



(STRICTLY FOR PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY)

Tuesday 01 February– Wednesday 02 February 2011

The information given in this calendar was correct and complete according to our sources at the time of its release. It will be appreciated if any errors or omissions are reported immediately.

Tuesday 01, February 2011

Science and Technology Minister Naledi Pandor to address Centres of Excellence symposium

The aim of the symposium is to provide a platform for the eight CoEs to showcase their work, share ideas and experiences, and raise pertinent issues. The event will also offer an opportunity to reflect on the programme's success in meeting the challenges of the country. More specifically, it is anticipated that CoEs will reflect on the extent to which they will continue to contribute to the Government's Outcomes Framework. The Department launched the Centres of Excellence Programme in 2004 to support the development and funding of high-quality research of a globally excellent standard and to respond to the education and training of highly qualified individuals in strategic areas of science, technology and medicine.

Time: 11:00
 Venue: Institute of Infectious Diseases and Molecular Medicine,
 University of Cape Town Health Science Campus, Observatory.
 Enquiries: Lunga Ngqengelele 012 843 6802 / 082 566 0446
lunga.ngqengelele@dst.gov.za

Water and Environmental Affairs Minister Buyelwa Sonjica to officially launch International Year of Biodiversity (IYB)

The United Nations (UN) declared 2010 the International Year of Biodiversity is a celebration of life on earth and the recognition of the links between biodiversity, ecosystem services and human well being. Celebrations for International Year of Biodiversity will take place under the apt theme, "Biodiversity is life, biodiversity is our life". This aims to raise awareness of the importance of conserving biodiversity for human well-being, promote the understanding of the economic value of biodiversity, enhance public knowledge of the threats to biodiversity and means to conserve it, engage all of society, celebrate the achievements, reflect on challenges and use the momentum gained to trigger even more action for biodiversity.

Time: 12:30 for 13:00 to 14:00
 Venue: Milkplum Café, Conference and Function Centre, SANBI Head
 Office, No 2 Cussonia Avenue, Brummeria, Pretoria
 RSVP: Judith van der Merwe 012 310 3309 / 083 321 2617
 E-mail: jvdmerwe@deat.gov.za
 Enquiries: Albi Modise 083 490 2871

International Relations and Cooperation Deputy Minister Marius Fransman to host Spain Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Mr Juan Antonio Yáñez-Barnuevo (Until 02 Feb)

Deputy Minister of International Relations and Cooperation Mr Marius Fransman to have annual bilateral consultation with his Spanish counterpart Mr Juan Antonio Yáñez-Barnuevo.

Time: 13:15 **(Mr Juan Antonio Yáñez-Barnuevo and delegation arrive in Johannesburg.)**

Time: 15:00 **(Courtesy call by Mr Juan Antonio Yáñez-Barnuevo, on Deputy Minister Ebrahim Ebrahim)**

Enquiries: Curtus Singo 072 625 7060 / singoc@dirco.gov.za

Department of Rural Development and Land Reform to host Intake for National Rural Youth Service Corps welcoming in Free State

The Department in conjunction with the Department of Public Works and Land Reform in the Free State will officially welcome young people to the National Rural Youth Service Corps (NARYSEC) in Free State. NARYSEC is a two-year programme that targets youth from 18 to 35 from rural areas and in possession of Grade 10 report. The programme is aimed at empowering the youth with various skills and is expected to create about 10 000 job opportunities for at least four youths from the 3000 rural wards in the country. Premier of the Free State Mr Ace Magashule will deliver the keynote address. Other dignitaries expected to attend the event are the MEC for Public Works and Land Reform and the Executive Mayor of Mangaung Local Municipality Mr Playfair Morule.

