



**OFFICIAL GUIDE TO SOUTH AFRICA 2019/20**

# **THE PRESIDENCY**

The mandate of The Presidency is to ensure that the President is able to execute his constitutional responsibilities in leading and galvanising the whole of government and society to implement the electoral mandate. The Presidency is situated in the Union Buildings, Pretoria, and has another subsidiary office in Tuynhuys, Cape Town.

Chapter 1 of the National Development Plan (NDP) sets out a vision for increased government integration towards developing policy in a complex domestic and international environment. Priority 6 (a capable, ethical and developmental state) and Priority 7 (a better Africa and world) of government's 2019-2024 Medium Term Strategic Framework (MTSF), with which the work of The Presidency is closely aligned, support this vision. Broadly, the department oversees the implementation of the administration's electoral mandate, the NDP and government's 2019-2024 MTSF.

Accordingly, over the medium term, the department intends to focus on: promoting an integrated approach to governance and service delivery; operationalising the e-Cabinet system; supporting the implementation of the District Development Model (DDM); leading the coordination of government policies and programmes; supporting initiatives that promote nation-building and social cohesion; and advancing South Africa's interests in the international arena.

### **Promoting an integrated approach to governance and service delivery**

The Presidency's core function is to strengthen coordination among all national departments to ensure that their policies align with national priorities. This requires the department to provide training or briefing sessions on Cabinet decision-making processes for relevant officials in ministerial offices and offices of directors-general.

To ensure greater coordination between national departments, the department plans to implement an integrated approach to governance and service delivery.

### **Operationalising the e-Cabinet system**

The e-Cabinet system is a tool to streamline Cabinet's decision-making processes and ensure that an integrated approach to governance is adopted. The system provides a collaborative platform for members of the executive, heads of department and executive support staff to share, manage and store information securely. To regularise the use of the system, the e-Cabinet user application policy and the e-Cabinet security policy are expected to be adopted in 2020/21, and the department plans to monitor the implementation of the system by compiling quarterly progress reports.

### **Supporting the implementation of the DDM**

The DDM, which is informed by the provisions of the Intergovernmental Relations Framework Act of 2005, presents an opportunity to reconfigure integrated planning responsibilities and institutional arrangements. Improving governance and service delivery at the provincial and local government levels requires oversight from the department at the national level.

Additionally, national departments review decision-making structures that affect frontline service delivery by improving integrated planning across government. Accordingly, over the MTEF period, the department will provide leadership support for the conceptualisation and design of the DDM and oversee its implementation.

To ensure effective leadership support and implementation, The Presidency will work with various stakeholders to ensure: collaboration between the three spheres of government and social partners in the private sector, civil society and labour organisations; the coordinated and effective implementation of commitments; and the proper integration and logical sequencing of projects and programmes.

## **Leading the coordination of government policies and programmes**

The Presidency seeks to promote good governance by ensuring greater policy coordination across government. To improve this function, over the medium term, the department plans to build capacity in the Policy and Research Services programme. Activities in this new programme, which will be responsible for providing content and technical support to political principals in the department and Cabinet, include: ensuring the effectiveness of government policy and the accuracy of submissions on the approach and strategy of government policy; and advising the President, Deputy President and Cabinet on interventions necessary to ensure more efficient and effective service delivery across government.

## **Promoting nation-building and social cohesion**

Over the period ahead, the department plans to continue supporting nation-building and social cohesion, mainly through the President leading initiatives on national days, national orders and special events. The Deputy President is expected to continue facilitating engagements between the department and social partners to strengthen the Moral Regeneration Movement, a civil-society organisation mandated to promote collective activism on issues of moral renewal and nation-building. In addition, to promote social cohesion, the Deputy President attends to government business in the National Assembly, chair the South African National AIDS Council, and lead government's anti-poverty programme and its efforts to fast-track land reform.

