

Editorial

Welcome to the first edition of Izwi lase OPSC for the 2017/18 financial year. There were a number of activities which took place during the 1st quarter of the current financial year, notably the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Public Service Commission (PSC) and the Military Ombud. The signing of the MoU took place at the Offices of the Military Ombud in Centurion. Accordingly, in this edition of Izwi lase OPSC, we report on the signing of the MoU.

Furthermore, we reflect on the on the Military Ombud's Symposium which was held on 09 June 2017 at Velmore Hotel in Erasmia. The event also included the swearing in ceremony of the Deputy Military Ombud, which was presided by Judge Francis Legodi. The Chairperson of the PSC, Advocate Richard Sizani was invited to the event as a panelist and his input was based on the event's theme namely **"Ombud Institutions in search of their independence and impartiality."**

Commissioner David Mkhwanazi briefed the Mpumalanga Provincial Legislature on the Province Section 196 (4) (e) Report on 22 June 2017. The briefing to the Legislature is in compliance with Section 196 (4) (6) of the Constitution which requires that the PSC should report to the Provincial Legislature on amongst others, its activities and performance of its functions, including any findings it may make and directions and advice it may give. We therefore, reflect on the PSC's briefing to the Legislature.

We also report about the PSC's research reports which were tabled in Parliament during the 1st quarter of the financial year.

The month of June is declared youth month. Team PSC Youth at the National Office celebrated youth day by visiting Booysens Primary School in Pretoria West and donated sanitary towels to girl children.

Colleagues from the Free State Provincial Office also commemorated Youth Day by visiting learners at Ikaelelo High School in Mangaung. We therefore, reflect through pictures the Youth Day celebration.

We conclude this edition with regulars such as Information Resource Centre corner and Jokes

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PSC AND MILITARY OMBUD SIGN MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

The PSC and the Military Ombud signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 09 April 2017. The MoU is aimed at providing a framework for cooperation and collaboration with the view to share information and enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the two institutions. The signing of the MoU was led by the Chairperson of the PSC, Advocate Richard Sizani as well as the Military Ombud, retired Lt General Temba Matanzima.

In recognising the synergy between the two institutions, the following areas were identified for collaboration:

- Collaboration and cooperation in respect of complaints falling within either party's mandate;
- Exchange of information on personnel and public administration practices; and
- Any other areas of interest as may be identified from time to time.

In his address during the signing of the MoU, the Chairperson of the PSC, Advocate Richard Sizani mentioned that in the recent Cabinet Lekgotla the need for the improvement of efficiency, effectiveness and coordination was emphasized. He was of the view that the MoU between the PSC and Military Ombud is a step towards realizing this objective.

He further said: "there are many benefits to this MoU, it not only formalises the relationship between the PSC and the Office of the Military Ombud, but provides for the sharing of practical experiences and common areas of interests with the aim of enhancing the capacity of both institutions, as well as the referral of complaints".

On the other hand, the Military Ombud, retired Lt General Temba Matanzima said that he was excited with the agreement as both institutions play an integral part when it comes to the promotion of good governance, professional and ethical leadership across the society. "We are positive that this cooperation will go a long way in restoring the dignity of those who find themselves seeking help from these two Offices. We are committed to serve our stakeholders with dignity and pride," said retired Lt General Matanzima.

Witnessing the signing of the MoU was Commissioners Sellinah Nkosi, Phumelele Nzimande, Michael Seloane and the Director-General, Dr Dovhani Mamphiswana.



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PSC AND MILITARY OMBUD SIGN MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ...cont



PSC PARTICIPATE AT THE MILITARY OMBUD SYMPOSIUM

In an effort to practicalise the MoU between the PSC and the Military Obud, the Chairperson of the PSC, Advocate Richard Sizani was invited to the Swearing in Ceremony of the Deputy Military Ombud, Advocate RP Marivate on 09 June 2017 at Velmore Hotel in Erasmia. The event also included a Symposium, which was arranged under the theme: **“Ombud Institutions in search of their independence and impartiality,**

Judge Francis Legodi delivered a keynote address whilst Advocate Sizani participated as a panelist and his input was based on the theme. Other panelists included the following:

- Mr Marc Alves (Financial Advisory and Intermediary Services)
- Dr Dr Somadoda Fikeni (Analyst: University of South Africa)
- Mr Helmoed Romer Heitman (Defence Analyst and Consultant).

