

Media Statement
29 July 2020
For immediate release

Adjudication of NLC COVID-19 Relief Fund Applications Continues

On 28 July 2020, the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition tabled the NLC's beneficiary payments lists to Parliament.

One of these lists was the NLC's R 150 million COVID-19 Relief Fund, applications for which closed on 15 May 2020, and for which over 5000 applications were received.

On submission to Parliament, it was explicitly stated that the adjudication of applications for the relief fund was still underway, and that only a portion of the fund had been paid to beneficiaries.

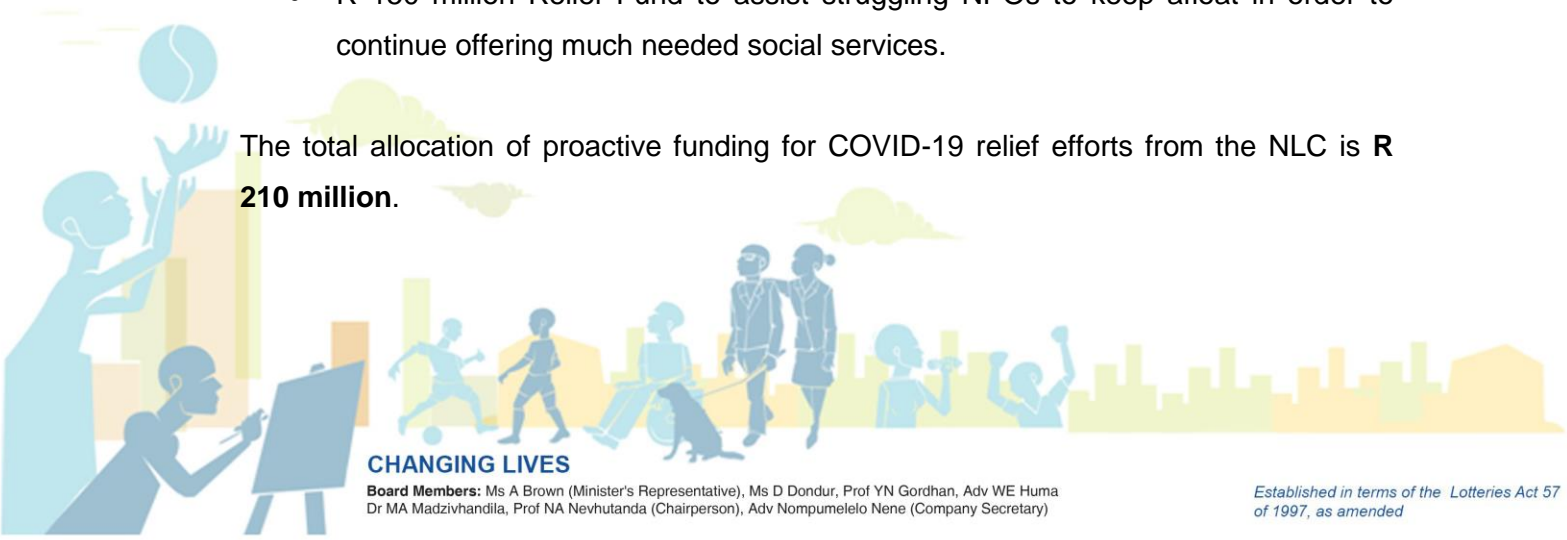
Mischievous assertions have since been made in the media and by the Democratic Alliance (DA) including an interview on Cape Talk, implying that over R 110 million in relief fund monies are unaccounted for.

This is untrue and misleading.

In previous statements, the NLC has repeatedly stated that the following actions have been taken regarding COVID-19 relief:

- R 50 million directed to the Solidarity Fund;
- R 10 million for basic foods and hygiene hampers that were distributed nationwide through 54 organisations during Lockdown Level 5; and
- R 150 million Relief Fund to assist struggling NPOs to keep afloat in order to continue offering much needed social services.

The total allocation of proactive funding for COVID-19 relief efforts from the NLC is **R 210 million**.





We urge members of the media to pursue accuracy in their reporting, and call upon the DA to refrain from making false assertions without full understanding of the facts presented.

Ends.

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