## **Advancing South Africa's interests**

The department's fundamental role in the international arena is to assist the president and deputy president in advancing South Africa's interests in the global community. Accordingly, over the medium term, the department plans to provide strategic and administrative support to state visits, unilateral, bilateral and multilateral meetings and summits. The department also plans to assist South Africa in fulfilling its obligations to the United Nations (UN), the Brazil-Russia-India-China-South Africa group of countries, the G20, the Southern African Development Community (SADC), and peacekeeping missions.

Through its focus on strengthening South Africa's political and economic relations internationally, The Presidency expects to create an enabling environment for trade and investment.

The Minister in The Presidency is responsible for the:

- Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation (DPME)
- Statistics South Africa (Stats SA);
- Government Communication and Information System (GCIS);
- Media Development and Diversity Agency (MDDA); and
- Brand South Africa (Brand SA).

The Minister in The Presidency for Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities is responsible for the:

- Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities (DWYPD); and
- National Youth Development Agency (NYDA).

## Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation

The DPME is mandated to:

- support the National Planning Commission (NPC);
- facilitate the implementation of the National Development Plan (NDP) through the development of sector-specific and outcome-specific medium-term plans and delivery agreements, and monitor and evaluate the implementation of these plans;
- ensure the alignment of departmental strategic and annual plans and budget allocations with government's MTSF;
- monitor the performance of individual national and provincial government departments and municipalities, and facilitate targeted intervention programmes;
- monitor frontline service delivery and manage the presidential hotline;
- develop and implement the annual national evaluations plan and support the national evaluations system;
- promote good planning, monitoring and evaluation practices in government.

Chapter 13 of the NDP sets out a vision for building a capable and developmental state, which is expressed in terms of Priority 6 (a capable, ethical and developmental state) of government's 2019-2024 MTSF. The work of the DPME is directly aligned with this priority.

Accordingly, over the medium term, the department intends to focus on: reviewing the NDP, improving and strengthening government planning and coordination, supporting the implementation of short-term and medium-term goals, developing intervention programmes to support service delivery, and conducting research and evaluations.

As part of the national macro organisation of government in 2019/20, the department's organisational structure was revised to accommodate the transfer of the youth function to the DWYPD, and the socio-economic impact assessment system function to The Presidency.

### Reviewing the NDP

The NDP was adopted as a guide to achieving South Africa's goals, broadly in terms of socio-economic development, and specifically in terms of eliminating poverty, creating jobs and reducing inequality by 2030. The NPC was tasked with reviewing some aspects of the NDP in 2019/20 to address certain implementation challenges. Over the medium term, this review is expected to assess the capacity and capability of the State in measuring the implementation of the NDP.

### Improving and strengthening government planning and coordination

The DPME is mandated to improve and strengthen government's planning and coordination. This involves: ensuring the implementation of government's MTSF, which is implemented in five-year cycles to allow for revisions, and serves as a roadmap for achieving goals linked to NDP outcomes; and conducting assessments of national departments' draft

strategic and annual performance plans to ensure alignment with the MTSF and the NDP. In this regard, in each year over the medium term, the department expects to produce 47 assessment reports. Based on the outcomes of these assessments, the department will, in consultation with National Treasury, identify delivery priorities for the funding of national departments.

### **Supporting implementation of short-term and medium-term goals**

Tracking the performance of the short-term and medium-term goals of government's 2019-2024 MTSF is a core function of the department. Accordingly, over the MTEF period, the department will engage national and provincial departments, government agencies and key state-owned entities to assess their implementation of the priorities and indicators of the MTSF, and identify performance gaps and interventions to address underperformance. In this regard, the department plans to produce two reports per year over the medium term for submission to Cabinet.

### **Developing intervention programmes to support service delivery**

The department plans to produce two reports per year over the MTEF period to monitor the impact of policy priorities in relation to actual service delivery through various frontline monitoring programmes, including targeted site visits, citizen-based monitoring and the presidential hotline.

To enhance capacity over the medium term, the department plans to assess the performance of government departments, agencies, state-owned enterprises and local government. This will include the development of a new monitoring model to replace the management performance assessment tool, and support the annual development and assessment of performance agreements of heads of department.

