



Custodian of Good Governance

# Izwi lase OPSC

Oct/Nov/Dec 2022

## Contents

<i>Editorial</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>PSC bids farewell to Marie Fourie</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>PSC Mpumalanga intervenes in issuing of ID</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>KZN meets the community of Mandeni in preparation For the Citizens' Forum in Feb 2023</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>International Anti-Corruption Day Commemoration</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>PSC Year End Function</i>	<i>8</i>



# Izwi lase OPSC

Oct/Nov/Dec 2022

## Editorial

**W**elcome to the third edition of Izwi lase OPSC covering the period October to December 2022. The festive season is upon us with many planning to travel far and near to spend time with family and loved ones. The year 2022 has been a challenging year with many difficulties but as an Organisation we were able to navigate through the rough waters in making sure that the work of the Public Service Commission (PSC) is carried forward with pride and zeal.

On 20 December 2022, the PSC released its quarterly Bulletin titled "the Pulse of the Public Service covering issues such as: Unlawful instructions and ethical dilemmas in the Public Service; Investigation analysis into enablers and inhibitors of job performance of the Senior Management Service; The importance of governance in achieving a transformed and professional Public Service; Non-payment of Government Suppliers; and Overall number of complaints and grievances handled by the PSC up to 30 September 2022. Check the full Bulletin on the PSC website under Newsletters.

On 13 December we bid farewell to our veteran, Ms Marie Fourie following 33 years of serving the people of South Africa. In this issue we will celebrate her journey towards retirement.

We will also look at how PSC Mpumalanga changed the life of a young person who struggled to get an Identity Document for five years. We also touch on the PSC KwaZulu-Natal's first engagement meeting in preparation for the upcoming Citizens Forum at Mandeni, Ilembe District Municipality.

On 09 December we commemorated the International Anti-Corruption Day under the theme "***The Cost of Failure of Governance, Ethics and Oversight: A collective response to tackle the scourge of corruption in the Public Sector***". In this issue of Izwi we cover the event in pictures.

We will conclude this edition with the PSC Year End Function in pictures, held on 02 December 2022.

# Editorial

## PSC bids farewell to Marie Fourie

On Tuesday 13 December 2022, the Public Service Commission (PSC) bid farewell to one of its veterans, Ms Marie Fourie, following 33 years in the Public Service. Marie joined the PSC in 1989 and has witnessed various administrations and transitions leading to the PSC that it is today. During the farewell function, her colleagues spoke fondly of her humility, down to earth demenous, strict personality but always willing to give advice and assistance where necessary.

Ms Carmen Domingo-Swartz wished Ms Marie a happy retirement. She said "today is a bittersweet occasion for us as we bid goodbye to one of our own. A loyal and committed public servant who gave her entire working life to serve the country. It is bitter and really sad that at the time when we lament the capacity of the state, professionalism, meritocracy, we lose a colleague of your calibre, someone who epitomizes these principles. Yet again, Psalm 118: 24 reminds us that *"we celebrate this day, for the Lord has made it"*. In this celebration, let me take this opportunity to thank God for his love and protection over your life. For having made it possible to be part of the PSC family for the past 33 years. Let me also thank your family, your children and grandchild. The Public Service, PSC M&E and in particular CD: SDCE is really poorer without you Marie".



Ms Irene Mathenjwa praised Marie for her "motherly" love, nurturing character and her loyalty towards the public service and the OPSC. She thanked her for the valuable lessons and skills that she brought to the organization, immense support and cooperation and her dedication that displayed an ethical and professional public servant. She said "your work around the Batho Pele principles speaks volume and to date it remains quoted nationally and internationally when we speak about a citizen centric public service. As they say in XiTsonga, *"Mintiro ya bulabula"*. The baton is left to those who will come after you, to carry this work forward. We may quantify your work through reports and products, but there are certain qualities that we will truly miss. The ability to conceptualise and problematize public administration issues, irrespective of whether that is an M&E, LMP or IAC matter.

# Izwi lase OPSC

Oct/Nov/Dec 2022



Your nag to dig deeper into issues and always ask, so what? Your inclination and push for a PSC that provides solutions, not just recommendations. At personal level, I have always admired your disciplined character and commitment to work. Your sense of reliability with high quality products. You have indeed made life less stressful. Marie, your loyalty to the PSC is truly appreciated. We held our own debates and argued on many occasions and I appreciate that you stood your ground with facts. When a decision was made, you had appreciation and support that we needed to do what the Commission wants. For that, I thank you".

Ms Nobi Dube also expressed her appreciation to have met a person like Marie who was kindly, loving and supportive. She thanked Ms Fourie for being a true friend who was always there for her, in her time of need. The beautiful moments they shared, meaningful conversations and laughter.

In her response, Marie thanked all her colleagues for the love and support and the hard work that the team displayed in carrying out the work of the Commission. She mentioned how she wanted to be a medical doctor but somehow ended up as a public servant which she believe was not a mistake. She further shared her love for development and fighting poverty in disadvantaged communities. She said "I will continue with the work that I started few years ago of assisting communities in improving their lives, fighting poverty and promoting education". She further said that while her chapter in the public service is closing, another chapter in community work will continue so that people's lives can be transformed.





