980. Mikhukhu yo thomiwa nga 1979 u ya nga mulayo wa tshiűalula wa u vhetshela thungo vhupo ha doroboni u itela makhuwa na uri vharema vha vhe vhone vha dzulaho kha vhupo ha mahayani.

“Ndo dzenela kha madzangano a vhaswa. Vha do zwi humbula uri madzangano (o fhambanaho) a vhagudi o do vumba South African

Youth Congress (Sayco) u swikela miűwahani ya 1990, musi mahoro a polotiki a si tsha iledzwa he űigi ya Vhaswa ya African National Congress (ANC) ya thomiwa nga huswa. Ndo do vha Mudzulatshidulo wa űigi ya vhaswa ya ANC musi i tshi thomiwa nga huswa ngei tshipembe ha Free State.

Vho Mohai vho do vha Murađo wa Phalamennde nga 1999 vha shuma kha Komiti dza Phothifojio nga ha Vhudavhidzani, Pfunzo na Tshumelo ya Tshitshavha na Ndaulo. Vhukati ha 2002 na 2004, vho shuma sa Tshimebi Tshihulwane tsha ANC ngei kha Vhusimamailayo ha Vundu űa Free State phanđa ha musi vha tshi tholiwa sa MEC wa Mishumo ya Tshitshavha, Dzibada na Vhuendi, vhuimo he vha vhu fara u swikela 2009.

Vhukati ha 2009 na 2013 vho shuma sa MEC wa zwa Masheleni, phanđa ha musi vha tshi űiswa u shuma Phalamenndeni.

“Nga murahu ha khetho dza 2014, ndo do tholiwa sa Mudzulatshidulo wa Khokhasi ya Phalamennde ya ANC, he ha vha vhuimo he nda vhu fara u swikela ndi tshi tholiwa sa Tshimebi Tshihulwane tsha NCOP. Ndo shuma hafhu kha vhuűwe vhuimo sa Mudzulatshidulo wa Komiti ya NCOP nga ha Mikovho, khathihi na u shuma sa Mudzulatshidulongae wa Komiti yo ŧanganelaho nga ha Vhulanguli ha zwa Masheleni a Phalamennde.

“Heyi ndi Komiti ntswa yo thomiwaho nga 2016 ine ya vha na mushumo wa vhuŧhogwa wa u ita vhuűavehesi kha vhuűanguli ha zwa masheleni a Phalamennde, mugaganyagwama na zwiűwevho.”

# High Level Panel seeks solutions to spatial inequality

**The** *High Level Panel (HLP) on the Assessment of Key Legislation and the Acceleration of Fundamental Change's roundtable discussion on spatial inequality seeks to find ways of correcting the legacy of spatial inequality that still besets South Africa, the Chairperson of the HLP Mr Kgalema Motlanthe told the participants at the roundtable discussion, writes Abel Mputing.*

The HLP invited experts on spatial issues to the HLP's roundtable in Parliament to share ideas on how to tackle the spatial inequality that is the result of apartheid-era planning. "We have invited experts to analyse and help us to determine how this can be addressed through legislation and policy or legislative gaps that exist, to address this challenge," said Mr Motlanthe.

Discussing the purpose of the roundtable discussion on spatial inequality, the Chairperson of the HLP's sub-committee on land, Dr Aninka Claassens, said the intent of the session was to devise recommendations that would help to realign the institutional arrangements, forms of tenure and oversight to ensure that people are accorded rights to land as a means to address existing spatial inequality.

Speaking on the topic "Reducing spatial inequality with better regulation", Prof Ivan Turok said existing policies are disjointed and unresponsive to reality. Prof Turok said that South Africa needs specific legislation and policies that will address the realities of spatial inequality.

He said the key point is that South Africa needs a systemic view that will address a complex integrated system that no single magic bullet can solve. "When it comes to land, things are connected to housing, economy and people's rights to urban housing. Currently, we have a particular legislation that is not integrated and will never work," he said.

Furthermore, contradictions in policies and regulation exacerbate this challenge. "The National Land Framework and redistribution of land must be looked at as a means to an end. This relates well with the United Nations Habitat's adoption of a new urban agenda that identifies cities as areas that can promote sustainable development goals," Prof Turok said.

