Media Statement

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NLC Update on the Progress of 2024/25 Funding Cycle Grant Adjudications

Tshwane, 12 November 2026 - The **National Lotteries Commission (NLC)** wishes to provide an update to civil society organisations and members of the public about the progress made on the 2024/25 funding cycle grant adjudications. The Call for Applications opened on 02 December 2024 and closed on 31 March 2025. The current funding cycle was the first to be managed through the new Thuthuka digital grant management system, which introduced stronger compliance verification and governance controls to improve efficiency and reduce fraud and corruption.

As of 30 October 2026, the NLC reviewed **2,492** applications and awarded grants valued at **R1,657 billion** to 721 organisations in the Charities, Sport and Recreation, Arts, Culture and National Heritage and Miscellaneous sectors. To date **1,771** applications have been reviewed and declined for a variety of reasons, including the veracity of financial records provided, the alignment of proposed projects to the call guidelines and tax and regulatory compliance issues. 44 grants were awarded on appeal.

The number of projects awarded per sector and the value of grants are as follows:

- 135 grant applications approved in the Arts, Culture and Heritage sector, valued at R304,3 million; 363 applications were declined.
- 401 grant applications approved in the Charities sector, valued at R917 million; 786 applications were declined.
- 167 grants valued at R386,7 million were awarded in the Sport and Recreation sector; 468 applications were declined.
- 18 Miscellaneous grants valued at R48,9 million were awarded; 110 applications were declined.

The table below provides the list of grant allocations by province:

PROVINCE	APPROVED	TOTAL
Eastern Cape	65	R 115,868,604.27
Free State	36	R 46,574,526.85
Gauteng	66	R 299,741,813.20
KwaZulu-Natal	158	R 342,105,935.36
Limpopo	83	R 101,690,363.31
Mpumalanga	83	R 142,935,087.03
North West	47	R 134,437,021.03
Northern Cape	49	R 80,783,843.19
Western Cape	134	R 392,912,723.20
Total	**721**	**R 1,657,049,917.44**

“The adjudication of applications under the current Call for Applications has proven to be a long and intensive process due to a high number of non-compliant applications received. As the Commission, we had to step in to assist organisations so that their applications comply with statutory requirements. We would like to express our deepest gratitude for the patience our valued stakeholders have exercised as we continue with the adjudication of submitted applications,” said NLC Commissioner, Ms. Jodi Scholtz.

We anticipate opening a targeted call for the disability sector in early 2027.

ENDS//

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