



Izwi lase OPSC

Apr/May/Jun 2022

Custodian of Good Governance

Contents

<i>Editorial</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Citizen's Forum</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>PSC meets AGSA</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Admin Seminar</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Seminar on improving governance, systems and process In the Public Sector</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Tabling of the Public Service Commission's Annual Report For 2020/21 financial year – Eastern Cape Province</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Inspections</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>Profile of North West Provincial Director</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>GEPF matters</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>Wellness</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>Filing season 2022 for individuals</i>	<i>14</i>

Izwi lase OPSC

Apr/May/Jun 2022

Editorial



Welcome to the first edition of Izwi lase OPSC for the 2022/23 financial year. Few days ago Cabinet took a decision to cancel the mandatory wearing of face masks as a precautionary measure against COVID-19. Although the wearing of face masks has been faced out, COVID-19 is still with us and we should therefore continue to take safety measures such as sanitizing and keeping of social distance.

On 22 June 2022, the the Public Service Commission (PSC) in partnership with Ratlou Local Municipality in the North West Province hosted the Citizens Forum at Setlagole village outside Mafikeng with the aim to improve service delivery in the area. In this issue of Izwi, we report about t the Citizens Forum event.

We also report about the Administrators Seminar which took place from 11-12 May 2022.

On Tuesday 26 April 2022, the PSC held a Seminar on "Improving Governance, Systems and Processes in the Public Sector" in Pretoria. The event, which was held in partnership with the University of South Africa and the Moral Generation Movement aimed to address challenges of corruption and governance failures that have crippled government institutions into building a capable, ethical and developmental state. In this edition of Izwi we reflect on the event.

We conclude this addition by reporting on the tabling of the PSC's Annual Report for the 2020/21 financial year at the Eastern Cape Provincial Legislature, the PSC's stakeholder engagement with the Auditor General of South Africa held on Wednesday, 29 June 2022 including the PSC's inspection at the SAPS Forensic Science Laboratory in Arcadia, and the profiling of the North West Provincial Director, Mr Lebogang Mautlwa.



Citizen's Forum

In the spirit of improving service delivery to address the needs of the citizens and restore trust in government, the PSC in partnership with Ratlou Local Municipality in the North West Province hosted the Citizens Forum on Wednesday, 22 June 2022 at Setlagole Village outside Mafikeng. The Citizens Forum, which was attended by +/- 550 community members, aimed to amongst others, evaluate service delivery in the area, improve participation in the planning and implementation of service delivery programmes and make recommendations on how to improve service delivery. Through the Citizens Forum, residents of the Ratlou Local Municipality were afforded an opportunity to engage with various institutions on issues affecting service delivery in respect of the following matters, amongst others:

- Non-electrified houses;
- Water shortages and poor sanitation such as the use of pit latrines in schools; and
- Applications for identity documents and birth certificates.

Some of the key Provincial Departments, the Premiers office, some National Departments like Home Affairs; Water & Sanitation; Employment & Labour; Mineral Resources & Energy; Agriculture, Land Reform & Rural Development; South African Police Services (SAPS), Institutions Supporting Democracy, were in attendance to provide services such as the application of birth certificates, Identity Documents, UIF registration, amongst others. The event was also graced by the PSC Commission (Acting Chairperson of the PSC, Prof Somadoda Fikeni and Commissioners Moeletsi Leballo, Magerule Sekonya, Leonardo Goosen and Anele Gxoyiya), the Director-General, Adv Dinkie Dube and other Senior Managers. Other dignitaries that were in attendance included the Mayor of Ratlou Municipality, Cllr. M Jafta and Kgosi Phoi from the Traditional Council and his entourage. The event was a success and congratulations to the North West and the M&E Team, under the leadership of Commissioner Moeletsi Leballo.



Izwi lase OPSC

Apr/May/Jun 2022

PSC meets AGSA

The PSC under the leadership of Prof Somadoda Fikeni held a stakeholder engagement with the Auditor General South Africa, Ms Tsakani Maluleke and her team on 29 June 2022 at the AGSA Office in Pretoria. The delegation from the PSC also included Commissioner Makhanya, Director-General, Adv P Dube and other PSC Executives.