Prof Turok told members of the HLP that the zoning of cities as economic hubs is hampered by the fact that their policy directives lie in different spheres and are determined by various government departments, not the cities themselves. For instance, Prof Turok said integrated transport is fundamental for cities to develop, but remains a national competence and cities can do nothing about it. "In the short-term, we need to get



these institutions to cooperate and to ensure that inter-governmental relations get our cities working together.

"When it comes to spatial inequality, we are the worst in the world with regard to where people work and where they live. The congestion is a cost to the economy and that relates to the physical separation of people from productive activity. The poverty trap of informal settlements in this country is the most extreme in the world," Prof Turok said.

Dr Wanga Zembe, who represented the Southern African Social Policy Research Institute at the HLP's



ASSESSING LEGISLATION: HLP Chairperson Mr Kgalema Motlanthe.

roundtable discussion, said spatial inequality is rife in the former homelands. He singled out the Eastern Cape for special mention. "The Eastern Cape is the most deprived province in the country and the Western Cape the least deprived in relation to rural spatial inequality. Deprivation is mostly concentrated in the former homelands, and the most affected is the former Transkei," said Dr Zembe.

Ms Hopolang Selebalo, who represented the Cape Town-based land rights non-governmental organisation Sifuna Ukwazi, presented the City of Cape Town's spatial inequality as a case study. She told

members of the HLP that the state is perpetuating spatial inequality around Cape Town by building houses for the previously disadvantaged in far-flung areas. "There is not a single housing unit that has been built in the city since 1994. This has entrenched the past spatial patterns," she said.

"What we see instead is the systematic removal of the previously disadvantaged people far away from the city through gentrification. Inner-city pockets, such as Woodstock and Salt River, are cases in point. In these areas the working class is being pushed out from places in which they have lived for decades to create space for gentrification," she said.

Contributing to the problem is that most government land has not been transferred to the City of Cape Town Metropolitan Municipality. "The City's argument is that there is lack of available land for housing development in the city centre. Often the City claims that it has identified suitable land elsewhere for housing development, but that land has not yet been transferred to it (the City) by government or parastatal organisations," Ms Selebalo said.

Participants in the roundtable discussion agreed that the legacy of spatial inequality cannot be addressed by the government alone and that the private sector also has a big role to play. 🗣️



# Phanele ya levhele ya xiyimo xa le henhla yi lava swintshuxo swa ku pfumala ku ringana hi swa matshamelo

**Mbhurisano** *wa ntlawa lowutsongo wa vativinkulu lava twananaka ku ringana hi swiyimo wa Phanele ya Levhele ya Xiyimo xa le Henhla (HLP) eka swa timhaka ta Makambelelo ya Milawu ya Nkoka na ku Nghwetlisisiwa ka ku Cinca ka Masungulo hi mayelana na ku pfumaleka ka ku ringana ka swa matshamelo wu lava ku kuma tindlela to ololoxa ndzhaka ya ku pfumala ku ringana ka swa matshamelo loku ka ha riki kona eAfrika-Dzonga, Mutshamaxitulu wa Phanele ya Levhele ya Xiyimo xa le Henhla, Nkulukumba Kgalema Motlanthe a byela vangheneleri eka njhekanjhekisano wa xiakhademiki ePalamende, ku tsala Abel Mputing. Tsalwa leri ri hundzuluxiwile hi Solomon Mgiba.*

HLP yi rhamba vativinkulu eka timhaka ta swa matshamelo eka mbhurisano wa ntlawa lowutsongo wa vativinkulu lava twananaka ku ringana hi swiyimo wa yona ku avelana miehleketo hi mayelana na hilaha leswi swi nga ololoxiwaka hakona ku pfumala ku ringana hi swa matshamelo loku veke kona hikokwalaho ka makunguhatelo ya swa matshamelo ya nkarhi wa xihlawuhlau. “Hi rhambe vativinkulu ku xopaxopa no hi pfuna ku boha hilaha leswi swi nga ololoxiwaka hakona hi ku tirhisa nawu na pholisi kumbe mavangwa ya swa nawu lama nga kona ku ololoxa ntlhonthlo lowu,” ku vula Nkulukumba Motlanthe.

Loku ku kanerisaniwa hi xikongomelo xa mbhurisano wa ntlawa lowutsongo wa vativinkulu lava twananaka ku ringana hi swiyimo hi mayelana na ku pfumala ku ringana hi swa matshamelo, Mutshamaxitulu wa komitintsongo ya HLP eka swa timhaka ta misava, Dokodela Aninka

Claassens u vule leswaku xikongomelo xa nhlengeletano a ku ri ku ta na swibumabumelo leswi nga ta pfuneta ku fambelanisa makunguhatelo ya mfumo, swivumbeko swa mfanelo yo tshama na vuangameri ku vona leswaku vanhu va nyikiwa timfanelo ta misava tanihi ndlela yo ololoxa ku pfumala ku ringana hi swa matshamelo loku nga kona.

