planning, monitoring
& evaluation
Department:
Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

NDP
2030

BI-ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT ON THE MTSF

April to September 2020

PRIORITY 6:
SOCIAL COHESION
AND SAFER
COMMUNITIES

LET'S GROW SOUTH AFRICA TOGETHER

1. Introduction

This report aims to provide the Cabinet Committee with progress on the implementation of the MTSF including how Covid-19 has affected its implementation covering period April to September 2020. It does this through looking at:

- Progress in the implementing the MTSF noting the challenges of Covid-19 poses on implementation
- The challenges, blockages and issues in meeting said outcomes (the likelihood of achieving the 2024 targets and NDP 2030 targets)
- Implications of this to the review of the MTSF and optimizing how government operates going forward

2. Strategic Intent

For the Constitutional vision of a safe, diverse, non-racist, non-sexist, equal and prosperous, socially cohesive and inclusive society with a common overarching national identity to be realised, South Africa must undertake deliberate interventions. These interventions include:

- Fostering Constitutional values, promoting a democratic culture of participation and addressing/discouraging actions that undermine Constitutional values. Fostering broad based leadership
- Promoting/Ensuring Inclusion, Redress and reducing inequality of opportunity, power and voice
- Sharing space across race and class
- Social compacting and improving trust levels
- Strengthening criminal justice platforms, police services and community participation in public policing;
- Reducing corruption and organised crime;
- Defending and securing cyberspace and rehabilitation of offenders.

3. Priority Components

Priority six consist of two programmes namely: (i) Social Cohesion and Nation Building derived from aligned with Chapter 15 of the NDP on transforming societies and uniting the country: and (ii) Safer Communities which is derived from Chapter 12 and 14 of the NDP on ensuring that people in South Africa are and feel safe.

3.1 Priority Component: Social Cohesion and Nation Building

- **Fostering knowledge of the Constitution and its values:** The Constitution aims to build a new over-arching national identity through a common citizenship and equal rights; it becomes the focal object of collective loyalties and even replaces other objects of identification such that traditional elements of identity become irrelevant and enables South Africans to have a common bond, providing normative principles that ensure ease of life lived side by side. The promotion of the country's national symbols, including the Constitution and it values - democracy, non-sexism, non-racism, inherent human dignity and equality - help forge one national identity.

- **Equal opportunities, inclusion and redress:** Building a nation demands righting of the wrongs of the past and equalising opportunity, voice and outcomes. Spatial and economic redress as well as creating equal opportunities and building capabilities should begin with ensuring that everyone has access to quality basic services and the social wage and the previously disadvantaged participate in programmes such as broad based economic empowerment, land reform and employment equity programmes. Key actions in this regard are contained in the related chapters of the MTSF dealing with health, education, economic growth, agriculture, human settlements and local government. This MTSF chapter focuses mainly on the promotion and fast-tracking of cultural and language redress - the promotion and the implementation of indigenous language; cultural and heritage and art programmes.

- **Promoting social cohesion through increased interaction across space and class**: Sharing of common spaces enables people across race and class to get to

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know each other and appreciate each other's humanity as well as debunk stereotypes. Public interaction is important for building trusting societies; and so is the production of artwork and stories that facilitate healing, nation building and dialogue. Building inclusive cities and promoting Sport, Cultural activities and art, and the greening and making safe of public spaces play a major role in facilitating the sharing of common spaces.

- **Promoting active citizenry and broad based leadership:** Participation of ordinary people in the civil affairs of the country is an important marker of a maturing constitutional democracy. Therefore, there should be various platforms created to enable civic participation and ensure that residents have trust in government institutions, actively participate in politics and believe that their viewpoints are legitimately represented.

- **Fostering social compacts:** There is now an urgent need to craft a social contract that will enable South Africa to achieve higher growth and employment, increase investment and savings. The compact should offer attractive and compelling benefits to each party and all parties should believe that the necessary sacrifices are relatively equitably shared amongst all participants.

3.2 Priority Component: Safer Communities

- **Crime:** Safety and security are directly related to socio-economic development and equality. A safe and secure country encourages economic growth and transformation and is therefore an important contributor to addressing the triple challenge of poverty, inequality and unemployment. The NDP 2030 envisions a South Africa where people feel safe and enjoy a community life free of crime. Achieving this requires a well-functioning Criminal Justice System, in which the police, the judiciary and correctional services work together to ensure that suspects are caught, prosecuted, convicted if guilty, and securely incarcerated and rehabilitated. Crime in South Africa has occupied centre stage on the public agenda. Twenty-five years into democracy, people in South Africa, particularly vulnerable groups such as women, children, the elderly and people with disabilities,

live in fear and feel unsafe due to crime especially serious and violent crime (including Gender-Based Violence and Femicide (GBVF)). This affects the country's economic development, undermines the wellbeing of people in the country and hinders their ability to achieve their potential.