Venue: Thaba-Nchu College

RSVP: Tshepo Diale 012 312 8532 / 071 850 1751

Enquiries: Eddie Mohoebi 012 312 9648 / 082 550 1445

Department of Trade and Industry to hold Consumer Protection Act campaign (until 28 Feb)

The Department will roll out a national campaign commencing on 1 to 28 February 2011, to raise awareness about the rights they enjoy under the new Consumer Protection Act. The Consumer Protection Act comes into effect on 1 April 2011 and will be implemented by the National Consumer Commission (NCC), which will take over the Office of Consumer Protection of the dti. This campaign is a continuation of the drive to prepare the public in general about their rights so that they can use the Consumer Protection Act effectively in protecting themselves. Informed consumers are an integral part for economic growth.

Enquiries: Sidwell Medupe 012 394 1650 / 079 492 1774

MSMedupe@thedti.gov.za

Gauteng Premier Nomvula Mokonyane to hand over bursaries to top learners

Premier Mokonyane will today hand over 1051 Bursaries to top learners from Quintile 1, 2 and 3 schools (no fee paying schools). The bursaries are offered by the Provincial Government through its Gauteng City Region Academy (GCRA). One of the key functions of the GCRA is to ensure that young people living in Gauteng are employable. This is achieved through facilitation and coordination of bursaries, learnerships, internships and career guidance.

Time: 11:30

Venue: Turbine Hall, 65 Ntemi Piliso Street, Newtown

Enquiries: Azwifarwi Radebe 011 556 9030 / 072 808 0647

E-mail: azwifarwi.radebe@gauteng.gov.za

KwaZulu Natal Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs MEC Nomusa Dube unveils a new administration for uMsunduzi Municipality

Time: 08:30

Venue: Msunduzi City Hall, Pietermaritzburg

Contact: Lennox Mabaso 082 884 2403

Gauteng Economic Development MEC Qedani Mahlangu to open The BB-Bee Supplier Incubation and Production Simulator Facilities

The multi-million facility is notably South Africa's first automotive BB-BEE incubation facility, as well as a production simulator which will be used to augment Further Education and Training (FET) and Tertiary Education Institutions' (TEI) technical capability in Gauteng province. This launch is a milestone in the FMCSA partnership with Blue IQ Investment Holdings, through its subsidiary the Automotive Industrial Development Company (AIDC).

Time: 10:00 for 10:30
 Venue: Ford Motor Company of Southern Africa
 Simon Vermooten Road, Pretoria
 Enquiries: Mandla Sidu 082 773 9013

Wednesday 02, February 2011

Water and Environmental Affairs Deputy Minister Rejoice Mabudafhasi to lead the intergovernmental and the international teams in the celebration of World Wetlands Day

World Wetlands Day is an annual event that commemorates the signing of the Convention on Wetlands on 2 February 1971 in the Iranian City of Ramsar. Each year, the celebration focuses on a different theme to highlight different challenges affecting well-being of the environment. The theme for 2011 is "Wetlands, Forests and Climate Change". The purpose of this day is to recognize the values and benefits the public and the economy derive from wetlands. This year's focus will be on the inter-linkages between wetlands and forests and the government's role in the mitigation of climate change. This will also heighten public awareness towards ensuring collective efforts in the protection of forests and wetlands in the fight against climate change.

Time: 08:30
 Venue: Verlorenvlei Wetland (a RAMSAR site near the coastal town of Elands Bay on the West Coast)
 Enquiries: Peter Mbelengwa 012 336 7902 / 082 611 8197 / mbelengwap@dwa.gov.za

International Relations and Cooperation Deputy Minister Marius Fransman conclude talks with Spain Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Mr Juan Antonio Yáñez-Barnuevo (last day)

Deputy Minister Fransman will today conclude annual bilateral consultation and host joint press conference with his Spanish counterpart Mr Juan Antonio Yáñez-Barnuevo.

Time: 12h00 (**Media conference**)
 Venue: Media Centre, OR Tambo Building, DIRCO
 Enquiries: Curtus Singo 072 625 7060 / singoc@dirco.gov.za

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MSMedupe@thedti.gov.za

If you would like to submit notices of any activities appropriate for this calendar, contact:

Tel: (012) 314-2808
e-mail: shadib@gcis.gov.za

COMPILED BY: Directorate: International & Media Liaison
Government Communication and Information System