Loku a vulavula hi nhlokomhaka ya “Ku hungutiwa ka ku pfumala ku ringana hi swa matshamelo hi ku tirhisa milawu yo antswa”, Phurofesa Ivan Turok u vule leswaku tipholisi leti nga kona a ti khomananga, naswona a ti anguli eka timhaka ta mintiyiso-xidzi. Phurofesa Turok u vule leswaku Afrika-Dzonga yi lava milawu na tipholisi leti kongomeke leti nga ta ololoxa mintiyiso-xidzi ya ku pfumala ku ringana hi swa matshamelo.

U vule leswaku mhaka ya nkoka hi leswaku Afrika-Dzonga yi lava ndlela

ya mavonelo lama nga ta ololoxa sisiterme yo tika leyi hlanganisiweke leyi xintshuxo xa mahlori xi nga ka xi nga yi ololoxi. “Loko swi ta eka timhaka ta misava, mhaka leyi yi fambelana na vuakeri, ikhonomi na timfanelo ta vanhu eka vuakeri bya le madorobeni. Sweswi hi na nawu wo karhi lowu nga hlanganisiwangiki, naswona a wu nge tirhi,” ku vula yena.

Ku tatisela kwalaho, ku kanetana ka tipholisi na swinawana ku nyanyisa ntlhonthlo lowu. “Rimba ra swa Timhaka ta Misava ra Rixaka na ku hangalasiwa ka misava nakambe ku fanele ku langutiwa tanihi ndlela yo fikelela xintshuxo. Leswi swi fambelana kahle na ku amukeriwa ka nongonoko wuntshwa wa swa timhaka ta madoroba wa Vutshamo wa Nhlango wa Matiko lowu tekaka madorobankulu tanihi tindhawu leti nga tlakusaka swikongomelo swa nhluvukiso lowu nga ta va kona nkarhi wo leha,” ku vula Phurofesa Turok.

Phurofesa Turok u byele swirho swa HLP leswaku maavelo ya matirhiselo ya misava eka madorobankulu tanihi tindhawu leti nga ta kurisa swa ikhonomi ku siveriwa hi mhaka ya leswaku swileriso swa tipholisi ta wona ti le ka swiyenge swo hambana, naswona swi bohiwa hi tindzawulo to hambana ta mfumo, ku nga ri hi madorobankulu hi woxe. Tanihi xikombiso, Phurofesa Turok u vule



**TINDLU TA VANHUHINKWAVO:** Tindlu ta mfumo hi minkarhi yotalatiakiwaekulenalahavanhuvatirhakakona.

leswaku vutleketli lebyi hlanganisiweke i bya nkoka leswaku madorobankulu ma kula, kambe wolowo wa ha tama wu va ntirho wa mfumo wa le xikarhi, naswona madorobankulu ma nge endli nchumu hi swona. “Eka xinkarhana lexi, hi fanele hi endla mihlangano leyi yi tirhisana no vona leswaku vuxaka exikarhi ka tindzawulo ta mfumo byi endla madorobankulu ya hina ma tirhisana.”

“Loko swi ta eka ku pfumala ku ringana hi swa matshamelo, hi hina vo salela endzhaku ku tlula hinkwavo emisaveni hi mayelana na laha vanhu va tirhaka no tshamaka kona. Ntlimbano wu durhela ikhonomi hi mayelana na ku hambanisiwa ka vanhu na laha va tirhaka kona. Ku tsandzeka ku balekela vusweti eka tindhawu ta le swidakani eka tiko leri hi kona ko nyanya swinene emisaveni,” ku vula Phurofesa Turok.