- **Corruption:** The country faces high levels of corruption within the public and private sectors, which undermines the rule of law and impedes government's efforts to achieve its socio-economic development and service-delivery objectives. The cost of corrupt practices falls most heavily on the poor, degrading the quality and accessibility of public services. State systems of accountability have been uneven, enabling corruption to thrive. Corruption and transnational organised crime intersect, with corruption among state officials facilitating syndicated crime both within the country and across its borders. Crime syndicates aid and abet corrupt behaviour to facilitate their nefarious activities, perpetuating the cross-border movement of contraband and cash in and out of the country. Corruption contributes towards the growth of the illicit economy, which continues to pose a significant risk to the country's economic development. Furthermore, corrupt officials threaten the security and integrity of South Africa's identity and travel documents through the issuing of fraudulent documentation. Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerances remain a challenge impacting on the safety of communities.

4.   OVERVIEW OF MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS:

4.1 Social Cohesion and Nation Building

The Employment Equity Amendment Bill 2019 was approved by Cabinet in February 2020 and tabled in Parliament in March 2020. The Bill is a result of insignificant transformation in the country's labour market. The amendments are set to empower the Employment and Labour Minister, in consultation with sector stakeholders, to introduce enabling provisions for the setting of sector-specific Employment Equity numerical targets. Income Differential data collection tool (EEA4 form) has been developed and published in the government gazette of August 2019, which was initially targeted for 2022. The objective is to collect information from the employer to assess the remuneration gap between the highest paid and lowest paid employees. This

exercise also enables an assessment into inequalities in remuneration in terms of race and gender at the different occupational levels.

Promotion and development of official languages: A total of 192 documents received have been translated and edited for the current period, which translates to 100%. Progress on the six (6) multi-year human language technology projects includes the following milestones: Evaluation process of Monolingual & aligned parallel corpora in progress; Final product of annotated speech corpus was delivered, and final project report was submitted - a speech corpus (or spoken corpus) is a database of speech audio files and text transcriptions. In speech technology, speech corpora are used, among other things, to create acoustic models (which can then be used with a speech recognition or speaker identification engine). In linguistics, spoken corpora are used to do research into phonetic, conversation analysis, dialectology and other fields; Final product of Mobile web-platform was completed, and final project report was submitted; System integration and testing process completed; HLT-enabled mobile application on pilot stage, Acoustic models for Afrikaans, Sesotho and isiZulu have been tested.

Support the increase of qualified language practitioners through language bursaries: A total 458 students were awarded language bursaries during the 2019/20 against a target of 300. The additional 158 students have no bearing on the funds allocated by DSAC because of varying fees within various universities. Universities also submitted 4th quarter progress reports for 2019/2020 financial year and 1st quarter progress reports for 2020/21.

The Winnie Mandela Site in Brandfort has been completed during the period under review with a completion certificate issued. This is part of the heritage legacy projects to transform the national heritage landscape.

During the 2019/20 financial year, the design and development of three short courses has been finalised by the National School of Governance (NSG) which includes: Course 1 - GBV (2 days) - The content of the course has been carefully selected to empower and build resilience in a caring learning and development environment; Course 2 (3 days)- Gender Responsive Planning and Budgeting course developed in collaboration with the DWYPD; Course 3 (2 days) - Sexual Harassment course that

includes issues and examples relevant to the current GBVF advocacy agenda. As part of the 2019 SONA commitments, an interim Steering Committee on Gender Based Violence and Femicide was established; a funded Emergency Response Plan was developed and implemented with a monitoring plan for the period of October 2019 to March 2020; the National Strategy on Gender Based Violence and Femicide was developed and approved by Cabinet; The Presidential Working Group on Disability was established to advise on measures to advance the empowerment of persons with disabilities.

4.2 Safer Communities

Reducing levels of crime: Robberies at residential places show a decrease of 5.8%, robberies of cash in transit decreased by 10.4% whilst bank robberies decreased by 100.0%; Cable theft was reduced by 80% (4 convictions from 5 verdicts) against the targeted 74% of conviction rate of persons arrested for cable theft.

Drugs: 11 out of 12 clandestine laboratories were dismantled with 23 arrests. Due to lockdown restrictions, informers and police members are not able to freely operate, but despite, the restrictions, the performance is still satisfactory. However, there's limited progress with regards the reduction of drug syndicates through the implementation of the Narcotics Intervention Strategy and the National Drug Master Plan (NDMP), as one syndicate was neutralized during the reporting period, from a total of 17 identified syndicates.

Reducing overcrowding in Correctional Services: President Ramaphosa authorised the release on parole of low-risk inmates to ease overcrowding and curb the spread of COVID-19 in correctional facilities. This was a measure to combat the spread of the virus in correctional facilities which are considered high risk areas for infection. At the time it was reported that 19 000 low risk sentenced offenders would be eligible for this parole. The initial releases started from 20 May 2020 and by 30 June 2020, 5 026 offenders were placed on parole and four (4) have been re-arrested. The released inmates are placed in Community Corrections where they will continue serving their sentences. Community Corrections officers will be entrusted with

monitoring the parolees and administrating their parole conditions. COVID-19 has reduced physical monitoring of offenders within the system of community corrections.

