

# REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON WOMEN, YOUTH, CHILDREN AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 10 MAY 2018:

(OFFICE OF THE PREMIER)

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, Act 108 of 1996 empowers the Mpumalanga Provincial Legislature to maintain oversight of provincial executive authority and any organ of state in section 114 of the constitution. The legislature has constitutional powers to develop mechanisms to discharge its mandate and consequently passed Standing Rules and Orders which provide for the establishment of the committee.

The **Select Committee on Women, Youth, Children, and People with Disabilities** (the committee), is established in terms of Rule 135 (h) of Standing Rules and Orders of the Mpumalanga Provincial Legislature 2013 .

The select committee is vested with the power to monitor, investigate and enquire on transversal and transformation matters to ensure a province free from gender discrimination and inequalities and promotion of the Bill Of Rights. The Committee conduct oversight on transformational and transversal programmes of the state to ensure that policies are implemented and benefit designated groups in communities.

## 2. OBJECTIVES OF THE MEETING

The Committee met with the Office of the Premier to assess progress made by departments on issues relating to youth programmes for the 2017/18 financial year and challenges thereof. The Committee focussed on the following areas of work:

- Youth Economic Empowerment
- Social Cohesion programmes for youth
- Education and Skills development
- Internship and Learnerships programmes
- Young Women's Programme

### 3. METHOD OF WORK

A meeting was held on 09 March 2018 between the Committee and the Office of the Premier and on the 10 May 2018.

### 4. PRESENTATION MADE BY OFFICE OF THE PREMIER ON YOUTH ISSUES

#### 4.1 2017/18 YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

The Office of the Premier presented progress, challenges and mitigation plan on the implementation of the 2017/18 financial year as follows:

#### EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

Department	Annual Target	Progress	Challenges	Mitigation plan
DOH	Recruits 250 students in a nursing programme through the Mpumalanga Nursing College	<b>160</b> students were admitted at the Mpumalanga Nursing College and 90 students were sent to Kwa- Zulu Natal Nursing college for a year course with the total Of 250 students target achieved	None	None
DOE (MRTT)	1000 leaners to be trained through an apprenticeship programme towards artisanship status	As of the end of third quarter 2017 to date a total of 893 returning and new learners (518 Male & 331 Females) have been enrolled in the programme as follows: 151 x Welding Apprenticeship programme 64 x Boiler making Apprenticeship 239 x Welding Skills programme 210 x Pipe Fabrication Skills programme 79 x International Safety Inspectors in Welding & Pipe Fabrication 150 x Quality Officers in Welding & Pipe Fabrication A total of 187 learners have been already been assessed and passed and currently awaiting Medical testing followed by their enrolment.	None availability of placement opportunities in the private sector 217 were terminated e.g got other work opportunities; ill health resigned or dismissed	Further engagement possible host employees to increase the number of absorption upon completion

DCSSL	Recruit 64 young people for training as Traffic law enforcement officers at the Mpumalanga Traffic College	64 young people have been successfully completed all processes and temporally placed in traffic service stations across the province	None	None
OTP	120 TVET graduates to be recruited as Artisan in the field of Engineering	119 young TVET out 130 applicants from the Mpumalanga Colleges were accepted by the Mining Qualifications Authority	119 out of 130 applicants qualified in this programme	Encouraged TVET students and Grade 12 learners to enrol/ consider on scarce skills.

The committee noted that the report lacked clearly defined targets which do not reflect the true matters on the ground, as this report ought to have reported previous statistics, current and future envisaged levels in all the programmes that are run by each department.

The committee indicated that the report should flag the set targets, which will help to determine whether the department is improving with regard to the livelihoods of vulnerable groups. The Office of the Premier indicated that some departments do not send their reports on time for consolidation.

## BURSARIES

Department	Annual Target	Progress	Challenges	Mitigation Plan
DoH	Recruit 10 students for the Cuban programme	Recruited the 10 students for the Cuban programme	The Cuban programme was put on hold by the National Department of Health	The students who were due to leave for Cuba in 2017 were sent to Department of Education for the Russian Programme to leave in 2018 academic year. This programme starts in September however the students will leave in May for a

				preparatory programme.
DoE	912 existing bursaries and 750 new intake on external bursaries awarded for the 2017 academic year	Awarded 532 new intake Bursaries for the 2017 academic year to external candidates. Continued sustaining the 912 already existing bursars.	Budget is not increasing , stays the same vis versa the duration of Qualification	To request increase in the budget allocation for this item

The committee wanted to know the current status on bursaries for the Department of Health at National level for the Cuban medical students, as they were sent to Department of Education (DoE) for the Russian Programme to leave in 2018 academic year. The committee noted that the programme with (DoE) will start in September however the students will leave in May for a preparatory programme.

#### INTERNSHIP AND LEARNERSHIPS

Department	Annul Target	Progress	Challenges	Mitigation Plan
DoE	Appointment of 1000 interns and 200 leaners in school	455 interns and 76 leaners were recruited and place in all departments in the across the province	Departments delayed with the process of recruitment	The OPT will advise departments to prioritize the recruitment process, for increased participation of Youth in these programme.
OTP	1200 TVET students in Administrative leaner ships Programme (Services Sita)	755 students were recruited and placed into workplace environment to gain administrative leadership skills	Competition with other skills providers	The office of the Premier will continue to work on this programme and determine reasonable number.

#### WOMAN PROGRAMME

The core mandate of this programme is mainstreaming gender –key focus on monitoring and evaluate, capacity building, engage in advocacy and research and policy analysis.

