

Police, Defence and Intelligence



The task of maintaining the safety and security of society is critical to the success of all government's programmes. Law-enforcement services in South Africa fall under the Department of Police, which is responsible for policy determination, direction and overall execution of the department's mandate in relation to relevant legislation.

The National Police Commissioner answers directly to the Minister of Police. Entities reporting to the Minister of Police are the:

- Civilian Secretariat for Police
- Independent Police Investigative Directorate
- South African Police Service (SAPS)
- Private Security Industry Regulatory Authority.

South African Police Service

The SAPS is South Africa's principal law enforcement body. The vision of the SAPS is to create a safe and secure environment for all people in South Africa.

The National Commissioner heads the SAPS. Deputy national commissioners (under whom the divisions and components of the SAPS fall) and provincial commissioners (under whom the police stations fall) report to the National Commissioner.

The SAPS's policing objectives, in accordance with the provisions of Section 205 of the Constitution, are to:

- prevent, combat and investigate crime
- maintain public order
- protect and secure the inhabitants of South Africa and their property
- uphold and enforce the law.

The vision of the SAPS is to create a safe and secure environment for all people in South Africa.

The mission of the SAPS is to:

- prevent and combat anything that may threaten the safety and security of any community
- investigate any crimes that threaten the safety and security of any community
- ensure offenders are brought to justice
- participate in efforts to address the root causes of crime.

Forensic Science Services and Criminal Record Centre

The function of the Criminal Record Centre is to identify and confirm any previous convictions of suspects in crimes being investigated by the SAPS.

The Criminal Record and Crime Scene Management arm expanded its frontline service delivery capacity to make it more accessible to local investigating officers and to improve response times in attending to crime scenes.

The forensic science laboratory renders a support service to investigating officers by analysing physical evidence collected from various crime scenes.

Visible policing

Visible policing is regarded as a line-function division of the SAPS, specifically responsible for combating crime through crime operations; providing for the activities at police stations; combating crimes in the railway environment; dealing with crimes affecting the social fabric of society, including crimes against women and children and community-based crime prevention; providing a rapid-response service in respect of crimes in progress; eradicating the proliferation of illegal firearms available for use in crime and violence; and ensuring effective compliance and enforcement of liquor control and second-hand goods legislation to address serious crime in South Africa.

Victims, women and children

The main responsibility of the SAPS towards empowering victims is to render a victim-friendly service to all victims of crime. It includes:

- developing, monitoring and implementing policies, directives and instructions aimed at improving services to victims of crime
- sensitising and training SAPS members to render a professional, victim-friendly service
- ensuring that SAPS facilities are victim-friendly.

Community partnership programmes

Community Policing Forums at police stations serve as the instrument for ensuring that the SAPS engages and cooperates with communities.

Defence

The primary role of the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) is to defend South Africa against external military aggression. In this regard deployment in an internal policing capacity is limited to exceptional circumstances and subject to parliamentary approval.

The SANDF's core mandate is the protection of the country, its territorial integrity and its people.

Peace support

South Africa has been active in the formation of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Brigade as part of the overall African Standby Force whose mandate is to provide the African Union with a rapid reaction capability consisting of five regionally based brigades. The manner in which South Africa's has undertaken peace-keeping missions in the past is in line with the country's defence policy.

Maritime safety and security

The substantial increase in acts of piracy along Africa's coastline threatens the peace, security and stability of the continent. South Africa has an exclusive economic zone of 1 553 000 km² of which the areas around the Marion and Prince Edward Islands comprise 474 400 km².

The Atlantic Ocean borders the west coast, the Indian Ocean borders the east and south coast and the southern ocean surrounds the Marion and Prince Edward Islands. South Africa has tabled its claim to the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea for the extension of the continental shelf.

This means that South Africa will have to exercise control and enforce state authority over 4 340 000 km² of maritime territory.

Department of Military Veterans (DMV)

The DMV's aim is to formulate policies and standards aimed at providing a comprehensive delivery system to military veterans and their dependants in recognition of their role in the democratisation of South Africa.

The department's strategic goals over the medium term are to:

- coordinate and facilitate the provision of socioeconomic support services to military veterans
- manage and coordinate military veterans' empowerment and stakeholder relations services
- ensure that the needs of military veterans and their dependants are addressed.

The Military Veterans Management received a Cabinet approved additional allocation of R2,1 billion between 2013/14 and 2016/17 to provide for military veterans' benefits. This is also the reason for the projected increase in

spending on transfers and subsidies between 2013/14 and 2016/17.

The National Development Plan calls for the reduction in unemployment and expansion in enrolments in further education and training.

The DMV provides socio-economic services to facilitate employment opportunities for military veterans with the support of line function departments, private companies and State agencies.

Armaments Corporation of South Africa (Armcor)

According to its Corporate Plan 2012/13 – 2014/15, Armcor intends to be the premier technology and acquisition agency for the South African Government and governments of the SADC region.

It aims to meet the defence materiel, defence technology, research, development, analysis, tests and evaluation requirements of the department or any other organ of state on request or any sovereign state on agreement, effectively, efficiently and economically.

Armcor may exploit commercial opportunities as may arise out of its duty to acquire defence matériel or to manage technology projects.

Denel Group of South Africa

Government wants Denel to grow into a preferred global supplier in the defence industry.

To achieve this the state-owned company would have to aggressively invest in research and development to help secure long-term sustainability.

In support of the collaborative initiatives between the departments of public enterprises and defence the SANDF is expected to become the platform for showcasing Denel's capabilities.

The arms company has attributed most of its revenue growth to a substantial increase in exports, which account for 50% of total revenue, including participation in Middle East, Asian and South American countries for the devel-

In August 2014, the Department of Human Settlements committed to overseeing the building of 1,5 million homes and informal housing upgrades for military veterans.

opment and production of missiles and turrets for infantry combat vehicles.

Intelligence services

The State Security Agency's (SSA) mandate is to provide government with intelligence on domestic, foreign or potential threats to national stability, the constitutional order, and the safety and well-being of its people. This enables government to implement and improve policies to deal with potential threats and to better understand existing threats.



The SSA comprises:

- the Domestic Branch (formerly the National Intelligence Agency)
- the Foreign Branch (formerly the South African Secret Service)
- the Intelligence Academy (formerly the South African National Academy of Intelligence)
- National Communications, which includes the former National Communications Centre, Office for Interception Centres and Electronic Communications Security (Pty) Ltd.

The SSA focuses on matters of national interest including terrorism, sabotage, subversion, espionage and organised crime.

Vetting

Part of the SSA's objective is to be able to conduct vetting for all government departments in a user-friendly and speedy manner, in line with its counter-intelligence mandate that ensures that the department creates conditions of security, which enable government and key state entities to do their work.