5   OVERVIEW OF MAIN CHALLENGES

5.1   Social Cohesion and Nation Building

Some MTSF 2014-2019 targets were not achieved because there was lack of ownership Examples that can be quoted are for the recital of the Preamble of the Constitution in schools and the implementation of the Employment Equity at the workplace. (i) Except for the DBE organised events, the Department of Basic Education has not promoted the regular recital of the Preamble of the constitution at all schools even though a circular to this effect was sent in 2013 to provinces; (ii) Even in this 2019 -2024 MTSF similar challenges prevailed such that of the 298 designated employers reviewed in line with the Employment Equity Act, all were found to be non-compliant and issued with DG Recommendations to comply within 60 days

This 20119 – 2024 MTSF period the following targets will not be met:

Fostering of Constitutional values: This MTSF 2019-2024 all school based programmes were not undertaken because of school closure and these include the recital of preamble of the Constitution. That very little was done to promote constitutional values – right to life, rule of law, equality before the law, democracy, non-sexism, non-racialism etc. is a tragedy in a country that is yet to embark on the RDP of the soul. There is need for societal counselling against the centuries of trauma and violence at a personal and state level imposed on all by patriarchy, colonialism and apartheid. High GBVF, violent protests such as that in Senekal and against Clicks illustrate the need for behavioural transformation. Programmes not achieved due to resource constraints and reprioritisation include: (i) Community conversations aimed at promoting patriotism and shared values did not happen to the magnitude planned. As a remedy, opportunities for dialogues have been identified across programmes in DSAC; the target for the placement of Artists in schools could not be achieved due to targets   and

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budget allocation not synchronised and budget cuts; indigenous languages are still marginalised at all levels, only 1392 schools are currently implementing the Incremental introduction of African Languages Programme instead of the targeted 2583; school sport, which should be the foundation of all sport, is still not functioning optimally only 13339 schools, hubs, and clubs were provided with equipment and/or attire as per the established norms and standards, instead of the target of 16640. Sport and recreation are inadequately funded at all spheres of Government. This negatively impacts on the transformation of various sporting codes.

The suspension of co-curricular and school enrichment programmes due to COVID19 imperatives meant the following programmes could not be implemented: recital of the preamble in schools; installation of flags could not be completed;

Redress including Cultural redress is slow. Huge budget cuts mean there will not be enough funds dedicated to this imperative. The current status quo will remain. See picture of Egazini Memorial Precinct juxtaposed against the 1820 Settlers Monument.

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5.2. Safer Communities

According to the annual crime statistics, released for the 2019/2020 Financial Year, most of the contact crimes that have a potential to instil fear among the citizens, recorded an increase when compared with the same period in 2018/19. For example,

the murders went up by 1.4% and robberies with aggravating circumstances increased by 2.8%. There are continuous challenges in meeting targets to seize assets that are the proceeds of crime or have been part of an offence through a criminal or civil process. During the reporting period, the value of freezing orders obtained is R256m, against an annual target of R2.4 billion annually (R12 billion over 5 years). This non-achievement is alluded the delays in the finalisation of investigations and enrolment of court cases during the COVID-19 lockdown which negatively impacted on the achievement of this intervention. However, to remedy the situation going forward there will be joint prioritization with units such as the Directorate for Priority Crimes Investigations (DPCI) and National Prosecution Service (NPS) to ensure that corruption matters are fast tracked.

The target to recover money and assets that are the proceeds of crime, where they targeted R1.4 billion annually (R7 billion over 5 years) was not attained. Only R16 000 was recovered. This under achievement is alluded to the slow finalisation of investigations and enrolment of court cases due to the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the scope and complexity of the State Capture cases, which take long to finalise.

The outbreak of Coronavirus also imposed major disruptions on safety, security and international relations. Food security was one of the challenges, marred with allegations of theft of food parcels by public officials and nepotism with food parcel allocation, increases in the looting of premises selling liquor, incidents of corruption and bribery on the part of law enforcement, vandalising and burning of schools and increase in gender-based violence against vulnerable groups, in particular women and children. In addition, there were borderline security challenges experienced with residents from neighbouring countries seeking medical assistance and the smuggling of cigarettes and alcohol. In the Correctional Service facilities, there were challenges with regards to overcrowding, which is a risk factor for COVID 19 infections. Non-compliance with lockdown regulations also a concern. Government put measures to curb social activities to help the citizens in preventing the rapid spread of the virus and efforts were increased to ensure that there are patrols, roadblocks and increased police visibility. However, some of the community members still did not comply to the regulations. Alcohol and cigarettes bans were put in place however; we saw a surge

in illegal trade of this products. After tears, after funerals, as a form of social gatherings, was also noticed, which is also a transgression of lockdown regulations. Noteworthy was also an increase in the destruction and damage of critical social and public infrastructure during the lockdown.