The area of discussion included, amongst others, Collaboration on areas of Governance in the Public Service and General discussion on matters of mutual interest.



Izwi lase OPSC

Apr/May/Jun 2022

Admin Seminar

In an effort to improve the overall productivity of the Administrators, on 11-12 May 2022, the OPSC, under the stewardship of the Chief Director: People Management Practices, held a successful Administrative Support Workshop at the Manhattan Hotel in Pretoria. The aim of the Administrative Support Workshop was to deliberate on ways to support the core programmes and the Commission in executing its constitutional mandate effectively.

Administration support staff play a crucial role in supporting the PSC Executives, including overseeing efficient administration in their respective branches and units. They are the ones receiving calls and doing everything that they can to make the life of their principals as seamless and easy as possible. They invest their time and energy into making each day to run smoothly. Training of Administrators will without a doubt improve their overall productivity.

Following the conclusion of the workshop, the Administrators were all in agreement that the two-day session was an eye-opener. All the presentations made at the workshop are accessible on the PSC's SharePoint platform.



Seminar on Improving Governance, Systems and Processes in the Public Sector

On Tuesday 26 April 2022, the PSC held a Seminar on "Improving Governance, Systems and Processes in the Public Sector" in Pretoria. The event, which was held in partnership with the University of South Africa and the Moral Generation Movement aimed to address challenges of greed, ethical and governance failures that have crippled government institutions into building a capable, ethical and developmental state.

In attendance were the Premier of the Northern Cape, Dr Zamani Saul, PSC Executives, representatives from government departments, academia, constitutional bodies, law enforcement agencies and public servants.

In delivering the welcome address, the Acting Chairperson, Prof Somadoda Fikeni said the people of South Africa seems to have lost trust and confidence in government and the services that they offer due to the high levels of corruption. He said "the trust deficit and social distance that is growing between the people and the government is something that should worry the Public Service, especially in the post-state capture era where the PSC is in pursuit for an ethical, capable developmental state. The PSC has an enormous responsibility in reshaping the State institutions and contributing towards building an ethical, capable and developmental state". He further said that public servants should always maintain a high standard of professional ethics, effective use of resources, accountability and be responsive to people's needs and foster transparency.

Dr Zamani Saul delivered a profound keynote address on ethical leadership. He condemned corruption in all its forms and called for concerted efforts for the transformation of the Public Service in building an ethical, capable and developmental state.



SEMINAR/WEBINAR

IMPROVING GOVERNANCE, SYSTEMS AND PROCESSES IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR

OUTCOME OF THE COMMISSION OF ENQUIRY INTO ALLEGATIONS OF STATE CAPTURE, CORRUPTION AND FRAUD IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR – IMPLICATIONS FOR THE PUBLIC SERVICE

Izwi lase OPSC

Apr/May/Jun 2022

The Directorate for Priority Crime Investigation, known as the Hawks, provided a synopsis of all cases that are related to state capture corruption which are enrolled at various courts throughout the Country and some implicated people who served in very senior positions in the Public Service and politics.

The Seminar deliberations spelled out a way forward that will restore public trust and confidence in the government's capacity and capability to fight fraud and corruption. Some of the recommended actions include:

- Swift action must be taken against all those who were implicated in the state capture report.
- Strengthening law enforcement capacity through further training and specialized courses in the investigation of fraud, money laundering, racketeering and corruption. In addition, it was echoed that law enforcement must be independent from any influence, political or otherwise.
- Synchronize efforts to ensure multi-disciplinary approach in combatting corruption.
- Revision of legislative and policy framework to ensure protection of whistleblowers against all forms of reprisals/ victimization.
- The ethics management function must be institutionalized in the Public Service, not as compliance checklists, but to ensure that ethics is the way we do business in the Public Service.



Tabling of the Public Service Commission's Annual Report for 2020/21 Financial Year – Eastern Cape Province

The PSC in the Eastern Cape tabled the PSC's Annual Report for the 2020/21 financial year at the Eastern Cape Provincial Legislature on Thursday, 23 June 2022. **It is for the second time that the PSC in the Province formally table the Annual Report in line with the prevailing legislation.**

Section 196 (4) (e) of the Constitution provides for accountability of the Commission in respect of its activities and the performance of its functions, including findings it may make and directions and advice it may give and to provide an evaluation of the extent on which the values and principles set out in section 195 of the Constitution are complied with. Section 196 (6) (b) provides that the reporting of these activities in a province shall be tabled at the legislature of that particular province.

