
GOVERNMENT NOTICE

DEPARTMENT OF BASIC EDUCATION

No. 504

18 July 2013

NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY ACT, 1996 (ACT NO. 27 OF 1996)

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO SERVE ON A MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE THE CURRENT PROMOTION REQUIREMENTS AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS THAT IMPACT ON THE STANDARD OF THE NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE

1. I, Angelina Matsie Motshekga, Minister of Basic Education, indicated in *Government Notice No. 206, Government Gazette, No. 36264* of 19 March 2013 my intention to establish a Ministerial Committee to investigate the current promotion requirements and other related matters that impact on the standard of the National Senior Certificate. In pursuance, of my decision, I hereby, approve the appointment of the following members to serve on the two sub-structure of the Ministerial Committee, namely a Technical Committee and a Reference Group:

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

NO.	NAME	CONSTITUENCY
1.	Professor BP O'Connell	University of the Western Cape
2.	Mr G Khosa	JET Education Services
3.	Ms EM Khembo	University of the Witwatersrand
4.	Professor S Motala	University of Johannesburg
5.	Professor S Howie	Higher Education South Africa
6.	Professor R Vithal	University of KwaZulu-Natal

REFERENCE GROUP

NO.	NAME	CONSTITUENCY
1.	Ms C Nuga-Deliwe	Department of Basic Education
2.	Mr J Samuels	SAQA
3.	Ms EM Burroughs	Umalusi
4.	Ms A Cereseto	NAPTOSA
5.	Ms A Oberholzer	Independent Examinations Board
6.	Dr D Parker	Department of Higher Education and Training

2. The Ministerial Committee will be responsible to:
 - (a) investigate all facets of the National Senior Certificate and making recommendations to me on how these matters can be addressed;
 - (b) demonstrate to the South African public that the Department of Basic Education is committed to maintaining the credibility of the National Senior Certificate; and
 - (c) improve the public perception and confidence in the National Senior Certificate qualification.

3. The terms of reference of the Ministerial Committee will be as follows:
 - (a) to establish from current research and other media reports the main criticisms addressed against the National Senior Certificate;
 - (b) to conduct a comparative study of the promotion requirements of the National Senior Certificate and other similar exit qualifications in a few countries that are of international repute;
 - (c) to consult with the key recipients of the National senior Certificate in the South African academic, workplace and business environment and identify their concerns about the National Senior Certificate and how these can be rectified in the short to medium term;
 - (d) to evaluate the currency of Mathematics and Mathematical Literacy and whether this is the best option for the South African schooling system in terms of preparing learners for the work place, higher education studies and personal citizenry;
 - (e) to ascertain whether Mathematical Literacy should not rather be separated from Mathematics;
 - (f) to investigate the possibility of introducing another level of Mathematics, namely Technical Mathematics which is related to the technology subjects as proposed by the Principals of Technical Schools;
 - (g) to evaluate the "value add" of Life Orientation as a subject that is designed to inculcate morals, values, physical education and

- career guidance to learners and to determine whether Life Orientation should not be a non-examinable subject;
- (h) to compare the interim National Curriculum Statement Grades R-10 to be phased out in December 2013 and the new National Curriculum Statement Grades R-12 to be phased-in in January 2014;
 - (i) to arrange public hearings on the findings and preliminary report of the Ministerial Committee; and
 - (j) To make recommendations on the key concerns relating to the NSC, and the implications of these recommendations if implemented.

MS AM MOTSHEKGA, MP
MINISTER OF BASIC EDUCATION

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