



OFFICIAL GUIDE TO
South Africa
2018/19
Government

South Africa is a constitutional democracy with a three-tier system of government and an independent judiciary. The national, provincial and local levels of government all have legislative and executive authority in their own spheres, and are defined in the Constitution as “distinctive, interdependent and interrelated.”

The Constitution

The Constitution is the supreme law of the land. No other law or government action can supersede the provisions of the Constitution. The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996 was approved by the Constitutional Court on 4 December 1996 and took effect on 4 February 1997.

Government

Government consists of national, provincial and local spheres. The powers of the legislature, executive and courts are separate.

Parliament

Parliament consists of the National Assembly and the National Council of Provinces (NCOP). Parliamentary sittings are open to the public. Several measures have been implemented to make Parliament more accessible and accountable.

National Assembly

The National Assembly consists of no fewer than 350 and no more than 400 members, elected through a system of proportional representation for a five-year term. It elects the President and scrutinises the executive.

National Council of Provinces

The NCOP consists of 54 permanent members and 36 special delegates. The purpose of the NCOP is to represent the interests of the provinces in the national sphere of government.

Government clusters

Clusters were established to foster an integrated approach to governance that is aimed at improving government planning, decision making and service delivery. The main objective is to ensure proper coordination of all government programmes at national and provincial levels.

The seven clusters are:

- Infrastructure Development

- Economic Sectors and Employment
- Governance and Administration
- Human Development
- Social Protection and Community Development
- International Cooperation, Trade and Security
- Justice, Crime Prevention and Security.

The Presidency, June 2018

President: Cyril Ramaphosa

Deputy President: David Mabuza

Izimbizo

The *Izimbizo* programme is a communication platform that enables the citizenry to have a meaningful and direct engagement with members of the national, provincial and local executive. It promotes unmediated face-to-face communication with the public. It provides an opportunity to political principals to share government plans to improve service delivery and to listen to issues facing communities.

Inter-Ministerial Committees (IMCs)

The President of the Republic of South Africa (and in certain instances the Cabinet) appoints IMCs for specific purposes that require the attention and dedication of a team of certain Ministers. The mandate of the IMCs is limited to the matter that they are established to execute. Some of the past and present IMCs included the following:

- IMC on the Prevention and Combating of Corruption
- IMC on Information and Publicity
- IMC on State Funerals
- IMC on the Revitalisation of Distressed Mining communities
- IMC on Immigration Regulations
- IMC on Investment Promotion
- IMC on Local Government Elections
- IMC on the Centenaries of Mama Albertina Sisulu and Tata Nelson
- IMC on the South Africa Investment Conference
- IMC on Land Reform
- IMC on Illegal Mining
- IMC on Climate Change
- IMC on Comprehensive Social Security
- IMC on Electricity Reticulation
- IMC on Energy.

The Presidency

The Presidency is the executive manager of government. It is situated in the Union Buildings, Pretoria, and has a subsidiary office in Tuynhuys, Cape Town.

The NDP offers a long-term socio-economic development road map. The NDP: Vision for 2030 focuses on the following strategic areas of development:

- creating jobs
- expanding infrastructure
- sustainable use of resources
- transforming urban and rural spaces
- improving education and training
- providing quality healthcare
- building a capable state
- fighting crime and corruption
- uniting the nation.

The Deputy President

The President appoints the Deputy President from among the members of the National Assembly.

Cabinet

Premiers, as at October 2019	
Province	Premier
Eastern Cape	Oscar Mabuyane
Free State	Sefora Ntombela
Gauteng	David Makhura
KwaZulu-Natal	Sihle Zikalala
Limpopo	Stanley Mathabatha
Mpumalanga	Refilwe Mtshweni
Northern Cape	Zamani Saul
North West	Job Mokgoro
Western Cape	Alan Winde

Cabinet consists of the President, as head of the Cabinet, the Deputy President and Ministers. The President appoints the Deputy President and Ministers, assigns their powers and functions and may dismiss them.

