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NLC Response to NSPCA Claims of Exclusion from 2016 Funding

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For immediate release

Pretoria - It has come to the attention of the National Lotteries Commission (NLC) that the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (NSPCA) has raised concerns in the media regarding lack of funding under the current call for applications.

The NLC would like to express that funding is not guaranteed to all applicants due to budget constraints and the priorities set out for the year in line with government's plans and the needs of South Africa's changing landscape.

By their own admission, the NSPCA has acknowledged that they have received funding every year since 2000.

The NLC's Distributing Agencies have consistently highlighted the specific focus areas of a Call for Applications, stating in the advert that:

"Only applications from organisations whose objectives and mandate are aligned to the strategic funding areas identified above [in the advert] will be accepted and considered for funding."

In 2016, we embarked on an Open Call for Applications that runs on a 12 month cycle. Within the Charities Sector, where applications opened on 3 October 2016, the focus was on the following areas, in line with the National Development Plan and Government Priorities:

- Early Intervention, protection and supporting the vulnerable (e.g. the disabled, orphans, children of all ages, women and the aged / elderly)
- Crime reduction and prevention intervention and services.

In addition to the advert, the above information was contained in the letter of decline sent to the NSPCA.

The NLC has in the past expressed that applications for funding have gone up to R40 billion - far exceeding the budget available for funding of about R 2 billion per annum. This has resulted in many deserving organisations not being able to access funding – a concern which led to the 2015 regulations in terms of how funding is differentiated and distributed across the NGO sector to cover the nation's diverse pressing needs.

It is for this reason that we find the NSPCA's assertion that the non-approval of their application as inexcusable, short-sighted, and ill-informed as concerning.

We also encourage our beneficiaries to find other sources of funding so that they do not build a dependency and an entitlement to NLC funding.

Ends -



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