### **Conducting research and evaluations**

The department's ongoing focus is on maximising the use of its evaluations and research to generate rapid and relevant evidence to inform planning and monitoring, and appropriate interventions. Over the medium term, the department plans to work towards improving research and knowledge, and maintain evidence-based policy development, planning, implementation and monitoring by providing support for data management.

## **Statistics South Africa**

The mandate of the department is to advance the production, dissemination, use and coordination of official and other statistics to assist organs of state, businesses, other organisations and the public in planning, monitoring, policy development and decision-making. The Statistics Act of 1999 requires that the department coordinates statistical production among organs of state in line with the purpose of official statistics and statistical principles.

Stats SA is responsible for the production and coordination of official and other statistics on the country's economy, society and environment as South Africa moves towards the realisation of the NDP's vision of a state that plays a developmental and transformative role in the lives of its citizens. In line with this vision, the department's work is informed by Priority 1 (economic transformation and job creation), Priority 2 (education, skills and health), Priority 3 (consolidating the social wage through reliable and quality basic

services), priority 4 (spatial integration, human settlements and local government) and Priority 5 (social cohesion and safe communities) of government's 2019-2024 MTSF. The department publishes more than 250 statistical releases each year that measure progress against these guiding policies.

Over the medium term, the department will focus on modernising its operating model, strengthening statistical reform, and preparing for and conducting the national population census in 2021.

### **Modernising the operating model**

To improve data collection and analysis, and turnaround times for the processing and release of data, the department plans to migrate from paper-based to digital data collection over the medium term across all programmes, but Administration. The department will review its business processes and systems to assess how better efficiencies can be achieved through new technologies, and to identify opportunities for automation beyond the data collection process. It will also conduct research on how to innovate statistical methods, practices and processes to improve production systems and procedures.

### **Statistical reform**

In 2019/20, the department drafted the Statistics Amendment Bill to improve and strengthen statistical coordination among producers of statistics and drive statistical reform in South Africa. It anticipates that Parliament will approve the bill in 2020/21 so that it can be implemented over the medium term. This reform will be bolstered by the Statistician-General's application of statistical frameworks, standards and classifications for statistical production within the national statistics system as a basis to certify statistics as official.

### **Towards Census 2021**

The national population census the department plans to conduct in 2021 will form the baseline of the national statistics system. The department has tested census methodologies, including the use of digital data collection methods, and will conduct a pilot census in 2020/21 as a rehearsal exercise.

## **Government Communication and Information System**

The mandate of the GCIS is derived from Section 195(g) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996, which stipulates that the public should be provided with information that is timely, accurate and accessible.

This is in support of the constitutional principles of freedom of expression, transparency and openness of government. The department is responsible for providing strategic leadership and coordinating government communication to ensure that the public is informed and have access to government programmes and policies that benefit them.

The NDP emphasises the need to unite all South Africans around a common goal, ensure citizens are active in their own development, and build a capable and developmental state. This is given expression by Priority 6 (building a capable, ethical and developmental state) of government's 2019-2024 MTSF, with which the work of the GCIS is aligned. To support this priority over the medium term, the department will continue to focus on providing



and facilitating strategic government communications, and facilitating active citizen participation.

Among other things, the GCIS is responsible for maintaining government's website (*www.gov.za*), which provides general information about government. Among other products, the GCIS publishes the *South Africa Yearbook*, *Official Guide to South Africa* (formerly *Pocket Guide to South Africa*), *Vuk'uzenzele* newspaper, *Public Sector Manager* magazine and *My District Today* newsletter. It is also responsible for the South African Government News Agency, *SAnews.gov.za*.

The Thusong Service Centre Programme enables communities to access government information and services.

Thusong Service Centres are one-stop centres providing integrated services and information from government and other civil society groups, to communities close to where they live as part of a comprehensive strategy to better their lives.

They also enable communities to access opportunities offered by other civil-society groups such as businesses, non-governmental organisations and parastatals.