6.   DISCUSSION

6.1. Selected impact indicators

6.1.1 Social cohesion index: Social Cohesion measures and expresses the strength of relationships between people and between people and the state as a single score. Between 2017 and 2018, Social Cohesion score sharply declined from 72.5 to 61.4 and stabilised at 62.5 in 2019 which was mainly driven by a restored confidence in government. (see figure 1)

Figure 1: Social Cohesion Index
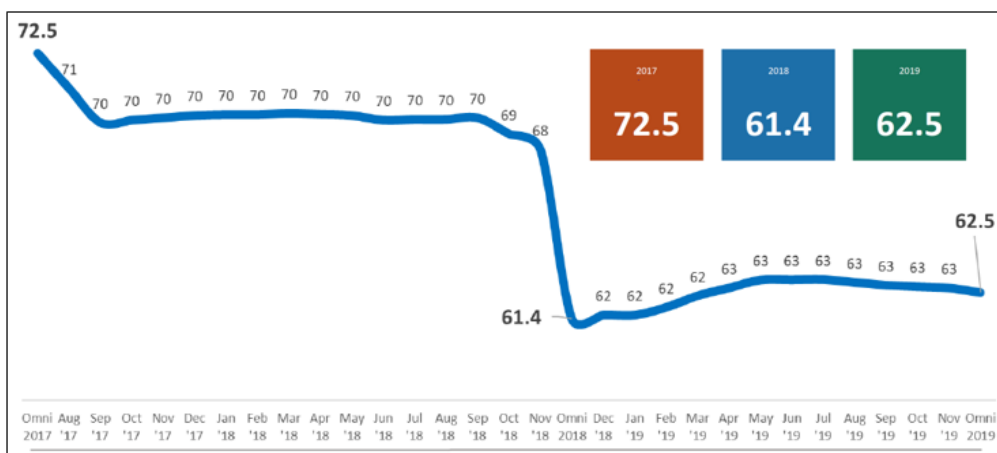
Source: BrandSA, 2019. Social cohesion construct

6.1.2 Pride index: According to the South African Reconciliation Barometer, there is emergence of majority being proud to be South African and associate positively with national symbols such as the current South African flag. Positive sentiments on unity has been noted which reveals the greatest optimism since 2013. About 81.6% want their children to think of themselves as South African, 80.5% affirms that being a South African is an important part of how they see

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themselves, and 79.7% agreeing that people should regard themselves as South Africans first. A united South Africa is desirable (77.7%) and possible (71.4%) and that there is more that unites South Africans than what keeps them apart despite the differences. These findings bode well in terms of building cohesion among South Africans.

**Figure 2:** Pride in South Africa and its symbols
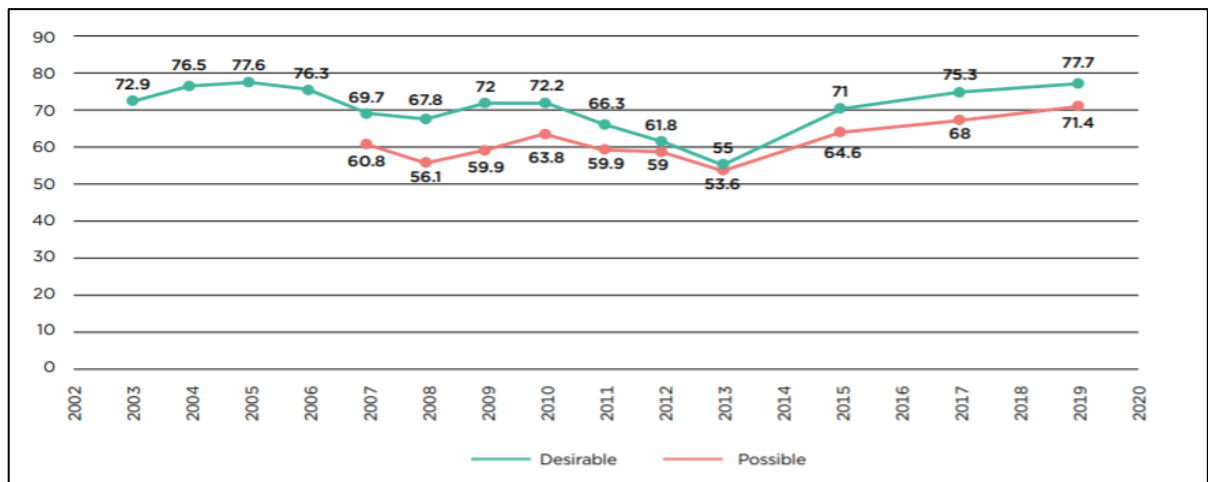
Source: South African Reconciliation Barometer (IJR) 2019. South Africans agreeing with the desirability and possibility of unity, SARB 2003–2019

6.1.3 Confidence and trust in institutions: The 2019 SARB shows an increase in confidence in most institution included in the survey from 2017 to 2019 and these includes the South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC), with 57.7% from 50.7% being the first, followed by confidence in the President with 48.4% and thirdly the South African Revenue Service (SARS) with 45.5%. Although there is a high level of confidence restored in government, but it is without trust. The 2019 Edelman Trust Barometer reveals that although trust in South Africa has risen for all institutions (NGOs, business, government, media), government continues to be the least trusted institution at 21%; with NGOs 60% in the lead over business 58% followed by media 40%. Surveys undertaken by Brand SA and others show that The COVID-19

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lockdown from level 5 up to level 4 has demonstrated improved levels of trust in the government, a sense of belonging and a willingness to participate and help others,vwhich are all classic signs of strong socialvcohesion and a capable state. Surveys conducted on citizen perception conducted in April 2020 confirm confidence (73%) in the President and government in handling the Coronavirus outbreak, and 56% believe that current measures taken by government including the phased-in lockdown are the best ways to minimise the spread of the virus. Maintaining reasonable levels of trust between citizens and their institutions continues to be a daily challenge for most countries with the unprecedented individual and collective tension and anxiety brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic. (Accord 2020).