Cabinet Ministers and Deputy Ministers, as at October 2019

Portfolio	Minister	Deputy Minister
Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development	Thoko Didiza	Sdumo Dlamini Mcebisi Skwatsha
Basic Education	Angie Motshekga	Regina Mhaule
Communications and Digital Technologies	Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams	Pinky Kekana
Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs	Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma	Obed Bapela Parks Tau
Defence and Military Veterans	Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula	Thabang Makwetla
Employment and Labour	Thulas Nxesi	Boitumelo Moloi
Environment, Forestry and Fisheries	Barbara Creecy	Maggie Sotyu
Finance	Tito Mboweni	David Maseondo
Health	Zweli Mkhize	Joe Phaahla
Higher Education, Science and Technology	Blade Nzimande	Buti Manamela
Home Affairs	Aaron Motsoaledi	Njabulo Nzuza
Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation	Lindiwe Sisulu	Pam Tshwete David Mahlobo
International Relations and Cooperation	Naledi Pandor	Alvin Botes Candith Mashego- Dlamini
Justice and Correctional Services	Ronald Lamola	John Jeffery Inkosi Phathekile Holomisa
Mineral Resources and Energy	Gwede Mantashe	—
Police	Bheki Cele	Cassel Mathale
Public Enterprises	Pravin Gordhan	Phumulo Masualle
Public Service and Administration	Senzo Mchunu	Sindy Chikunga
Public Works and Infrastructure	Patricia de Lille	Noxolo Kiviet
Small Business Development	Khumbudzo Ntshavheni	Rosemary Capa
Social Development	Lindiwe Zulu	Hendrietta Bogopane-Zulu
Sports, Arts and Culture	Nathi Mthethwa	Nocawe Mafu
State Security	Ayanda Dlodlo	Zizi Kodwa

The Presidency	Jackson Mthembu	Thembi Siweya
The Presidency: Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities	Maite Nkoana-Mashabane	Hlengiwe Mkhize
Tourism	Nkhensani Kubayi-Ngubane	Fish Mahlalela
Trade and Industry	Ebrahim Patel	Fikile Majola Nomalungelo Gina
Transport	Fikile Mbalula	Dikeledi Magadzi

No more than two Ministers may be appointed from outside the National Assembly.

National government

In May 2019, President Ramaphosa announced the appointment of a reconfigured national executive following the 8 May general elections.

To strengthen accountability, the President further directed that the areas of responsibility of all Deputy Ministers must be clearly delineated.

In the departments with two Deputy Ministers, the Ministers will be responsible for the overall functioning of the Ministry and Department and under the Minister's direction and guidance, the responsibilities between the Deputy Ministers are delineated as follows:

Ministry of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development:

- Land Reform – Deputy Minister Mcebisi Skwatsha.
- Rural Development – Deputy Minister Sdumo Dlamini.

Ministry of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs:

- Local Government – Deputy Minister Parks Tau.
- Traditional Affairs – Deputy Minister Obed Bapela.

Ministry of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation:

- Human Settlements – Deputy Minister Pam Tshwete.
- Water and Sanitation – Deputy Minister David Mahlobo.

Ministry of Justice and Correctional Services:

- Correctional Services – Deputy Minister Nkosi Phathekile Holomisa.
- Justice and Constitutional Development – Deputy Minister John Jeffery.

The Ministers oversee the following departments and entities as per their delegated portfolios:

- The Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development is responsible for the newly reconstituted Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD). This is a new department arising from a merger between the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) and the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform (DRDLR).
- The Minister of Basic Education is responsible for the Department of Basic Education (DBE). The DBE will lead an integrated Early Childhood Development function in collaboration with the Department of Social Development (DSD) and the Department of Health (DoH).
- The Minister of Communications and Digital Technologies is responsible for the Department of Communications (DoC) and Digital Technologies (DCDT). This is a new department arising from a merger between the DoC and the Department of Telecommunications and Postal Services (DTPS).
- The Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs is responsible for the Department of Cooperative Governance (DCoG) and the Department of Traditional Affairs (DTA).
- The Minister of Defence and Military Veterans is responsible for the Department of Defence and the Department of Military Veterans.
- The Minister of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries is responsible for the Department of the Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF). This department arises from the transfer of the functions of forestry and fisheries from the DAFF.
- The Minister of Employment and Labour is responsible for the Department of Employment and Labour (DEL). This department will coordinate all government efforts to create jobs and reduce unemployment, and will be required to change its approach from mere compliance enforcement to facilitating job creation.
- The Minister of Finance is responsible for National Treasury, the South African Revenue Service and the Government Pensions Administration Agency. The Infrastructure Development Management System (IDMS) function, currently under National Treasury, has been transferred to the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI).

