

Part 1

Information on the Ministry



Information on the Minister in The Presidency



Dr Essop Pahad

1. Institutions in the Minister's area of responsibility:

- 1.1 Government Communications – Minister and Executing Authority
- 1.2 International Marketing Council (IMC) – Executing Authority in terms of the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA), 1999 (Act 1 of 1999),
- 1.3 Media Development and Diversity Agency (MDDA) – Executing Authority in terms of the PFMA
- 1.4 The Presidency – specific political responsibilities for the Office on the Status of Women, Office on the

Status of Disabled People and Office on the Rights of the Child

- 1.5 National Youth Commission (NYC) – the Minister is charged with the administration of the NYC Act, 1996 (as amended in 2000). He meets with the Executive of the Commission on a two-monthly basis to provide political and strategic guidance and also fulfils the responsibilities of Executing Authority of the NYC.

2. A summary of the areas of involvement and work of the Minister

- 2.1 Apart from the specific responsibilities as outlined above, the Minister is involved in a wide range of activities and projects. These include:
 - 2.1.1 a member of the Cabinet Committees of the Economic Sector; Social Sector; International Relations, Peace and Security Cluster, and the Governance and Administration Cluster
 - 2.1.2 presenting all Cabinet Memoranda emanating from The Presidency at full Cabinet meetings
 - 2.1.3 presenting of current affairs discussions as a standing item at all (full) Cabinet meetings
 - 2.1.4 member of the Board and Exco of the IMC
 - 2.1.5 member of the extended South African National AIDS Council Core Group of Ministers
 - 2.1.6 convening an ad hoc group to assist in moving the work of the Freedom Park Trust forward
 - 2.1.7 convening an ad hoc group to assess the work and progress on the institutionalisation of a new system of National Orders
 - 2.1.8 establishing close working relations with the South African Chapter of the African Renaissance
 - 2.1.9 meeting on a regular basis with all major media

houses (print and electronic) and a group of fund managers

- 2.1.10 attending the regular Presidency Advisers Forum
- 2.1.11 chairperson and member of the Board of Trustees of the South African Democracy Education Trust.

3. Legislation

- 3.1 The MDDA Act, 2002 (Act 14 of 2002), was debated and passed in Parliament during 2002.
- 3.2 The MDDA Board was subsequently appointed and met for the first time in January 2003. The Board has initiated the initial process to establish a well-functioning Agency and to ensure that implementation of projects ensues as soon as possible.
- 3.3 The Minister also played a critical role in discussions with private print and electronic media houses to establish support, financial backing and co-operation for the MDDA.

4. Official Ministerial visits abroad (date and purpose of each visit)

Destination	Date	Purpose
Mozambique	May 2002	To accompany the President on a State Visit and hold follow-up discussions regarding bilateral government communication issues
United States	May 2002	To attend the United Nations General Assembly's Special Session on Children
Namibia	May 2002	To attend the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Meeting of Ministers responsible for Gender
Malawi	June 2002	To attend a SADC and African Union Gender Seminar
United Kingdom/Spain	June 2002	To further bilateral discussions on government communication and investigate the administration of honour systems
Mali	August 2002	To sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Mali Government on the operationalisation of the South Africa/Mali Timbuktu Project
Belarus/Romania/Hungary	September 2002	To further bilateral relations
Japan	October 2002	To address the Rehabilitation International and Disabled People International Conference on disability issues
Peru/Brazil	December 2002	To attend the Group of Like Minded Mega Diverse Countries Meeting and have bilateral discussions with the Government elect in Brazil