6.1.4 Active citizenship: Participation of ordinary people in the civil affairs of the country is an important marker of maturing constitutional democracy. In terms of voting, the Independent Electoral Commission voting data shows that out of the 75% eligible voters that were registered for the 2019 national elections, 66% voted accounting for a gender representation of 57% males and 43% females. Using the BrandSA (2019) active citizenship construct, a sharp decline from 2017 (66.8%) to 2019 (59.3%) has changed the dynamic of active citizenship. This has been characterised by a shrinking involvement in communities outside the immediate radius of those who tend to be more active in their communities due to social and economic challenges.

Figure 3: Active Citizenry
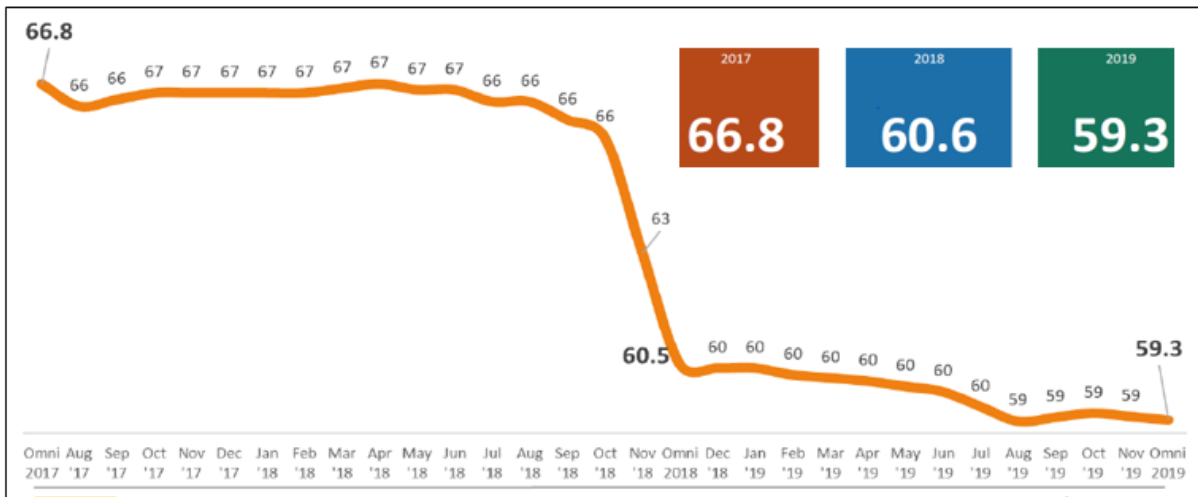
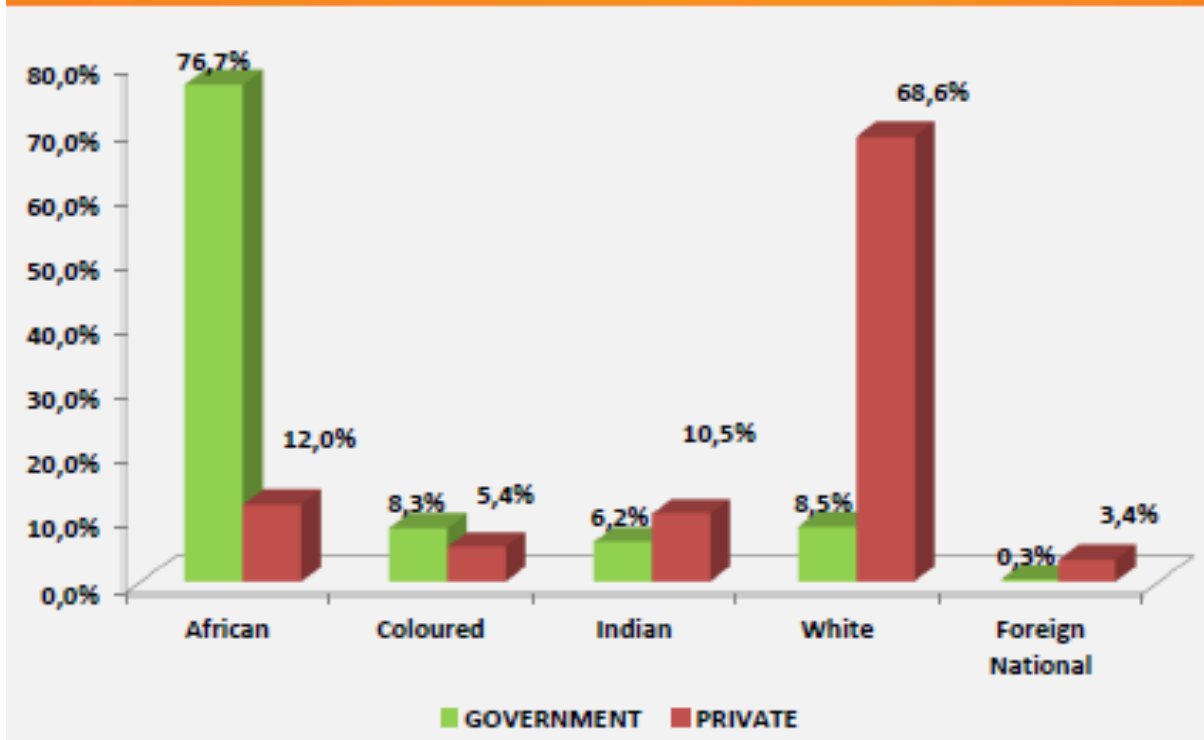Source: BrandSA 2019. Active citizenship construct