Dokodela Wanga Zembe loyi a yimeleke Nhlango wa swa Ndzavisiso ya Pholisi ya Vaakitiko wa Afrika-Dzonga eka mbhurisano wa ntlawa lowutsongo wa vativinkulu lava twananaka ku ringana hi swiyimo eka HLP u vule leswaku ku pfumala ku ringana hi swa matshamelo ku humelela ngopfu eka khale ka matikoxikaya. U hlawule Kapa-Vuxa tanihi xikombiso xo hlawuleka. “Kapa-Vuxa i xifundzankulu lexi nga na ku pfumala swinene etikweni, naswona

xa Kapa-Vupeladyambu a xi swelanga ngopfu hi mayelana na ku pfumala ku ringana hi swa matshamelo eka tindhawu ta le makaya. Ku pfumala ku tele ngopfu eka khale ka matikoxikaya, naswona leri khumbhekaka swinene i khale ka Transkei,” ku vula Dokodela Zembe.

Manana Hopolang Selebalo loyi a yimeleke nhlango lowu nga riki wa mfumo lowu kumekaka eCape Town, Sifuna Ukwazi, u nyike ku pfumala ku ringana hi swa matshamelo ka Dorobankulu ra Cape Town tanihi hi xiviko xa ndzavisiso. U byele swirho swa HLP leswaku mfumo wu nyanyisa ku pfumala ku ringana hi swa matshamelo eCape Town hi ku aka tindlu ta vanhu lava a va tekeriwe timfanelo to hlawula khale eka tindhawu leti nga ekule swinene. “Ku hava yindlu hambu yi ri ya mhamba leyi nga akiwa eka dorobankulu ku sukela hi 1994. Leswi swi tiyisise tipatironi ta swa matshamelo ya khale,” ku vula yena.

“Leswi hi swi vonaka hi le tlhelo i ndlela leyi vanhu lava khale a va pfumala hi swa ikhonomi va susiwaka hayona va yisiwa kule na dorobankulu hi ku tirhisa ndlela yo antswisa miako ya khale edorobeni, kutani ku tlakusiwa tihakelo ta rente. Tindhawu leti ku tshamaka vanhu leti nga le handle ka dorobankulu to fana na Woodstocks na

Salt River i swikombiso swa kahle. Eka tindhawu leti, ntlawa wa vanhu lava va thoriwaka ku tirha mitirho ya mavoko kumbe etifemeni va ruruhisiwile eka tindhawu leti a va tshama eka tona malembekhume yotala ku tumbuluxa ndhawu yo antswisa miako ya khale edorobeni, kutani ku tlakusiwa tihakelo ta rente,” ku vula yena.

Lexi hoxaka xandla eka xiphiko lexi hi leswaku misava yotala ya mfumo a yi hundziseriwanga eka Masipala wa Dorobankulu ra Cape Town. “Vonelo ra Dorobankulu hi leswaku ku na ku pfumaleka ka misava leyi ku nga akiwaka tindlu endzeni ka dorobankulu. Minkarhi yotala Dorobankulu ri vula leswi nga riki ntiyiso leswaku ri vone misava leyi faneleke kunwana leyi ku nga ta akiwa tindlu eka yona, kambe misava yoleyo a yi se za yi hundziseriwa eka rona (Dorobankulu) hi mfumo kumbe hi mihlangano leyi fambisiwaka hi mfumo,” ku vula Manana Selebalo.

Vangheneleri eka mbhurisano wa ntlawa lowutsongo wa vativinkulu lava twananaka ku ringana hi swiyimo va twanane leswaku ndzhaka ya ku pfumala ku ringana hi swa matshamelo yi nge ololoxiwi hi mfumo wu ri woxe na leswaku sekithara leyi nga riki ya mfumo yi na xiawe lexikulu xo xi tlanga. 🌍



TRADITIONAL LEADERSHIP: HLP Chairperson Mr Kgalema Motlanthe and Contralesa President Kgosi Setlamorago Thobejane.

## Contralesa calls for constitutional amendments



**The** *Congress of Traditional Leaders of South Africa (Contralesa) called for the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa to be amended in order to clearly spell out the role and functions of traditional leaders, writes Modise Kabeli.*

Contralesa President Kgosi Setlamorago Thobejane made this call during a roundtable discussion with the High Level Panel (HLP) on the Assessment of Key Legislation and the Acceleration of Fundamental Change held in Cape Town at the Western Cape Provincial Legislature.

Pointing to certain sections of the Constitution as points of reference and to strengthen his argument, Kgosi Thobejane said: "Sections 211 and 212 of the Constitution are our major challenge now. They exclude what is key for us. They must be revisited to define the role and function of traditional leaders. The traditional courts must take their tune from the Constitution."