After the tabling, the Speaker will refer the PSC's Annual Report to the **Portfolio Committee on Office of the Premier** for processing.

The tabling of the Annual Report is a demonstration of how the PSC views accountability to be of paramount significance in the execution of its mandate in the interest of the maintenance of effective and efficient public administration and a high standard of professional ethics in the public service.



Inspections

The PSC commenced with its Inspections of the Forensic Science Laboratories (FSL) of the South African Police Service (SAPS) at the Arcadia FSL on Tuesday, 28 June 2022 under the leadership of Commissioner Moeletsi Leballo. The purpose of the Inspections is to determine the functionality and observe the state and conditions of the laboratories to facilitate service delivery as well as to establish reasons for the current backlogs at the laboratories.



From left: Colonel K Simon (FSL), Mr Trivern Ramjettan (PSC), Ms Carmen Domingo-Swartz (PSC), Brigadier FE Hlalele (FSL) Ms Marie Fourie (PSC), Commissioner Moeletsi Leballo (PSC) and Ms Mmapeu De Jenga

Profile of North West Provincial Director

He obtained his Three Year National Diploma in Public Management & Administration at Technikon North West (now called Tshwane University of Technology) in 2003. He got involved in the establishment of a Non-Profit Organisation and volunteered as a Case Worker after attending a three months in-service training in basic Paralegal skills at Black Sash Trust (Gauteng Region) in 2003. He attended a Ward Committee Training on Train the Trainer at Municipal Leadership Training Academy (MULTA) at the North West University in 2004, and worked as a Ward Committee Trainer for Kgatelopele Training Institute on the completed modules on Presentation & Facilitation Skills, Municipal Service Delivery, Local Government Policy & Legislation, Community Participation, Leadership Skills, Meetings Procedure, Conflict Management, and Performance Management.



Mr. Joseph Lebogang Mautlwa

Towards the end of 2004, he joined the South African Police Service (SAPS) and was responsible for Corporate Services. He was promoted to Senior Administration Clerk III post at the then Department of Transport, Roads & Community Safety responsible for Human Resource Functions, General Administrative Support Services, Procurement Process, Asset Management, and implementation of Integrated Management Demand Plan in 2007. In 2009 he was again promoted to the Principal Personnel Officer post at the then Department of Public Works, Roads & Transport. He was the Head of Leave Section, supervised staff, interpret Human Resource Management Policies, Prescripts, Directives and Legislation and advise line managers, and oversee Leave Management and processing at the District.

In 2010, he was promotionally transferred to the Assistant Director post at the Public Service Commission (PSC) North West Provincial Office, and responsible for handling Provincial Government Grievances and Complaints received through the National Anti-Corruption Hotline (NACH) and Complaints Rules, handling the monitoring & evaluation and investigation function in matters pertaining to Labour Relations Improvement, Leadership and Human Resource Reviews, Governance Monitoring, Service Delivery Inspections and Compliance Evaluations, Public Administration Investigation, Professional Ethics, and Policy & Legislation at the North West Province.

Izwi lase OPSC

Apr/May/Jun 2022

In 2015 to 2016, he was appointed as the Acting Deputy Director Labour Relations Improvement. He was later appointed in a substantive Deputy Director post on 01 August 2016, responsible for the investigation of Grievances/Complaints/Requests pertaining to the Leadership and Management Branch, conducting PSC Projects in the North West Provincial Departments, conduct Research and articulate PSC projects in the Province.

Since he joined the Public Service, he served in Committees like the Provincial Asset Disposal Committee, Employment Equity Consultative Forum, Safety & Health Committees, Men's Forum, etc. He was appointed to represent the PSC as the Member of the Provincial Anti-Corruption Technical & Ethics Committee chaired by the Office of the Premier: North West Province.