6.1.5 Redress

Despite many redress policies, transformation pace is slow. For example, in the **Labour market,** against a target of 2% annual increase, Africans increased by 1.7% (41.5% in 2018 to 43.2% in 2019) at middle management, Africans increased by 0.3% (23.2% in 2018 to 23.5% in 2019) at senior management, and Persons with disabilities increased with 0.1% (1% in 2018 to 1.1% in 2019) against of 1.5% annual increase as reported by designated employers in 2019 EE reporting period. The finalisation of the EE Amendment Bill will be key in realising imperatives of the affirmative action policies**.**

Figure 4 illustrates how untransformed the labour market is. With an economically active population of 78.9% Africans, only 12% are in top management in the private sector. 68% of top management in the private sector is white, for an EAP of less than 10%, that is over representation. Linked to this is the foreign representation, very large. 9see figure 4 below)

Figure 4: Top Management Representation

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Top Management –Population Group

GOVERNMENT · PRIVATE

Population Group	GOVERNMENT	PRIVATE
African	76,7%	12,0%
Coloured	8,3%	5,4%
Indian	6,2%	10,5%
White	8,5%	68,6%
Foreign National	0,3%	3,4%

EE Report 2019

Indigenous languages are still marginalised at all levels, only 1392 schools are currently implementing the Incremental introduction of African Languages Programme instead of the targeted 2583.

Sport: is also not transforming as even the self-set transformation targets. Nine of the nineteen federations audited (47% of the total) achieved 50% or more of all prescribed Charter targets - football, with 89%; table tennis, 67%; volleyball, 67%; amateur boxing, 61%; cricket, 61%; softball, 56%; basketball, 56%; netball and athletics, 50%. One federation (chess - with 44%) was the only federation to achieve between 40% and 49% of all prescribed Charter targets. The ten federations at the bottom achieved between 28% and 0% of all predetermined Charter targets. These federations were: rugby with 28%; baseball, 22%; gymnastics, 17%; tennis, 17%; swimming, 17%, hockey, 11%; jukskei, 6%, bowls, 0% and rowing 0%. All are experiencing difficulties, but some more than others, in achieving the predetermined, one-size-fits all Charter targets adopted in 2011" (SRSA 2018:7)

Safer Communities

6.1.6 Increasing and Unacceptably high levels of crime in South Africa, especially serious and violent crime, result in people of South Africa living in fear and feeling unsafe, particularly vulnerable groups, such as women and children. Crime including contact crime is not declining. According to the annual crime statistics, released for the 2019/2020 Financial Year, most of the contact crimes that have a potential to instil fear among the citizens, recorded an increase when compared with the same period in 2018/19. For example, the murders went up by 1.4% and robberies with aggravating circumstances increased by 2.8%. There was also a 1, 7% increase in total sexual offences. Rape and sexual assault increased by 1.7% by 4.2% respectively. The surge of violent crimes and deaths of women and children as a result of gender-based violence and femicide, remains a concern. Women do not feel free in their homes and communities and this puts a challenge for the Criminal Justice System. There are concerns that targeting the reduction of violent crimes against women and children including sexual offences may not be the appropriated response. The aim should rather be to ensure the increase in the reporting of these crimes in order to overcome the problem of acute under-reporting. There has been a spike in some categories of aggravated robberies. Carjacking increased by 13.3%, Robbery Non-Residential by 3,3% and Truck Hijacking by 1.7%. Drugs and substance abuse are important contributing factors to the high number of violent crimes directed at vulnerable groups such as women and children. Much effort should be put in policing the proliferation of illegal firearms considering that they are the drivers of serious and violent crimes.

6.2. Assessment of progress on major interventions

The first year of the 2019-2024 MTSF encompassed planning and implementation

simultaneously and this did not give adequate time for the alignment with the departmental strategic plans, which were also developed in the very same period. The following accounts for progress towards the realisation of the imperatives of the 2030 NDP vision.