Commissioner Sellinah Nkosi also attended the event. The renowned radio personality, Mr Tim Modise was the programme director.



TEAM MPUMALANGA BRIEF PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

On Thursday, 22 June 2017, Commissioner David Mkhwanazi briefed members of the Mpumalanga Provincial Legislature on the State of Governance in the Province. Titled Section 196 (4) (e), the Report to the Provincial Legislature is compiled in compliance with Section 196 (4) (6) of the Constitution which requires that the PSC should report to the Provincial Legislature on the following:

- Its activities and performance of its functions, including any findings it may make and directions and advice it may give;
- An evaluation of the extent to which the values and principles set out in Section 195 are complied with.

It is on this basis that the PSC's briefing to the Legislature covered in detail the content of its work, including findings, advice, proposals and recommendations. The PSC briefing focused on amongst others, key findings and recommendations that the Commission has made on the following:

- Management of Grievances, including trends
- Public Administration Investigations, including High Profile Cases
- Management of Anti-Corruption Hotline (0800 701 701)
- Financial Misconduct
- Inspections at the Lebombo and Oshoek Border Posts amongst others.
- Management of the Financial Disclosure Framework, including the outcome of the Financial Disclosure Scrutiny for 2013/14, 2014/15 and 2015/16

The Legislature welcomed the PSC's report and commended the Commission for equipping the Legislature with the relevant information that will assist honourable members in their oversight work. After the presentation, Commissioner Mkhwanazi held a media briefing and engaged members of the media on the content of the report.



PSC REPORTS TABLED IN PARLIAMENT

The following Reports were recently tabled in Parliament:

Overview of the Implementation of the Financial Disclosure Framework: Financial Year 2015/2016

The PSC has noted a significant improvement on the submission of the financial disclosure forms by the due date of 31 May. The state of readiness by members of the Senior Management Services (SMS) to submit their financial disclosure forms electronically could be attributed to the initiative that the PSC adopted in giving continuous support to the departments to comply with the provisions of the Framework. It is also important to note that there are still instances where designated officials submit their financial disclosure forms on time to their respective Executive Authorities (EAs), but EAs delay in submitting the forms to the PSC. The obligation to submit the financial disclosure forms to the PSC rests with EAs. The PSC is, therefore, of the opinion that the National Assembly and Provincial Legislatures should monitor and ensure that EAs comply with the Framework.

The Framework should be regarded as part of a larger effort to regulate conflicts of interest situations in the Public Service. While it is a crucial tool for preventing and controlling abuse of office by public servants, it cannot deal with the full range of conflicts of interest situations that emerge at departmental level.

Report to the National Assembly in terms of section 196(4)(e) of the Constitution, read with section 196(6) – 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016

Section 196(4)(e) of the constitution requires that the PSC should report to the National Assembly) in respect of –

- its activities and the performance of its functions, including any findings it may make and directions and advice it may give; and
- an evaluation of the extent to which the values and principles set out in section 195 are complied with.

In the past the PSC complied with this section by submitting a variety of reports to the National Assembly. This is a first report that gives a concise overview of all the work of the PSC and it also reflects on the impact of its work, its capabilities and its Office as well as the key focus areas going forward.

This report differs from the Annual Report that a department, trading entity or constitutional institution must submit in terms of section 40 of the Public Finance Management Act, 1999. The Annual Report focuses on performance against pre-determined objectives, the financial statements of a department, the audit report and the human resource information of a department. The Section 196(4)(e) report provides detail on the content of the work of the Public Service Commission, its findings, advice, proposals, recommendations as well as the influence and impact of its work.