Kgosi Thobejane said the Constitution withholds legitimacy from traditional leaders. "We exist without laws, but we are functioning. This institution's legitimacy comes from the people. That is where we draw our legitimacy. We do not exist because of the laws. We do not have police in rural areas, but we have stability because there is moral leadership."

According to Kgosi Thobejane, the institution they lead "is the only system of governance that existed before the arrival of colonisers who pushed us into the periphery of our country".

He blamed the government for showing bias by implementing the Traditional Leadership and Governance Framework Act "selectively and without uniformity". He said it is "heart-breaking" that one king is allocated R1bn for a palace while other kings do not have extra rooms for guests.

Kgosi Thobejane questioned why there was no budget allocated for the establishment of Traditional Councils, as spelled out in the Act. "When you put an institution up and you do not support it, you're setting it up for failure. And we are failing," he said.

He said there was loss of trust in the institution of traditional leadership because there are concerted efforts to perpetuate the decline of the authority of traditional leaders.

"You put another tier of governance between us and our people – the local government. Instead of coming to us to find ways we can work together, you push us away. People put there (in local government) work against traditional leaders."

He added that the roundtable discussion has exposed their pain. Their participation in the roundtable discussion came with mixed feelings because they came to the roundtable not only to clarify their role, but to also "register our shock at being asked to justify our existence as the traditional leadership".

Other issues raised during the discussion included the return of land, allowing traditional councils to play the same role as ward committees, equal treatment of traditional leaders and involvement in the development of customary laws.

At the roundtable discussion, the leadership of Contralesa also presented their views on the relevance of traditional leadership in South Africa, including their role in promoting moral values and in the custodianship of

African culture, which they said is being eroded.

Kgosi Thobejane said the existence of traditional leadership is based on land. "If there was no land we would not exist." He said they do not support the issuing of title deeds in communal land, as "permission-to-occupy" is the only credible way they allocate land to all.

"Our government is perpetuating a colonial economic spatial planning. Inequalities will be perpetuated if we do not lose the individualistic mentality," emphasised Kgosi Thobejane.

He said when people talk about returning the land, they are told to look only at land with grave sites, but this excludes the bulk of the land which was taken away from them.

On the custodianship of the African culture, Kgosi Thobejane said: "African culture and practices are in danger of obliteration, but the traditional leaders seem to be succeeding in keeping it intact, despite lack of support from government. Behavioral change will help the institution to bring back hope to the people."

On the promotion of moral values, he said it is a well-known fact that traditional leaders promote moral values and the culture of respect for all humanity. He said those traditional communities that practise *koma* (initiation schools) taught the young people how they should behave and preserve themselves.

The HLP Chairperson, former President Mr Kgalema Motlanthe, thanked the leadership of Contralesa for its openness, adding that their presentation will give the HLP a chance to present a clear and referenced report to the Speakers' Forum at the right time. 🙏



## Mother tongue to enhance social cohesion

**The** Minister of Basic Education, Ms Angie Motshekga, and senior officials of the Department of Basic Education appeared before the Portfolio Committee on Basic Education to brief the Committee on progress in the implementation of the Incremental Introduction of African languages (IIAL) and on progress on the plans to make History a compulsory subject in the South African schools, writes Mava Lukani.

The National Curriculum Statement (NCS) requires all schools to offer teaching of two official languages, one of which must be the language of learning and teaching, and the

other one as a subject. Briefing the Committee, Ms Motshekga said she was encouraged with the progress made in the implementation of the IIAL at public schools.

She was also encouraged by the fact that the programme ensures that all public schools offer at least one indigenous African language to learners.

According to Ms Motshekga, although there are challenges, such as finding teachers to fill these posts, attitudes towards African languages, the distance between schools and budgetary constraints, there is no opposition to the IIAL within the education section.



**PROMOTING MULTILINGUALISM:** The Incremental Introduction of African Languages Programme aims to ensure schools offer teaching in at least two indigenous South African languages.

as part of the curriculum requirement and to strengthen the use of African languages at home language level," Ms Motshekga said.

The Director-General of the Department of Basic Education, Mr Mweli Mathanzima, presented a progress report to the Committee. He said the IIAL was piloted in Grades 1 and 2 in 264 public schools across all provinces in 2014 and 2015. In 2016 the programme was implemented in 842 public schools and there are currently 973 schools that are implementing the programme.