6.2.1 Fostering constitutional values:

a) The Prevention and Combating of Hate Crimes and Hate Speech Bill was approved by Cabinet in May 2018 for tabling in parliament and was not finalised at the end of the fifth Parliament. The Bill has since been revived on 29 October 2019 and is still before the Sixth Parliament. The finalisation of the process is therefore dependent on parliamentary processes.

b) 75 schools recited the Preamble of the Constitution during the DBE Organized workshops and engagements during the month of February 2020 and March 2020 in Northern Cape and Mpumalanga provinces. DBE still lacks means and capacity to enforce compliance. Further to that the National COVID-19 lockdown restrictions led to suspension of all co-curricular and school enrichment programmes with immediate effect.

c) BrandSA did 6 activations to promote constitutional awareness (freedom of expression, promotion of access to information freedom of religion, freedom month and youth month). All these was done utilising 12 various marketing platforms which included radio, digital, outdoor, TV, and print reaching a diverse audience across the provinces.

d) DBE implemented four (4) programs on Human Rights Education Engagement sessions and National Schools Moot Court. The sprouts of racism that emerged in multiracial schools meant that the national office directly convenes the engagements to support provinces and education districts, hence the positive deviation of 4 instead of 2.

e) No awareness activations on the "I am the Flag" were done against a target of ten (10)

f) Two (2) Workshops to advance knowledge on National Symbols were facilitated for the Delpark Teachers Centre and for Department of Sport, Arts, Culture & Recreation (Ekurhuleni Municipality)

g) 400 SA flags installed in schools by the DSAC against a target of 420 and the outstanding 20 flags were planned for April, May and June which were affected by Covid-19 restrictions.

6.2.2   Promoting equal opportunities, inclusion and redress:

This is a strategic intervention aimed at reducing the historical impact of factors such

As gender, ethnicity, place of birth, and parental income and family background on people's life chances. The following progress can be noted:

a) **Improve the enforcement of the Employment Equity Act:** The Employment Equity Amendment Bill 2019 was approved by Cabinet in February 2020 and tabled in Parliament in March 2020. The Bill is a result of insignificant transformation in the country's labour market. The amendments are set to empower the Employment and Labour Minister, in consultation with sector stakeholders, to introduce enabling provisions for the setting of sector-specific Employment Equity numerical targets. Of the 298 designated employers reviewed, all were found to be non-compliant and issued with DG Recommendations to comply within 60 days. This was against a target of 717 which could not be met due to the national lockdown which led to most workplaces to close and inspection could not be carried out.

b) **Improve representation of the designated groups across occupational levels**: Against a target of 2% annual increase, Africans increased by 1.7% (41.5% in 2018 to 43.2% in 2019) at middle management as reported by designated employers in 2019 EE reporting period; Against a target of 2% annual increase, Africans increased by 0.3% (23.2% in 2018 to 23.5% in 2019) at senior management as reported by designated employers in 2019 EE reporting period; Against a target of 1.5% annual increase, Persons with disabilities increased with 0.1% (1% in 2018 to 1.1% in 2019) as reported by designated employers in 2019 EE reporting period;

c) Income Differential data collection tool (EEA4 form) has been developed and published in the government gazette of August 2019, which was initially targeted for 2022. The objective is to collect information from the employer to assess the remuneration gap between the highest paid and lowest paid employees. This exercise also enables an assessment into inequalities in remuneration in terms of race and gender at the different occupational levels.

d) **Outreach initiatives to change behaviour in relation to gender and xenophobia:** Two (2) Anti-Xenophobia campaigns in collaboration with DSD; SAPS; civil society organisations; international organisations and local government in Attredgeville and Katlehong in March 2020, against a target of four

(4). The non-achievement of the set target is attributed to the lock down regulations and the absence of supporting tools of trade to work remotely. DWYPD also conducted the Beijing +25 Stakeholder consultation, back to school campaign with learners with special needs; GBVF Assembly in partnership with Higher Education in Welkom FET; Dialogue with youth including those with disabilities; and initiatives in various children centres to contribute to the mitigation of the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic for vulnerable groups.

e) **Coordinate the implementation of the National Action Plan (NAP) to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance:** Draft Terms of Reference (TOR) for the NAP Governance Structure developed and circulated for inputs and work is underway to secure the comments from the Interim structure and approval by the Executive Authority. The implementation of the NAP among others includes the development of a funding model, institutionalisation of a rapid response mechanism and finally the virtual data repository on disaggregated statistical data which are due for outer years of the MTSF.

f) **Increase support in the creative industry through the Mzansi Golden Economy (MGE) project:** Four (4) MGE projects were successfully implemented and collective attracted diverse communities of South Africa against a target of 20. The non-achievement has been due to COVID-19 Regulations that discourage mass gatherings and traveling. The targets have since been reviewed in the DSAC APP

g) **Implement heritage legacy projects to transform the national heritage landscape**: The Winnie Mandela Site in Brandfort has been completed during the period under review with a completion certificate issued. This is one of the six heritage legacy projects identified for the current MTSF. Khananda site; OR Tambo Garden of Remembrance; Winnie Mandela site in Brandfort; Archie Gumede statue; Statue and memorial of King Cetshwayo; and Enyokeni.