- The Minister of Health is responsible for the DoH.
- The Minister of Higher Education, Science and Technology is responsible for the Department of Higher Education and Training and the Department of Science and Innovation (DSI).
- The Minister of Home Affairs is responsible for the Department of Home Affairs (DHA) and the Government Printing Works (GPW).
- The Minister of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation is responsible for the Department of Human Settlements and the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS).
- The Minister of International Relations and Cooperation is responsible for the Department of International Relations and Cooperation.
- The Minister of Justice and Correctional Services is responsible for the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development, the Department of Correctional Services and the Office of the Chief Justice.
- The Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy is responsible for the new Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE). This department arises from a merger between the Department of Mineral Resources (DMR) and the Department of Energy (DoE).
- The Minister of Police is responsible for the South African Police Service, the Independent Police Investigation Directorate and the Civilian Secretariat for the Police Service.
- The Minister in The Presidency is responsible for the Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation (DPME) including the National Planning Secretariat, Statistics South Africa (Stats SA), the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS), the Media Development and Diversity Agency and Brand SA.
- The Minister in The Presidency for Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities is responsible for the new Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities (DWYPD) and the National Youth Development Agency. The DWYPD arises from the transfer of the youth function from the DPME and the function of people with disabilities from the DSD.
- The Minister of Public Enterprises is responsible for the Department of Public Enterprises.

- The Minister of Public Service and Administration is responsible for the Department of Public Service and Administration (DPSA), the National School of Government (NSG) and the Centre for Public Service Innovation (CPSI).
- The Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure is responsible for the DPWI. Over and above what it was previously responsible for, the department will assume coordinating responsibility for all public infrastructure development.
- The Minister of Small Business Development is responsible for the Department of Small Business Development.
- The Minister of Social Development is responsible for the DSD.
- The Minister of Sports, Arts and Culture is responsible for the new Department of Sports, Arts and Culture (DSAC). This department arises from a merger between the Department of Sport and Recreation and the Department of Arts and Culture (DAC).
- The Minister State Security is responsible for the State Security Agency. The Minister of Tourism is responsible for the Department of Tourism.
- The Minister of Trade and Industry is responsible for the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition (the dtic). The Economic Development Department (EDD) has been incorporated into the Department of Trade and Industry (the dti). The Presidential Infrastructure Coordinating Commission has been transferred from the EDD to the DPWI.
- The Minister of Transport is responsible for the Department of Transport.
- The President is the Executive Authority of the department, The Presidency.
- The Public Service Commission (PSC) is responsible for the department, the Office of the PSC.

The following 10 departments were merged into five departments respectively:

- The DAFF (without the forestry and fisheries portfolios) was merged with the DRDLR to form the new DALRRD;
- The DoC and the DTPS were merged to form the new DCDT;
- The DMR and the DoE were merged to form the new DMRE;
- The Department of Sport and Recreation and the DAC were merged to form the new DSAC;

- The EDD was merged into the **the dti** to form the new department, **the dtic**.

Other changes included renaming the former Department of Science and Technology to the DSI.

Provincial government

Each of the nine provinces has its own legislature of 30 to 80 members. They elect the premiers who head the executive councils.

Traditional leadership

The National House of traditional Leaders was established in terms of the then National House of Traditional Leaders Act of 1997. Its objectives and functions are to promote the role of traditional leadership within a democratic constitutional dispensation, enhance unity and understanding among traditional communities and advise national government.

Provincial houses of traditional leaders were established in all six provinces that have traditional leaders, namely the Eastern Cape, Free State, KwaZulu-Natal, Limpopo, Mpumalanga and North West.

The national and provincial houses of traditional leaders enhance the cooperative relationships within national and provincial government, while the establishment of local houses of traditional leaders deepens and cements the relationship between municipalities and traditional leaders on customary law and development initiatives.

Local government

Local government is the sphere of government closest to the people. In accordance with the Constitution and the Organised Local Government Act of 1997, which formally recognises organised local-government associations, organised local government may designate up to 10 part-time representatives to represent municipalities and participate in proceedings of the NCOP.

Municipalities

The redemarcation of municipal boundaries in South Africa after the 2016 Local Government Elections reduced the number of municipalities from 278 to 257, comprising eight metropolitan, 44 district and 205 local municipalities.

Municipalities govern on a four-year term basis and run local affairs subject to national and provincial legislation. They are focused on growing local economies and providing infrastructure and services.