Mr Mathanzima told the Committee that to achieve more progress on the implementation of the IIAL, the Council of Education Ministers approved a recommendation of the Ministers Management Meeting that all public schools that are not offering a previously marginalised official African language should implement the IIAL in 2018 and all 3 558 schools should implement the IIAL in Grade 1 in 2018.

The objectives of the IIAL include strengthening the use of African languages at home language level, improving proficiency in and utility of the previously marginalised African languages and expanding opportunities for the development of African languages to help preserve heritage and culture.

The Committee heard that the Department of Basic Education has provided the necessary support to all the implementing schools. The support includes the provisioning of teachers, teacher orientation, provisioning of teaching and learning support materials, monitoring and support of the implementation of the

IIAL and a vigorous advocacy campaign.

On future implementation plans, the Committee heard that the IIAL will be implemented incrementally in all the targeted schools in Grade 1 in 2018 and in subsequent years until Grade 12 in 2029. Mr Mathanzima told the Committee that the implementation will be staggered per phase.

On the plans to make history a compulsory subject in South African schools, the Committee heard that there is a Ministerial Task Team (MTT) tasked with conducting research on how best to introduce compulsory history in Further Education and Training (FET) schools, strengthen the content of history in the FET band and review content in the General Education and Training band. The MTT will compile a final report and present it to the Minister of Basic Education and senior management by December 2017.

Some members of the Committee remain unconvinced about the importance of history as a subject. Ms Motshekga told them about the other skills that are achievable from the study of history.

She said lawyers and judges often anchor their strengths in the field of law on the skill they obtained from history. Ms Motshekga said the study of history also offers other skills such as logical thinking and argumentation.

The Chairperson of the Committee, Ms Nomalungelo Gina, emphasised the importance of the content in the history curriculum. She said propaganda should be avoided. "It is important to know what history is going to be taught to learners. We need to be clear on the content," she said. 🇿🇦

Ms Motshekga told the Committee that the IIAL programme flows from the National Development Plan, which states that "since a few non-African South Africans speak any African language, a second challenge is to encourage those for whom an African language is not a mother tongue to develop at least a conversational competence in one of these languages. Both government and society should promote and celebrate this form of multilingualism. Knowing each other's languages can play a profound role in promoting understanding and developing social cohesion."

"We want to ensure that all learners learn at least one previously marginalised official African language



# Using science and technology to realise our developmental agenda

**The** Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) presented its performance agreement between the CSIR and the Minister of Science and Technology, Ms Naledi Pandor to the Select Committee on Communications and Public Enterprises, writes **Abel Mputing**.

The CSIR is a multidisciplinary research and technological innovation organisation set up to foster industrial and scientific development, either by itself or in cooperation with principals from the private or public sectors. It must also perform any other functions that may be assigned to the CSIR by or under the CSIR Act. In this way, it contributes to the improvement in the quality of life of the people of South Africa.

Delivering the performance agreement, the CSIR's Chief Executive Officer, Dr Thulani Dlamini, said the CSIR seeks to strengthen its research outputs to promote human capital development and to foster scientific and industrial development. "We utilise multidisciplinary research and technological innovation to foster industrial and scientific development to contribute to the improvement of the quality of life of the people of the Republic of South Africa."

The CSIR lives up to this mandate by "harnessing our strategy to build strong capabilities and world leaders

in certain scientific and technological areas and to attract investment to conduct the cutting-edge research expected of us," Dr Dlamini said.

The CSIR's value relies on the development of a pool of PhD candidates to improve the quality of its research outputs and to find new areas of research. "We have developed new patents from which we derive royalties and licence income. In this regard, we intend to grow chief researchers, and to have a higher level of research outputs that are relevant, much of which will be aligned with our industrial development initiatives.

"Our key performance indicator is to create a balance between scientific development in areas such as safety and security, health and energy, and to support the government's industrial agenda by working with state-owned companies to develop flagships for innovation," he said.

Dr Dlamini told the Committee that the CSIR seeks to leverage strategic



partnerships with government entities, such as educational institutions, state-owned companies and the private sector. He said the CSIR has to date intervened to address the fragmentation of the health information system, which will help the department to migrate to the National Health Insurance.

According to Dr Dlamini, the CSIR has developed a health normative standards framework for eHealth Interoperability and the Health Patient Registration System. The system's framework was gazetted on 23 April 2014 and has now been implemented in 1 859 clinics across the country, with 6.3 million patient registrations recorded.

