



MYDISTRICTTODAY



A **NATION** THAT **WORKS** FOR ALL

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CONTACT DETAILS OF THE GCIS PROVINCIAL OFFICES

For more information about similar programmes that are run across the country, contact one of the following provincial offices:

EASTERN CAPE

Nandipa Sondati-Thawa (Acting)
043 722 2609 or 072 611 3990
nandipa@gcis.gov.za

FREE STATE

Mthunzi Mkhungo (Acting)
051 448 4505 or 064 545 1185
mthunzi@gcis.gov.za

GAUTENG

Senzeni Ngubane (Acting)
012 473 0402 or 065 595 5203
senzeni@gcis.gov.za

KWAZULU-NATAL

Ndala Mngadi
031 301 6787 or 082 877 9420
ndala@gcis.gov.za

PRIORITY I: DRIVE INCLUSIVE GROWTH AND JOB CREATION.

GCIS marks 30 Years of the Constitution with a community engagement in KwaZamokuhle

By Zwanga Matsila and Todani Livhuwani; GCIS, Mpumalanga

On 25 May 2026, residents of KwaZamokuhle in Hendrina gathered for a public education programme hosted by the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) to commemorate 30 years of South Africa's Constitution.

The initiative formed part of ongoing efforts to bring government services closer to communities. It also aimed to empower citizens with knowledge about their constitutional rights and responsibilities. The event created a platform for meaningful engagement between government stakeholders and residents on issues such as democracy, voter participation, employment opportunities, health awareness and access to essential public services.

Mr Livhuwani Todani, from GCIS, explained the purpose of the meeting and highlighted the importance of the Constitution as the cornerstone of South Africa's democracy and freedom.

Mr Todani encouraged residents to actively engage with the Constitution, understand their rights and fulfil their responsibilities as citizens. He said informed communities played an important role in nation-building, and that a well-informed public was essential for strengthening democratic values and promoting accountability. He said: "The Constitution is the foundation on which our democracy is built. It empowers every citizen and ensures that all people are treated with dignity and equality."



Young people and community members attended the public education programme in KwaZamokuhle.



government communications

Department: Government Communication and Information System
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



LIMPOPO

Thanyani Ravhura
015 291 4689 or 082 421 3461
thanyani@gcis.gov.za

MPUMALANGA

Hlengiwe Nhlabathi-Mokota
013 753 2397 or 084 708 4214
hlengiweh@gcis.gov.za

NORTH WEST

Boitumelo Mosadi
018 381 7071 or 073 245 0906
boitumelom@gcis.gov.za

NORTHERN CAPE

Ofentse Moeti
053 832 1378/9 or 084 390 4330
Ofentse@gcis.gov.za

WESTERN CAPE

Geraldine Thoppas
021 418 0533/2307 or 081 281 2200
Geraldine@gcis.gov.za

The event brought together various government departments and entities, which provided services and information directly to the community. The Independent Electoral Commission of South Africa (IEC) encouraged residents to register for the upcoming Local Government Elections and assisted them in confirming their voting stations. The Department of Employment and Labour registered unemployed young people on its employment database and shared information about job opportunities and labour-related services. The Department of Health conducted tuberculosis awareness activities in response to concerns in the area, and also offered screening and testing services at the venue. The Steve Tshwete Local Municipality showcased educational resources and programmes available to support learning and personal development in the community.

The initiative was welcomed by traditional leadership, with Inkosi Mahlangu commending the programme and its impact. He urged residents to safeguard the gains of democracy by understanding and exercising their constitutional rights responsibly.

The programme demonstrated government’s continued commitment to building informed and empowered communities through direct engagement and integrated service delivery.

As South Africa celebrates 30 Years of the Constitution, such initiatives play an important role in ensuring that citizens remain active participants in shaping their future and contributing to national development.



Inkosi Mahlangu reflected on 30 years of the Constitution and encouraged young people to vote for credible leaders.



Mr Mthokozisi Nkosi from KwaZamokuhle Advice Centre:

“The 30 Years of the Constitution Public Education Programme was an eye-opening experience for us as young people. It helped us to better understand the Constitution and to exercise our democratic rights more fully. We appreciate those who ensured that South Africa has a Constitution that safeguards and protects the rights of all citizens.”



Ms Anele Mahlangu:

“Today’s programme empowered me with valuable knowledge about my rights as a South African. I now understand where to seek assistance and how to exercise my constitutional rights with confidence.”

PRIORITY 3: BUILD A CAPABLE, ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE.

Stakeholders unite to promote child protection and parenting awareness in Louwville

By Esmarelda Mckay; GCIS, Western Cape

On 28 May 2026, various stakeholders came together at the Louwville Community Hall for a discussion on child protection, parenting, safety and the celebration of 30 years of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996.

The engagement was coordinated through a partnership involving the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS), the South African Police Service (SAPS), the Department of Social Development (DSD), the Community Policing Forum (CPF), Help a Neighbour NGO, Bumble Bee Day Care and Family Day Care.

The programme provided a platform for meaningful engagement with community members, parents and youth leaders on issues affecting children and families. Discussions highlighted the importance

of protecting children’s rights, promoting responsible parenting, building safer communities and encouraging active citizenship in line with constitutional values.

Stakeholders also acknowledged Africa Month and reflected on the importance of unity, social cohesion and collective responsibility in building stronger communities across the African continent. The session was well attended and was positively received by community members and youth leaders who participated actively throughout the programme.