Through his years of work, he pursued his studies and obtained his BTech in Public Management at UNISA in 2014. He also upgraded his skills by attending Training Course on Anti-Corruption Training for Investigators, Project Management, Communication & Presentation skills, Interviewing Skills, Procurement & Fraud, and Investigation & Report Writing.

In 2014, he represented the PSC as the South African delegate at the Young Professional Network (YPN) of the African Association for Public Administration and Management (AAPAM) Conference in Nairobi: Kenya. He further received an Award as Employee of the Year in recognition and as a token of appreciation for the invaluable support provided to colleagues at the Office of the Public Service Commission. He also received a Long Service Award in recognition and as a token of 10 years of continuous and devoted service in the Public Service.

He was appointed as the Provincial Director: North West effective 01 April 2022, responsible for overseeing the work of the PSC in the Province.

GEPF Matters

The **Government Employees Pension Fund (GEPF)** is concerned with the increase in the number of unclaimed benefits due to the difficulty in locating former GEPF members or their beneficiaries who have not claimed their benefits upon their exit from the Fund.

The GEPF considers an unclaimed benefit as any claim that has not being paid to either a member, pensioner or beneficiaries within a period of 24 months.

How they manifest

The rising number of unclaimed benefits is as a result of insufficient payment information and untraceable members/beneficiaries. Help us by updating your details today and remind your colleagues and friends to do the same.

Often benefits remain unclaimed because of:

- Claims with uncorrected errors over a period of 24 months
- Contributions from a member have ceased without any indication whether or not the member has exited the Fund
- Beneficiaries not claiming benefits following the death of a member
- Untraceable members due to incorrect contact details or information not being updated
- Suspected fraudulent claims
- Members not claiming benefits following the conclusion of their unsuccessful dismissal appeal process

If you know or know someone who did not claim their GEPF benefit or a dependent of a deceased GEPF member who has not claimed benefits due to them, they can contact the GEPF at **0800 117 669** or unclaimedbenefit@gpaa.go.za

Source:



Izwi lase OPSC

Apr/May/Jun 2022

Wellness

Drug & Alcohol Awareness

24-28 June is National Drug and Alcohol Awareness Week, which is an annual campaign that aims to highlight the substance abuse problem in South Africa. The campaign is designed to:

- create awareness and understanding about substance abuse and its dangers;
- educate and assist those affected by drugs by giving them information about where to get help, and to put a stop to the abuse of both drugs and alcohol.

Statistics over the past decade show that drug and alcohol abuse has increased by 200 percent. Encouraging people to turn away from drugs is an important emphasis of the awareness week as well as offering tools to help drug users make other healthy choices.

It is important that those who are struggling with the addictions gets the necessary support in order to beat the habit and live a healthy lifestyle. An ICAS addiction counsellor can assist those that are faced with this challenge to work through available options. Addiction counsellors can help individuals to develop a recovery plan in order to build a healthier life .

Contact ICAS if you or your family members have any drug or alcohol-related issues on **Toll-Free number: 0800000406** or dial ***134*905#** to request a call back.



Izwi lase OPSC

Apr/May/Jun 2022

Filing Season 2022 for Individuals

Income tax return filing dates for 2022

The tax return filing season is upon us and dates for filing with the South African Revenue Service for 2022 are as follows:

1 July 2022 to 24 October 2022

- Taxpayers who file [online](#)
- Taxpayers who cannot file online can do so at a SARS branch [by appointment only](#).

1 July 2022 to 23 January 2023

- [Provisional taxpayers](#) including Trusts may file via [eFiling](#) or [SARS MobiApp](#).

Individual filing opening

Taxpayers, your turn to file your tax return starts on 1 July this year. The good news is that a significant number of individual taxpayers will be auto-assessed again this year, and this process will start in July.

Note important changes to the auto assessment this year.

If you agree with the auto assessment, after viewing your assessment, you do not need to do anything further, the return will be regarded as submitted and final.

If you are not in agreement with the assessment, you can access your tax return via eFiling or SARS MobiApp, complete the return, and file it. This must be done within 40 business days from the date that your assessment was issued to you.

You can view the auto-assessment by:

- Login to [eFiling](#)
- Login to the [SARS MobiApp](#)
- [Booking an appointment](#) with a SARS branch for assistance.

Source: