

Media Statement

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NLC Welcomes the Appointment of Mr. Tembinkosi Bonakele as Board Chairperson

Pretoria, 06 July 2026 - The **National Lotteries Commission (NLC)** has welcomed the appointment of Mr. King Tembinkosi Bonakele as Chairperson of the NLC Board.

He succeeds Professor Barney Pityana, who concludes his tenure following a period of institutional stabilisation and governance reform. The announcement was made by Minister in the Presidency, Khumbudzo Ntshavheni (MP) in her post-Cabinet meeting statement of Friday, 03 July 2026. Ms. Mpho Sonia Mosing has been appointed to fill a vacant position on the NLC Board.

Acknowledging the Outgoing Chairperson

Professor Pityana's tenure was marked by a strong emphasis on restoring stability, strengthening governance, and overseeing key reforms to modernise the Commission's systems and controls.

Under his leadership, the NLC advanced improvements in policy frameworks, grant management processes, audit outcomes, and board oversight mechanisms. His contribution came at a particularly complex time for the organisation's transition toward a more accountable operating environment.

The NLC expresses its appreciation to Professor Pityana for his measured, principled stewardship during a period that required focus, clarity, and institutional discipline.

Introducing the Incoming Chairperson

Mr. Bonakele brings extensive experience in regulation, governance, and institutional leadership, informed by his executive career in public administration and his service on the NLC Board. His appointment positions the Commission to enter a new phase of consolidation, credibility-building, and long-term performance.

With the stabilisation phase well advanced, his focus will be on reinforcing governance structures, enhancing oversight practices, and ensuring the NLC delivers measurable public impact through responsible grant funding and transparent regulatory conduct.

A Transition from Stabilisation to Maturity

This leadership transition marks a natural evolution for the Commission—from a period of stabilisation and reform toward stronger performance, deeper public trust, and more mature institutional systems. The NLC remains committed to a governance path that prioritises integrity, accountability, and service delivery.

“I am honoured by the confidence placed in me. The NLC has made significant progress in its governance journey, and my focus will be on strengthening oversight, ensuring fair and transparent processes, and reinforcing public trust in the Commission’s work. We have an opportunity to build on these foundations and deliver measurable impact for communities across South Africa,” said Bonakele.

Outgoing Chairperson, Professor Barney Pitso Rantso said: *“It has been a privilege to serve during an important period of institutional renewal. I am confident that the governance reforms of recent years have created a strong platform for continued progress. I wish the incoming Chairperson and the Board success as they lead the NLC into its next phase.”*

“Professor Barney Pitso Rantso’s tenure concludes a period marked by complexity, scrutiny, and the urgent need for institutional stabilisation. His leadership provided the steadying influence required during a time of significant reforms and heightened public expectations. Under his stewardship, the Commission strengthened policy frameworks, improved grant management systems, enhanced board oversight, and modernised internal controls. These laid the foundation for a more accountable, transparent, and resilient institution. His contribution is best understood not by slogans or celebration, but by the stronger systems and clearer governance pathways now embedded within the organisation. Professor Pitso Rantso’s leadership helped shift the Commission from turbulence toward stability, enabling the next phase of institutional maturity and credibility-building. As the Commission transitions to new leadership, Professor Pitso Rantso leaves a legacy of integrity, stability, and governance reform that positions the NLC for its next phase of growth and credibility-building. -minded guidance. The NLC acknowledges his service with respect and appreciation,” NLC Commissioner, Ms. Jodi Scholtz said.

The NLC welcomes the appointment of Mr. Bonakele as Chairperson. His leadership will reinforce continuity, strengthen governance, and advance the Commission’s commitment to transparency and public impact.

Commitment to Governance and Public Impact

The NLC reiterates that all appointments follow due governance processes and are aligned with national priorities to strengthen accountability, improve controls, and enhance service delivery to beneficiaries.

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