## PSC Mpumalanga Intervenes in issuing of ID

The Mpumalanga Provincial Office under the leadership of Commissioner Magerule Sekonya and DDG Matome Malatsi, accompanied by the Cluster Commissioner Nancy Ngwenya visited the Department of Home Affairs in Malelane (Mpumalanga) to support Ms Nokuphila Magagula (and family) as she was collecting her ID after struggling for 5 years trying to apply - together with her three siblings.



The Magagula family's complaint was lodged by a family member who met the PSC Officials during an inspection at Tonga Home Affairs where the challenge with the ID applications started in 2017. ***"Ms Nokuphila Magagula passed her Grade 12 in 2018 and she had applied to study at the University of Free State, unfortunately her dream could not be realized due to her not having an ID"***, said the Provincial Director, Ms Salome Meso. "The Mpumalanga Team investigated and ultimately escalated the matter to the Minister of Home Affairs, Dr Aron Motsoaledi, who ensured that the matter gets resolved".



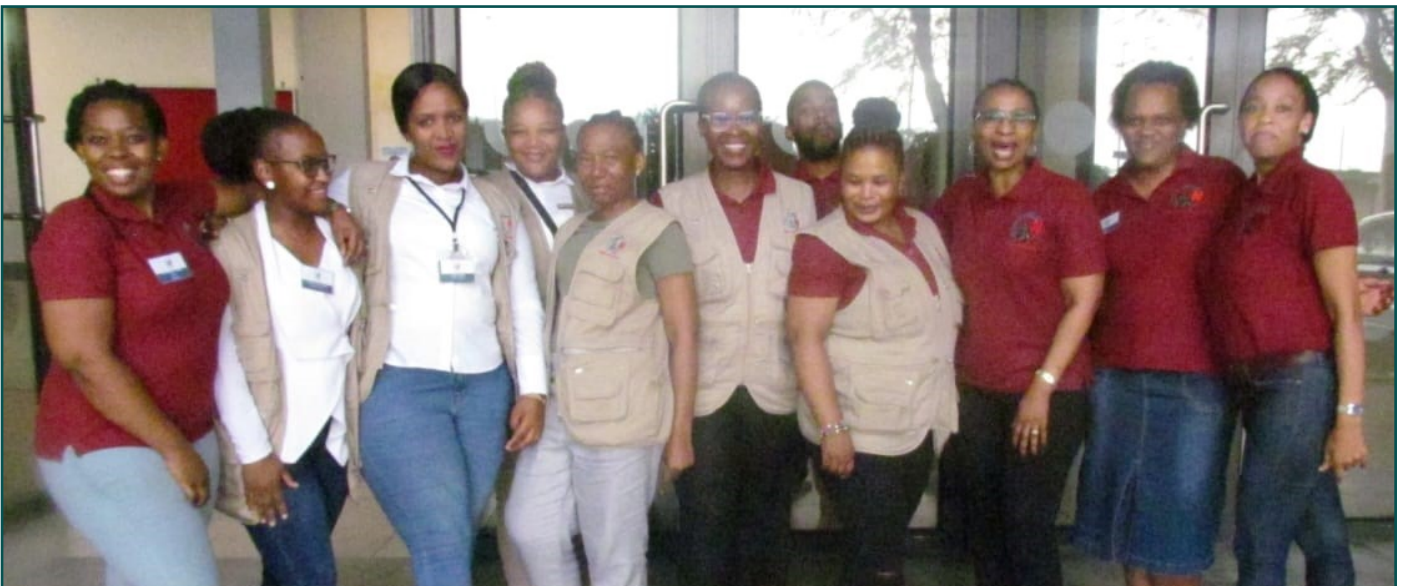
When presented with the smart ID card, Nompilo indicated said ***"I now feels like a real South African and I still want to study because I'm the only girl at home and really want to help my parents especially my mom"***. In a heartfelt letter, the family indicated that the PSC officials respected and carried out BathoPele to its true meaning by ensuring that their daughter gets assistance with her application.

"The PSC will continue to engage relevant stakeholders in assisting the family and other citizens that may be affected by similar challenges relating to service delivery in various Departments. The PSC will also host a workshop on the Constitutional Values and Principles, BathoPele Principles and the Code of Conduct for the Tonga DHA", concluded Ms Meso.



## KZN meets the community of Mandeni in preparation for the Citizens' Forum in Feb 2023

In preparing for the Citizens Forum to be held in February 2023, the PSC in KwaZulu-Natal held its 1<sup>st</sup> community pre-engagement meeting at the Sibusisiwe Hall, Mandeni Local Municipality, ILembe District Municipality on 05 December 2022.



During the engagement representatives from different communities raised challenges experienced by communities on service delivery and the interventions that were required to address those challenges. Government departments and relevant stakeholders were also in attendance to take note of those challenges.

The Mayor of Mandeni Local Municipality Clr T Mdlalose delivered a welcoming message while the Mandeni Speaker, Clr Sishi delivered a message of support. The event was attended by the PSC Commissioner Ms Yasmin Bacus, iLembe Speaker Clr DM Shandu, EXCO Members, Chapter 9 Institutions, South African Police Services, representatives from provincial departments, Traditional Leaders, Ward Councillors, Ward Committee Members and the community of Mandeni Local Municipality.





# Izwi lase OPSC

Oct/Nov/Dec 2022

## International Anti-Corruption Day Commemoration in Pictures





# Izwi lase OPSC

Oct/Nov/Dec 2022

## PSC Year End Function in Pictures