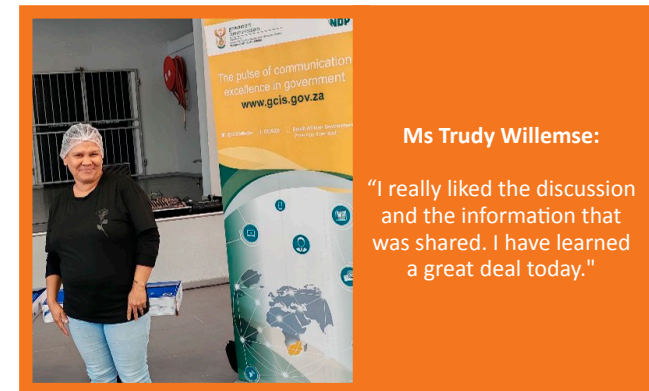
Government remained committed to working with communities and stakeholders to promote child safety, social cohesion and awareness of services available to the public.



Stakeholders who participated in the programme included representatives from GCIS, SAPS, DSD, CPF, ELRU, Help a Neighbour NGO, Bumble Bee Day Care and Family Day Care.



The Help Anders organisation gave a brief background on its role and purpose in the community.



Ms Trudy Willemsse:

“I really liked the discussion and the information that was shared. I have learned a great deal today.”

PRIORITY 3: BUILD A CAPABLE, ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE.

The Constitution at 30: Pride, patriotism and the road ahead

By Vasanthi Naidoo; GCIS, KwaZulu-Natal

In celebration of South Africa’s globally acclaimed Constitution, which marks its 30th anniversary, the Government Communication and Information System, in partnership with the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development (DoJ&CD), Tongaat Central Library, Haven of Rest and the South African Police Service in Tongaat, hosted a discussion on 25 May 2026 on the Constitution and its relevance to people’s lived experiences.

The session led by Ms Asiya Khan, Director of Legal Administration and Advocacy at the DoJ&CD, focused on the Bill of Rights and the important role of Chapter 9 institutions in providing citizens with avenues for recourse and in holding government accountable.

Ms Khan emphasised that while the Bill of Rights guarantees access to government services, freedom of speech, movement, association, religion and language, as well as the right to human dignity, these rights are accompanied by responsibilities. She also highlighted the right to protest, noting

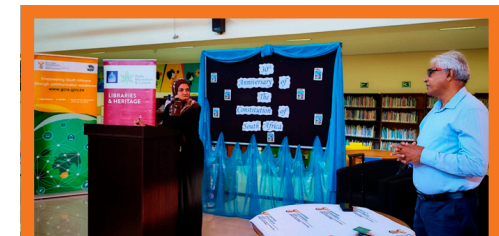
that it must be exercised within the bounds of the law, including proper notification to relevant authorities, while ensuring that public and private property, infrastructure and the safety of others are not harmed.

Participants expressed pride in South Africa’s Constitution, but also voiced concern about service delivery challenges and the implementation of laws that give effect to constitutional rights. Access to water emerged as a major concern, with many highlighting frequent interruptions and limited access to clean water.

Participants were assured that these concerns are recognised and receiving urgent attention through the National Water Task Team, chaired by the Presidency. In the meantime, communities were encouraged to use water sparingly and to report incidents of infrastructure theft and vandalism.



Left: Ms Khan engages participants on the Bill of Rights.



Community members participating in discussions during the public education programme marking the 30th anniversary of the Constitution at Tongaat Central Library.

PRIORITY 3: BUILD A CAPABLE, ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE.

GCIS partners with various stakeholders to host 30 Years of the Constitution commemoration in Vlakfontein

By Moloko Segale; GCIS, Gauteng

As part of the Milestones of Freedom campaign, the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS), together with the City of Johannesburg and Mo-Africa Ithokomele, hosted a community engagement in Vlakfontein on 25 May 2026.

The event brought together the Gauteng Provincial Legislature (GPL) and the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) to engage residents of Vlakfontein on the significance of the 30th anniversary of the Constitution. The session was held at the Vlakfontein Skills Centre and aimed to connect constitutional values with the daily experiences of the community.

Mr Lentswe Mthobi from the GPL took participants through the role of the legislature in a constitutional democracy. He explained how provincial law-making and oversight functions align with the principles set out in the Constitution, and how communities can engage with the legislature on issues affecting them.

Mr Lukas Smit, a prosecutor from the NPA, spoke about court processes and what community members should expect when engaging with the justice system. A key focus was the role of young people, with NPA officials highlighting the importance of understanding both rights and responsibilities under the law. The aim was to equip young people with practical knowledge to navigate legal processes and participate meaningfully in civic life.

The engagement forms part of broader Milestones of Freedom activities marking 30 years since the adoption of South Africa's Constitution. Organisers said the session in Vlakfontein was intended to strengthen awareness, encourage dialogue and support active citizenship at a local level.

The programme will continue with further engagements across Gauteng throughout the commemoration period.

Ms Nhlamulo Maluleke:

"I am from Khomanani Centre in Vlakfontein. What I can say today is that my vote matters. It doesn't matter which party I will vote for; my expectation is that, despite the high rate of unemployment, job opportunities will be created, learners will be in school and we will receive support through scholarships. I believe that my vote matters."



Ms Angel Mapogo:

"I am a youth representative from Khomanani IDC. Today, I have attended the celebration of the 30 years of the Constitution. What I took from the session is that it is important for us as citizens to be part of the law-making process and decision-making. It is also important that we do our part so that we can have progress, develop better future leaders and build a better future for all of us."



Ms Jessie Mashinini from CoJ outlining the purpose of the event.



Mr Mthobi, engaged with participants about the role of the legislature in a constitutional democracy.