South Africa has eight metropolitan municipalities:

- Buffalo City (East London)
- City of Cape Town
- Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality (East Rand)
- City of eThekweni (Durban)
- City of Johannesburg
- Mangaung Municipality (Bloemfontein)
- Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Municipality (Port Elizabeth)
- City of Tshwane (Pretoria).

Department of Cooperative Governance

The DCoG is mandated to develop and monitor the implementation of national policy and legislation aimed at transforming and strengthening key institutions and mechanisms of governance in national, provincial and local government to fulfil their developmental role; develop, promote and monitor mechanisms, systems and structures to enable integrated service delivery and implementation within government; and promote sustainable development by providing support to and exercising oversight of provincial and local government.

The department administers the local government equitable share to municipalities to fund core municipal functions, and the operation and maintenance of basic services infrastructure such as water and sanitation, electricity, refuse removal, and sports and recreation facilities.

Department of Traditional Affairs

The DTA is mandated to oversee a range of tasks inherent in dealing with issues related to traditional affairs, including KhoiSan leadership, and supporting the development of stable and cohesive interfaith communities.

The 2003 White Paper on Traditional Leadership and Governance sets out a national framework, and norms and standards that define the role and place of the institution of traditional leadership within the South African system of democratic governance.

It seeks to support and transform the institution in accordance with constitutional imperatives and to restore

the integrity and legitimacy of traditional leadership in line with the African indigenous law and customs subject to the Constitution.

Department of Public Service and Administration

The DPSA draws its mandate from Section 195(1) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996, which sets out basic values and principles the Public Service should adhere to, and the Public Service Act of 1994.

In terms of the act, the Minister of Public Service and Administration is responsible for establishing norms and standards relating to:

- the functions of the Public Service;
- organisational structures and establishments of departments, and other organisational and governance arrangements in the Public Service;
- the conditions of service and other employment practices for employees;
- labour relations in the Public Service;
- the health and wellness of employees;
- information management in the Public Service;
- electronic government;
- integrity, ethics, conduct and anti-corruption in the Public Service; and
- transformation, reform, innovation and any other matters to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the Public Service and its service delivery to the public.

Public Service Commission

The PSC is tasked and empowered to, amongst others, investigate, monitor, and evaluate the organisation and administration of the Public Service.

This mandate also entails the evaluation of achievements, or lack thereof of government programmes. The PSC also has an obligation to promote measures that would ensure effective and efficient performance within the Public Service and to promote values and principles of public administration as set out in the Constitution, throughout the Public Service.

National School of Government

The NSG is intended to educate, train, professionalise and develop a highly capable, skilled and committed public

service cadre, with a sense of national duty and a common culture and ethos. It nurtures a culture of professionalism and innovative thinking and serve as a catalyst for reform and modernisation in pursuit of a performance-oriented public service.

Centre for Public Service Innovation

The CPSI is tasked to, among other things, establish norms and standards relating to transformation, reform and innovation to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the Public Service and its service delivery to the public. The centre aims to unearth innovation in government through initiatives such as the annual Public Sector Innovation Awards.

Department of Public Works and Infrastructure

Following the reconfiguration of government departments in June 2019, the Department of Public Works was renamed the DPWI.

The department promotes government's objectives of economic development, good governance and rising living standards and prosperity by providing and managing the accommodation and infrastructure needs of national departments, by leading the national Expanded Public Works Programme and transforming the construction and property industries.

Community development workers (CDWs) serve as a link between communities with many government services and programmes. Located within communities, CDWs assist citizens by helping them to access services such as health, welfare, housing, agriculture, economic activity, education and training, and employment opportunities.

Department of Home Affairs

The DHA's services are divided into two broad categories: civic services and immigration services. The primary mandate of the department is to secure and manage identity and international migration through the delivery of enabling services to all citizens, foreign nationals, government and the private sector.

Government Printing Works

The GPW is mandated to provide security printing and ancillary services to all organs of state in all spheres

of government. It was converted to a full government component in 2009 in terms of the Public Service Amendment Act of 1999, enabling it to start operating on sound business principles. The entity performs its mandate subject to policies as prescribed by the Minister of Home Affairs.

Department of Employment and Labour

Following the reconfiguration of government departments in June 2019, the Department of Labour was renamed the DEL.

In October 2018, the Presidential Jobs Summit was held in Johannesburg to explore mechanisms to ensure the economy grows and becomes more productive, and to upscale investment in the economy.

The engagement among government, business, labour and community also set out to ensure that workers are better skilled and that the economic infrastructure is expanded.