### PROGRESS ON WOMEN IN DECISION- MAKING

Department	Total	%	Males	%	Females
Office of Premier	34	70.59%	24	29.41%	10
Treasury	18	50.00%	9	50.00%	9
Economic Development	21	85.71%	18	14.29%	3
Safety and Security	15	60.00%	9	40.00	6
Agriculture	26	61.54%	16	38.46%	10
Cogta	19	63.16%	12	36.84%	7
Spots	8	87.50%	7	12.50%	1
Public Works	48	66.67%	32	33.33%	16
Social Development	17	52.94%	9	47.06%	8
Health	48	56.25%	27	43.75%	21
Education	333	54.55%	18	45.45.%	15
Human Settlement	15	73.33%	11	26.67%	4

The committee noted that Cooperatives reach out to a large number of rural people which are parent institutions on rural women's groups. However, about half of these groups are now defunct. A large number of women's groups registered with cooperatives had availed of a government loan to assist rural people for economic empowerment.

Many of them presented cooperatives and the government with business plans that were not viable. Some businesses failed and the groups lost either the whole or part of their working capital assistance. In several cases, women's group members/leaders did not use the money for the stated business purposes and never returned the money to the group's account with the cooperative.

### Progress on Gender Base Violence

**Target:** Eradication of Violence and the Provision of Safety and Security for 4.444.200 Men, Women and Children in the Province.

The committee noted that awareness campaigns on crime were conducted on Rallies, Seminars and dialogues, Men's Forums, Awareness raising an, inspection and monitoring of Victim Friendly Room at Local Police Stations with the participants of 4267 people women were empowered and capacity through the program.

The committee noted the under-achievement of targets, poor evaluation and lack of impact assessment on all the campaigns conducted. The committee also noted that the women desk does not have targets in the relevant programme. It is the right and responsibility of the OTP to ensure that those who have committed misconduct or fail to do their work in the various public office are dealt with decisively so as to account for their lack of professionalism.

### **DEVELOPMENT AND EMPOWERMENT INITIATIVES**

Empowerment and Support to Women in Traditional Council (Emakhosikati) Forum. **Target:** The total provincial envisaged target was 150.

A total number of 166 women in traditional councils were reached: Gert Sibande 83, Nkangala 45, Enhlanzeni 38.

Sanitary dignity project: Reached out and restoring the dignity indigent girl child. Provincial Government has no dedicated budget for this project; support is receive form willing donors and sponsors through the initiative of Social Development women cooperatives.

**Target:** 4000 girl children across the province. A total of 22 schools were supported, 1344 girls children benefitted: Bohlabelo 552, Enhlanzeni 240, Gert Sibande 168 and Nkangala 384.

### **PROGRESS ON POVERTY ERADICATION**

**Target:** Eradication of poverty and the Empowerment of Women

Of 31516 beneficiaries only 9101 were women programmes included the following:

Consumer education workshop, supporting SMME's, Job opportunities through environmental programmes on Community Works programme and Waste Management, National incentive grant project , fish and veg project , animal health assistants, Fortune 40 , recruitment in the community work programme EPWP projects, NPO's , supported on annual referrals, registration of cooperatives in manufacturing and agricultural sector and short term relief measures (food parcels)

### **Provincial Programme of Action (PoA) for Women in Mpumalanga 2018-2021**

The committee noted that women are most marginalised, least empowered and excluded from economic activities. There are more unemployed women between the ages of 20-29 years and this is attributed to insufficient educational qualifications, thus the largest recipients of child support grant are women (young women).

Having understood the roles and responsibilities hold by government officials in all different levels of government and how they are mandated to work in the public office.

The committee outlined the core mandate of the Premiers' Offices which is to play a pivotal role in providing coherent strategic leadership and coordination in provincial policy formulation and review, planning and overseeing service delivery planning and implementation in support of provincial and national priorities and plans. Effective M&E could therefore contribute substantially to the achievement of Premier's Office objectives.

#### **4.3.1 FINDINGS**

After the deliberations, the Committee made the following findings:

- 1) The Office of the Premier is failing to secure reports from other departments that it should hold accountable and that weakens implementation of transversal programmes.
- 2) There's insufficient support of small businesses in Township targeting women empowerment such as Hair Salon barbershops.
- 3) There is inadequate monitoring of the implementation of policy guidelines in relation to targets
- 4) There is no information on the bursaries for the Department of Health at National level on medical students at Cuba.
- 5) Half of cooperative funded by government on women economic support are now defunct.

#### **4.3.2 RECOMMENDATION**

The committee recommends that:

1. Office of the Premier must ensure that consequence management is effected on departments that do not submit reports on time to ensure that transversal programmes are accelerated.
2. The office of the Premier in collaboration with the NYDA must revitalize and promote small businesses such as salons, barbershops by funding or providing grants/start –up capital that will help Salon Owners and Hairdressers in Township to achieve their dreams and goals through high quality training.
3. Premier's Offices must introduce an ongoing mechanism to monitor provincial department functions in relation to the achievements of targets. This will ensure that the Office of the Premier does not only rely on monthly reports submitted by departments but have first-hand assessment of service delivery.
4. The office of the premier must provide the committee with a comprehensive report on bursaries for medical studies in Cuba.
5. The Office of the Premier must provide guidance on cooperative policy and legislation, stressing the need for a level playing field for cooperatives and other enterprises.

## **4 CONCLUSION**

The Chairperson appreciated all Members of the Committee, the Office of the Premier, and the support staff of the Legislature for their participation during deliberation in enhancing the oversight role of the Legislature.

The Committee tables this report to the House for adoption with its recommendations and that the office of the Premier submits progress by 30 July 2018



**HON AM GAMEDE (MPL)**

**CHAIRPERSON: SELECT COMMITTEE ON WOMEN,  
YOUTH, CHILDREN, AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**

07/06/2018  
DATE