

# Media Statement

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### NLC Welcomes Sizekhaya as the Fourth National Lottery and Sports Pools Operator

**Pretoria, 1 June 2026** - The **National Lotteries Commission (NLC)** welcomes the dawn of a new chapter in the operation of South Africa's National Lottery and Sports Pools as Sizekhaya assumes responsibility as the Fourth National Lottery and Sports Pools Operator today, Monday, 1 June 2026.

The National Lottery remains one of South Africa's most important public assets, serving not only as a platform for players to win life-changing prizes but also as a significant driver of social development and community upliftment across the country.

As the regulator of the National Lottery, the NLC is committed to ensuring that the Lottery continues to operate with integrity, accountability, transparency and in full compliance with the Lotteries Act.

NLC Board Chairperson, Professor Barney Pitso, said the transition marks an important milestone for the National Lottery and the millions of South Africans who benefit from its developmental impact.

"The National Lottery is far more than a game of chance. It is a powerful instrument for social development and nation-building. Through the National Lotteries Distribution Trust Fund, billions of rand have been channelled towards charitable causes, sport and recreation, arts, culture, heritage and community development initiatives that continue to transform lives across South Africa."

Since its establishment, the National Lottery has distributed more than R30 billion to good causes, making it one of the country's largest funders of community development initiatives.

Professor Pitso said the NLC welcomes the innovation and investment being introduced by the new operator.

"We are encouraged by Sizekhaya's commitment to modernising the Lottery experience through improved accessibility, technological innovation and enhanced customer experience. These developments have the potential to strengthen participation and, ultimately, increase funding available for projects that uplift communities and create opportunities for South Africans."

The NLC will continue to provide robust regulatory oversight to ensure that public trust remains protected and that the National Lottery continues to deliver on its developmental mandate.

"As we enter this new era, our focus remains clear: protecting the integrity of the National Lottery, safeguarding the interests of players and ensuring that the proceeds generated continue to make a meaningful difference in communities across our country."

The NLC will work together with Sizekhaya to ensure the continued success of the National Lottery and its positive contribution to South Africa's social and economic development.

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