He said the CSIR can also be credited



**CHANGE MAKER:** The CSIR is charged with promoting scientific research to foster economic development.

with transforming the industries that support the South African National Defence Force. "Through our intervention, we have capacitated black-owned enterprises in this highly technologised sector to be suppliers to the defence sector," he said.

Dr Dlamini said the CSIR has developed a technology for a water treatment project in Motetema in Limpopo, which he said is highly efficient and easy to set up. "This treatment plant uses a specific algae species, which has been isolated and cultured in a laboratory. Water is a scarce resource in this country and through technology, we can address this challenge."

The Committee heard that the CSIR has a strategic relationship and bi-

lateral with state-owned entities such as Transnet and Denel. He said with Transnet, the CSIR has developed a trans-Africa locomotive, and a joint engineering centre for it is going to be established. "And together with Denel, we are looking at upgrading the Rooivalk [an attack helicopter manufactured by Denel]," he said.

Asked by members of the Committee about the quality and quantity of African scientists developed with the assistance of the CSIR, Dr Dlamini replied: "We don't have the actual figures now, but the transformation of this sector is one of our main agendas. I can assure the Members that 60% of our science, engineering and technology component is African. We have not been able to facilitate their progression into leadership

positions, and as a result we have been struggling to retain them. Now we have a strategy in place to address that."

Members of the Committee also asked Dr Dlamini to give evidence of the CSIR's involvement on safety and security. The Committee was told that the CSIR is engaged with the South African Police Service (SAPS) in areas such as crowd control and fingerprinting.

The Chairperson of the Committee, Ms Ellen Prins, wanted to know if the CSIR is involved in research on the prevalence of drought in South Africa. Dr Dlamini replied: "We will get expert advice in this regard, or see how we can intervene in this worrisome matter." 🌱



# Committee checks up on service delivery in Free State hospitals

**The** frustrations of 60-year-old Zinane Salakufe, a patient at Pelonomi Tertiary Hospital in Free State, symbolise the frustrations that many patients encounter at many public health centres in South Africa, writes *Malatswa Molepo*.



LONG WAIT: South Africans often spend many hours waiting for medical attention .

Mr Salakufe spent a second full day at Pelonomi Tertiary Hospital in order to get the help he so desperately needed for his frail body. "I came here yesterday and saw a doctor, but was told I need to come back today to get medication. This is unfair and must change with urgency," Mr Salakufe said.

The Portfolio Committee on Public Service and Administration/Monitoring and Evaluation undertook a week-long oversight visit to the Free State Province to assess frontline services delivery.

The Pelonomi Tertiary Hospital was one of the health centres visited by the Committee during its oversight week programme and they were shocked by the awful smell patients like Mr Salakufe are subjected to for long hours while waiting for a doctor at the hospital.

The repugnant stench at the main waiting area of the Pelonomi raised the ire of the Committee. The Committee questioned why the hospital's management team are stationed in a well-ventilated and clean part of the hospital precinct while patients are subjected to the smell at the waiting area, which apparently emanates from faulty plumbing infrastructure.

As a result of previous oversight visits undertaken by the Committee in Limpopo and Mpumalanga, the Committee realised that Treasury regulations for the government departments issued in terms of the Public Finance Management Act have had a negative impact on service delivery at regional hospitals across the country.

Despite the intentions to do good, the regulations have had an unintended impact in constraining hospital management from delivering effective services, such as recruitment of staff even at an entry level.

"It is a general trend across hospitals that management is unable to fill critical positions, as this task is controlled at provincial level. The unintended shortcoming is that hospitals can't hire specialists as the process normally takes in excess of three months," said Dr Makhosi Khoza, the Chairperson of the Committee.

To resolve the impasse, the Committee has suggested that the Free State Provincial Health Department, the Office of the Premier and their national counterparts find workable solutions to the impediments brought about by legislation and regulation on service delivery. "It is unfair to expect frontline staff at hospitals to function at an optimum while regulations often create an insurmountable challenge," Dr Khoza said.

Despite the challenges caused by the regulations, the Committee raised its concerns with the quality of services patients receive at Pelonomi Hospital. The patients highlighted that average waiting hours at the hospital remain excessively high, in some cases extending to over six hours.

"While we recognise the regulatory impediments that have contributed to creating an environment not conducive for service delivery, the Committee remains convinced that public servants in hospital can

still improve the quality of service offered to patients," Dr Khoza said. The Committee also highlighted the general intolerable environment around the hospital that patients are subjected to when waiting for treatment.