The GCIS also gathers public opinion, research and analysis of media coverage to understand the communications environment and to inform government messages.

The department provides media bulk-buying services, which are designed to reduce the cost to government on advertising; facilitate a rapid response mechanism to hasten government's response to issues arising in the media; and provide media production services to support other government departments.

### **Providing and facilitating strategic government communications**

One of the key functions of the department is to provide the public with information about government policies, plans, programmes and activities. The department uses its *Vuk'uzenzele* newspaper and weekly newsletter, *My District Today*, to disseminate information that empowers South African communities to participate in government programmes. Information published in *Vuk'uzenzele* newspaper, which is also made available in Braille, focuses on key government priorities such as service delivery and rural development projects, and publishes advertisements for vacant government posts.

The department provides guidance and assistance to government communicators on how to develop communications strategies and better understand the broader communications environment. In support of deepening its relations with the media, the department also drives a proactive and reactive media liaison strategy by hosting cluster and Cabinet media briefings, and communicating with the public through activities such as door-to-door visits, and community workshops and gatherings, in all provinces.

The department will aim to reduce government's cost of advertising in the media over the medium term while maintaining the visibility of its communications campaigns. This will entail providing bulk-buying services to other government departments for media advertising; media production services such as photographic and video products and services; and live radio products and services such as advertisements, the hosting of talk shows and the compilation of voice-overs.

The department manages the interface between government and commercial and community media, and provides support to Cabinet through regular media briefings in which the decisions of the executive are communicated to the public.

The GCIS has embraced the move towards the Fourth Industrial Revolution by adopting new technology to deliver government's messages to citizens in more creative and interactive ways, such as the use of more communications content on government websites and social media platforms.

To stay abreast of and manage a rapidly changing telecommunications environment and respond in increasingly able and agile ways, the department has earmarked funds for the management of the department's website and social media accounts, subscriptions to digital media accounts, and research on public opinion.

### **Facilitating active citizen participation**

The department is committed to aligning provincial and local communications strategies with the national communication strategy framework. This entails providing information on government services directly to communities through outreach campaigns in high-traffic areas such as taxi ranks, shopping malls and commuter trains, as well as talk shows on community radio and television stations. The department plans to continue the Imbizo programme, which facilitates interactions between political principals and the public, and develops content for print and electronic products, including leaflets during the State of the Nation Address.

### **Media Development and Diversity Agency**

The MDDA was set up in terms of the MDDA Act of 2002 to enable historically disadvantaged communities and individuals to gain access to the media. Its mandate is to create an enabling environment for media development and diversity to reflect the needs and aspirations of all South Africans; redress the exclusion and marginalisation of disadvantaged communities and people from access to the media and the media industry; and promote media development and diversity by providing support primarily to community and small commercial media projects.

The agency aims to ensure that all citizens are able to access information in a language of their choice, and to transform media access, ownership and control patterns in South Africa. It aims to continue encouraging media diversity in a rapidly changing telecommunications environment by placing emphasis on promoting indigenous languages and communities that are underserved by the mainstream media, with a focus on gender equity, people living with disabilities, and young people.

Over the MTEF period, the agency plans to focus on providing financial and non-financial support to 60 community broadcast projects, and nine community and 11 small commercial print and digital projects. Over the medium term, it will provide financial support to community broadcast projects, and to community and small commercial print and digital projects. By investing in initiatives that display good governance, business management skills and capabilities for content generation, the agency intends to ensure the sustainability of the community media sector.

### **Brand South Africa**

Brand SA manages South Africa's branding to improve its global appeal and competitiveness. The entity's primary objective is to develop and implement proactive and coordinated marketing, communications and reputation management strategies for South Africa to attract investment, trade and tourism.



Through several planned campaigns over the medium term, the entity aims to encourage South Africans to breathe life into the national identity. Key among these is the Play Your Part campaign, which seeks to promote strong South African values, a South African identity and constitutional awareness by encouraging citizens to participate in democratic processes. One of the campaign's initiatives is a project to promote constitutional awareness.