Section 196(4)(e) also requires the Public Service Commission to “provide an evaluation of the extent to which the values in section 195 are complied with”. This part of the report can also be called the “State of the Public Service Report”. The Public Service Commission has published 10 editions of this report. It is hoped that the report will enhance insight into the work of the Public Service Commission and highlight the contribution it has and can make, given the institutional capabilities it has.

PSC COMMEMORATES JUNE 16

The month of June is declared youth month. It is the month when we pay tribute to the school pupils who lost their lives during the uprising of 16 June 1976 in Soweto. This year's June 16 is celebrated under the theme: *The year of Oliver Tambo: Advancing Youth Economic Empowerment*.

In support of this initiative, members of Team PSC at the National Office commemorated the day by visiting Booyens Primary School in Pretoria West and donated 425 sanitary towels to girl children. An amount of R6 127.00 was raised and credit goes to all the colleagues who made monetary contribution towards this initiative.



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PSC COMMEMORATES JUNE 16 cont...



PSC COMMEMORATES JUNE 16 cont...

In the Free State, the Provincial Office commemorated Youth Day by visiting Ikaelelo High School in Mangaung. Ikaelelo is among the schools that the PSC visited during the Learner Teacher Support Material (LTSM) inspection in January 2017. Commissioner Henk Boshoff and the Provincial Director inspired the learners through their motivational talk, which focused on the importance of education. The Provincial Office donated to the school a Makro voucher to the value of R1000 00.



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PSC COMMEMORATES JUNE 16 cont...



INFORMATION RESOURCE CENTRE

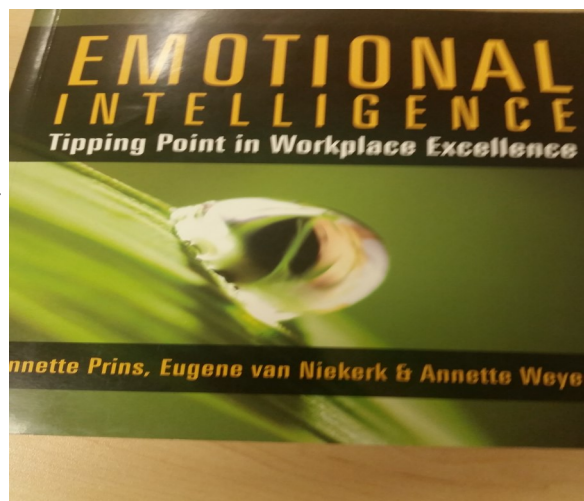
Book Review

Title: Emotional Intelligence: tipping point in the workplace excellence

Author: Prins A, van Niekerk E and Weyens A

Year: 2011

Reviewed by: Nelly Lukhero



Abstract:

This book is intended to equip individuals to function more effectively, both in their personal lives and in organisations, by enhancing their development and practice of emotional intelligence. There appears to be an exponential growth nowadays in the stress that individuals experience, and a corresponding increase in health risks such as hypertension, secondary diabetes, and other ailments linked to high levels stress. It appears that individuals and organisations are increasingly unwell.

Emotional intelligence is an important tool to enhance overall individual and organisational wellness and resilience. The model proposed in the book contains a broad spectrum of human skills that act together in a coherent fashion to attain this goal.

This is definitely a must read. To get a copy of this interesting book, members of Team PSC can contact the Information Resource Centre at the following numbers:

Nelly Lukhero: X 1129

Molebogeng Mothotoana X 1124

Jokes

A young businessman had just started his own firm.
He rented a beautiful office and had it furnished with antiques.

Sitting there, he saw a man come into the outer office.

Hoping to look like a hot shot, the businessman picked up the phone and started to pretend he was working
on a big, important business deal.

He threw huge figures around and made giant commitments. Finally he hung up and asked the visitor, "Can
I help you?"

The man said, "Yeah, I've come to activate your phone lines."