Despite many shortcomings, the Committee praised the provincial administration for their efforts in ensuring availability of medication at all hospitals in the province. "We were informed that medication availability is at 96% in hospitals. This must be welcomed, as it means people will not struggle with access to medication," Dr Khoza said.

The Committee raised its concerns with the quality of information provided by the Public Service Commission (PSC), which the Committee felt undermined the ability of the Committee to do proper oversight work. "We drafted the programme based on recommendations from the PSC. As a result, we planned to visit the Universitas Academic Hospital, but when we got there patients told us that real problems are at Pelonomi and other regional healthcare facilities. This is the information we should have received from the PSC and unfortunately we didn't," Dr Khoza lamented.

The Committee hopes that when it returns to do a follow-up, all the challenges raised will have been resolved and that patients will be treated with the best possible care at Pelonomi. The Committee reiterates its stance that the people of this country deserve quality healthcare and this must be promoted at all times. 🌍

# We deserve education and skills development - inmates

**During** *oversight visits to correctional centres in the Eastern Cape and Gauteng provinces to assess the conditions of offenders and the state of correctional centres, Members of the Portfolio Committee on Justice and Correctional Services observed that education and skills development in prisons are crucial for the successful rehabilitation of offenders, writes Sakhile Mokoena.*

As part of its oversight programme, the Committee visited the East London Correctional Centre (female section) and Port Elizabeth's St Albans Prison in the Eastern Cape and the Johannesburg Correctional Centre and Kgosi Mampuru Correctional Centre in Gauteng.

Members of the Committee believe that education will help offenders reintegrate into their communities once they have completed their sentences. "People without education and skills are not easy to fit into society, Committee member Prof Themba Msimang said during the visit at the East London Correctional Centre.

At that correctional centre for female offenders, inmates complained about the lack of opportunity to practise their acquired skills in the facility. "We appeal that they be given that opportunity. It would be fulfilling when people who leave the facility are welcomed into society with something to offer, and do not become repeat offenders," said Prof Msimang.

He said with skills and education, the offenders will be able to contribute to their communities and produce commodities that are demanded by the market when they are released.

The Committee interacted with inmates and listened to their stories, with the majority of them asking for education and skills development programmes. "We allocate more funds into incarceration and not much into correction and I would suggest we increase the budget and the number of officials involved in education and skills development in our correctional centres," added another Committee member, Adv Loyiso Mpumlwana.

Incarcerated offenders at St Albans Prison and Johannesburg Correctional Centre shared similar concerns about the lack of education, skills development and recreation facilities. They said these things will help their rehabilitation and allow them to reintegrate into their communities more easily on their release.

An inmate at St Albans told the Committee that he would love to study and participate in recreational activities to get his mind from the same old wrongdoings that got him into prison in the first place.

"I want to go to school, so that I can have a second chance when I'm outside. But currently we just sit here all day with nothing to do. This is not rehabilitation. The criminal thoughts will not go away," he said.

Another inmate who has been at the Johannesburg Correctional Centre for 17 years was also worried that the lack of education and skills development programmes in the





centre was making a mockery of the whole notion of prisons being correctional and rehabilitation centres.

“My main worry is the non-availability of education and skills training programmes in this facility. No rehabilitation, yet we are expected to earn a living when we get out. How will we do that without education and skills?” he asked. He added that most inmates were involved in drugs because they had nothing to do. “There are no activities, no rehabilitation. We are brewing criminals here,” said the inmate.

Committee member, Ms Chana Pilane-Majake, said she supported the need

for skills development for inmates. She called on the Department of Correctional Services to provide opportunities for the offenders to hone their newly acquired skills.

“Practice makes perfect. Part of the acquired skills can be applied in the facilities in areas like maintenance and food production, and in that way make the process of keeping inmates cost-effective. Utilise the skills to benefit the same people,” said Ms Pilane-Majake.

The Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee, Dr Mathole Motshekga, said skills are a very important commodity for self-development and the development of the country. “We want

you to study so that when you go back to your communities, you will be useful to society and do not become repeat offenders. We want you to be skilled and educated so you can become active and productive citizens. Most of you are still young. The country needs you. We hope and trust that you will take advantage of being here and correct the wrongs that you did.”

He told the offenders that the Committee will do everything in its power to engage the Department of Correctional Services to ensure that incarcerated offenders received skills and education for their successful rehabilitation and also realise the objectives of Correctional Services. 🙏



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