All domestic campaigns will comprise community engagements and outdoor or above-the-line advertisements that promote active citizenship. An integral part of the entity's mandate is to promote South Africa as a brand that attracts local and international investment. Accordingly, to monitor the effectiveness of its efforts to build international media partnerships to portray South Africa as a favourable destination for investment, the entity will continue to commission and subscribe to key research indexes that track factors such as domestic and investor perceptions.

### **Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities**

The DWYPD is constitutionally required to champion socioeconomic transformation and the empowerment and participation of women, youth and people with disabilities through mainstreaming, advocacy, and monitoring and evaluation.

Chapter 15 of the NDP envisages economic participation, education and skills development for women and other vulnerable groups, and the elimination of violence against women and children. This vision is given expression by Priority 1 (economic transformation and job creation), Priority 5 (social cohesion and safe communities) and Priority 6 (a capable, ethical and developmental state) of government's 2019-2024 MTSF.

The work of the DWYPD is directly aligned with these priorities through facilitating the planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation, and auditing processes responsive to gender, youth and disability rights across the state. Accordingly, over the medium term, the department intends to focus on: reducing gender-based violence and femicide (GBVF), and strengthening the national gender machinery; making interventions for economic empowerment; engaging in responsive government-wide planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation; ensuring compliance with international commitments; promoting the rights of people with disabilities; and supporting the development of young people.

#### **Eradicating GBVF, and strengthening the national gender machinery**

In response to the high prevalence of GBVF in South Africa, the department plans to carry out work in two strategic areas: facilitating interventions to eradicate GBVF; and revitalising and strengthening the national gender machinery, a set of integrated structures meant to promote gender equality, as proposed in the South African policy framework for women's empowerment and gender equality.

#### **Making interventions for economic empowerment**

Over the medium term, the department will seek to explore partnerships with economic cluster departments, agencies and businesses in priority sectors to establish models and support systems to maximise the economic inclusion and empowerment of women, young people and people with disabilities.

### **Engaging in responsive government-wide planning, budgeting, and monitoring and evaluation**

Cabinet adopted the framework on gender-responsive planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation, and auditing in 2018/19. Over the medium term, the department will continue to increase awareness of and build capacity for implementing the framework, and provide strategic guidance to other departments to coordinate its implementation.

When the department's knowledge hub, which was launched in 2019/20, is fully operational, it will be a central repository of research and information on gender, and thereby contribute to the framework's successful implementation.

### **Ensuring compliance with international commitments**

The department planned to facilitate South Africa's participation in multilateral platforms that advance the inclusion of women, youth and people with disabilities. Related activities include supporting compliance with international commitments and obligations, establishing partnerships and collaborations to mobilise resources, and preparing country reports.

Key engagements over the medium term include the 64th session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women, the 25th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, and relevant structures of the African Union and SADC.

### **Promoting the rights of people with disabilities**

Over the medium term, the DWYPD was expected to oversee the implementation of programmes pertaining to the rights of people with disabilities, develop advocacy strategies and mainstreaming guidelines to advance the rights of people with disabilities, standardise the measure of disability in partnership with Stats SA to ensure the quality of disability data in administrative systems, and integrate reporting obligations into a consolidated monitoring framework for disability rights.

### **Supporting the development of young people**

The department oversees the development of youth policy and the NYDA, and implements and monitors initiatives targeted at the development of young people. To this end, the department has embarked on a review of the national youth policy with the aim of producing a new policy for the period 2020-2030. The review of the policy will run concurrently with the policy's monitoring and evaluation framework to enable adequate reporting and accountability on policy pillars.

### **National Youth Development Agency**

The NYDA was established in 2009 through the merger of the National Youth Commission and the Umsobomvu Youth Fund. Its main role is to initiate, implement, facilitate and monitor youth development interventions aimed at reducing unemployment among young people and promoting social cohesion.