

Press statement

For immediate Release

NLC welcomes permanent Distributing Agencies for Arts & Culture

7 December 2016 – When the amended Lotteries Act came into effect and the NLC was launched in 2015, one of the benefits to applicants was the appointment of permanent Distributing Agencies (DAs) which would help to speed up the rate of adjudication of applications.

Through the Department of Trade and Industry (The DTI), the process to appoint members to the Distributing Agencies for the three funded sectors (Arts, Charities and Sports) began early in 2016 and applicants were taken through a stringent process, including parliamentary vetting.

This week, the NLC welcomed the permanent members of the Arts, Culture and National Heritage (including Environment) Distributing Agency. They are:

- Ms Marjorie Letoaba (Chairperson)
- Mr Sershan Naidoo
- Mr Thanduxolo Lungile; and
- Mr Thendo Ramagoma.

Letoaba and Naidoo are long-serving employees of the NLC, while Lungile and Ramagoma join the NLC from the National Heritage Council.

The Distributing Agencies were previously appointed on a part time basis. These new appointments will assist the NLC to fulfilling the promise of 150 Days turnaround time on applications as outlined in the regulations of the amended Act.

The DTI will continue with the process to appoint permanent Distributing Agencies for the Charities Sector and the Sport and Recreation Sector.

In October 2016, the NLC introduced an open call for applications, moving away from the previous model of “Call for Applications” for funding good causes.



CHANGING LIVES

Board members: Prof N A Nevhutanda (Chairperson) Ms T S Kekana Ms N E Loyilane Ms M Mokoka Prof G Reddy
Ms Nompumelelo Nene (Company Secretary)

Established in terms of the Lotteries Act of 1997, as amended

The previous “Call for Applications” model permitted the NLC to accept applications only if they were submitted during the fixed window period (usually 3 months) annually. This often resulted in worthy and deserving causes not being able to access funding outside the fixed window period.

The open call on the other hand means that applications will be accepted throughout the year at all NLC offices across South Africa with no closing date.

Said Mampane at the time, “We are also on track to ensure that we live up to the promise of the 150 days turnaround time between application and communication of outcome. There are also legislated timeframes for return of documents and the payment of grants”.

She added that the arrival of permanent Distributing Agencies signals a further move forward in the organisation’s quest to change lives.

Ends.

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