

FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO



Back from Left: Ms Matshediso Mfeka - DSD Portfolio Committee Member, **NDA Board members:** Mr Pieter Pretorius, Ms Nomthandazo Lichie Moyo, Ms Happy Ralinala, Ms Sibongile Mncwabe, Ms Tanya Smith, Mr Thembinkosi Matthews Josopu.

Front from left: Mr Bongani Magongo - NDA ACEO, Chief Livhuwani Matsila, Deputy Chairperson, Ms Lindiwe Zulu - Minister DSD, Nozabelo Ruth Bhengu - Chairperson of Board and Mr Linton Mchunu - DSD Acting DG.

I hope everyone is still doing well.

I am excited about the new era that we have entered as the NDA. The newly appointed Board commenced their duties on Wednesday, 18 January 2023 after the induction processes hosted by the Minister of the Department of Social Development, Ms Lindiwe Zulu, which included NDA and DSD Executives.

At the induction, Minister Zulu, expressed her gratitude to the new Board for applying and accepting the opportunity to serve as members of the NDA Board.

She said, "Board members are assuming a huge responsibility right at the beginning of the year that the ruling party, the African National Congress (ANC), **declared as the year of decisive action to advance the people's interests and renew the people's movement.** This is mainly because with everything that has been done since the dawn of democracy, the quality of lives of the majority of the people has not changed as much as we all expected. As a result, the NDA needs to decisively disrupt poverty, unemployment and inequality and their causes. In other words, we need to intensify our implementation".

In attendance was Ms Matshediso Mfeka, Select Committee Chairperson who represented the Chairperson of the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Social Development. Ms Mfeka indicated that they will be taking a different approach this year. They are going to strengthen the oversight role by visiting more of the department's programmes. She encouraged the Board to do likewise so that they can get a feel of the NDA work.

The Acting Director General of the Department of Social Development, Mr Linton Mchunu, gave an overview of the department and its oversight responsibility to the NDA.

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He stressed that Board members should consider the DSD Portfolio approach while making strategic decisions. Whereas, the NDA Acting CEO, Mr Bongani Magongo and the Executives shared with the Board a glimpse of the NDA and the programmes that are currently running.

The Institute of Directors SA spent the first half of day 2, training the Board members and NDA Executives in the required prescripts of corporate governance that should be adhered to.

The second half of the day, the Board had their first legally constituted meeting. At the meeting they finalised the nominations of different Board members in four Committees which they have constituted as follows:

1. Management and Programmes Committee

The Committee has a responsibility to - review NDA programmes, projects, research & development initiatives and to make recommendations to the Board for approval. The Committee also reviews progress with regards to implementation of NDA projects, programmes and research initiatives.

Committee Members

- Nozabelo Ruth Bhengu - (Chairperson)
- Chief Livhuwani Matsila - (Deputy Chairperson)
- Dr Olwethu Sepuka - (Board member)
- Mr Mojalefa Mohoto - (Board member)

- Ms Nomtandazo Lichie Moyo - (Board member)
- Ms Happy Ralinala - (Board member)

Human Resources and Remuneration Committee

The Committee shall oversee the development of the integrated human resource plan and reviews quarterly the implementation of the integrated human resource plan.

Committee Members

- Dr Olwethu Sepuka - (Chairperson)
- Mr Pieter Pretorius - (Board member)
- Ms Happy Ralinala - (Board member)
- Ms Sibongile Mncwabe - (Board member)
- Mr Thembinkosi Josopu - (Board member)

3. Social and Ethics Committee

The Committee shall monitor the ethical standards in the Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct and support ethics policies to be articulated by the Chief Executive Officer. It shall also ensure that structures are implemented by management, that systems and processes are in place to ensure that the Board, employees, network of suppliers and supply chain are familiar with and adhere to the entity's ethical standards.

Committee Members

- Ms Nozabelo Ruth Bhengu- (Board member)
- Ms Tanya Smith - (Chairperson)
- Ms Nomtandazo Lichie Moyo - (Board member)
- Ms Sibongile Mncwabe - (Board member)
- Mr Thembinkosi Josopu - (Board member)

2. Audit and Risk Committee

The Committee shall advise the Board on all financial management, compliance and risk matters. Management representative: CEO, Executives, Internal Audit Executive and Risk Manager.

Committee Members

- Ms Fungai Mushohwe – Independent member Term ends – March 2023
- Mr Mochele Noge – Independent - member - Term ends – March 2023
- Ms Tanya Smith – Board appointed member
- Mr Pieter Pretorius - Board appointed member
- Ms Happy Ralinala - Board appointed member

In closing the session, the Chairperson of the Board Ms. Nozabelo Bhengu said, "I fully trust that with the combined expertise and experiences of all the Board members, we are capable to bring stability, relevance, people-responsiveness and visibility to the Agency, its governance and programmes". She appreciated the two days' session that has given the Board at least high level context about the NDA.

Let us also use the remaining part of the year towards meeting our respective operational plan commitments.

Till next time!

Mr Bongani Magongo
Acting Chief Executive Officer

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