h) **Promote the study of history in schools:** The topics for the oral history programme have been developed, approved and disseminated to provinces for learners to participate in the programme, however, the writing of the new curriculum is still in progress by the Ministerial Task Team. Co-curricular and school enrichment activities have since been suspended in keeping with the

Covid-19 regulations and also for the subsequent Ministerial Task Team Meetings. This also affect the Revision of History Curriculum Policy/Documents; Training of Curriculum specialists, teachers, Examiners and moderators for Grade 12.

i) **Promotion and implementation of indigenous languages:** No progress has been achieved against a target of introducing African languages in 2584 public schools. This includes the programme to promote Mother Tongue Based Multilingual Education, introduction of Kiswahili to 50 schools as Second Additional Language in the National Curriculum Statement. The focus of teaching and learning, during Covid-19 is on the fundamentals, which includes Home Language and First Additional Language levels. The Incremental Introduction of African Languages (IIAL) programme has been put on hold whilst the schools are currently managing the life-threatening situation of COVID-19 in the education sector.

j) **Monitor the implementation of the Use of Official Languages Act:** 36 Departments and 131 entities were monitored through dissemination of the monitoring tool during the period under review, and only 13 that responded were found to have a language policy. A lack of cooperation by departments to respond to PanSALB's monitoring efforts is however noted with concern and requires Cabinet intervention.

k) **Promotion and development of official languages:** A total of 192 documents received have been translated and edited for the current period, which translates to 100%. Progress on the six (6) multi-year human language technology projects includes the following milestones: Evaluation process of Monolingual & aligned parallel corpora in progress; Final product of annotated speech corpus was delivered, and final project report was submitted; Final product of Mobile web-platform was completed, and final project report was submitted; System integration and testing process completed; HLT-enabled mobile application on pilot stage, Acoustic models for Afrikaans, Sesotho and isiZulu have been tested.

l) **Support the increase of qualified language practitioners through language bursaries:** A total 458 students were awarded language bursaries during the 2019/20 against a target of 300. The additional 158 students have no bearing on the funds allocated by DSAC because of varying fees within various universities.

Universities also submitted 4th quarter progress reports for 2019/2020 financial year and 1st quarter progress reports for 2020/21.

m) **Introduce compulsory module for public servants on diversity (gender, race and disability):** With regards to building capacity of the public sector, the NSG is in the process of developing an online programme "Anti-discrimination" to allow for online training and expand access. Capacity building of public sector: During the 2019/20 financial year, the design and development of three short courses has been finalised which includes: Course 1 - GBV (2 days) - The content of the course has been carefully selected to empower and build resilience in a caring learning and development environment; Course 2 (3 days)- - Gender Responsive Planning and Budgeting course developed in collaboration with the DWYPD; Course 3 (2 days) - Sexual Harassment course that includes issues and examples relevant to the current GBVF advocacy agenda.

n) **Training of in-service teachers and School Management on anti-discrimination:** No training undertaken because training for teachers is undertaken through SACE and ELRC NSG and not covered by NSG. Currently all teachers' development Programs are evaluated by SACE and endorsed through the ELRC and therefore teachers' training dealing with racism and discrimination should be undertaken in collaboration with SACE and ELRC.

o) **Advocate for transformation in sport and recreation bodies meeting 50% or more of all prescribed Charter transformation targets:** Nine (9) out of 18 which translates to **50%** of federations audited, table tennis, football, volleyball, softball, cricket, boxing, netball, athletics, and basketball have achieved 50% and more of all the generic Black Charter targets set.

p) **Produce / support the production films and documentaries telling the South African story, including the history of liberation:** Against a target of 50 for this reporting period, only 11 films were supported. This is mainly **d**ue to the Covid-19 and the industry had to shut down, which resulted in the department not receiving any viable applications for the reporting period. Applications are still put on hold due to the pandemic.

q) **National archives infrastructure upgrades:** Work is underway in consultation with the National Treasury on the process to follow when undertaking a public-

private partnership (PPP) project. The procurement delays and COVID-19 lockdown implications were unforeseen.

r) **Development of Provincial Resistance and Liberation Heritage Route (RLHR) Sites:** An amount of R20 398 000.00 has been transferred to the National Heritage Council on 30 March 2020 for the development of 19 RLHR Provincial sites against a target of nine (9) provincial sites.

Promoting social cohesion through increased interaction across space and class: Public interaction is important for building trusting societies. These include the production of artwork and stories that facilitate healing, nation building and dialogue. Similar with sport that create opportunities for interactions - cultural activities and art also play a major role in facilitating the sharing of common spaces, promotion and preservation and inform cultural sustainability of communities' social fabric. The following progress can be noted:

a) **Promote the celebration of national days on an intercultural basis, fully inclusive of all South Africans:** Digital campaigns showcasing the significance of national days has been implemented by BrandSA, which includes programming on television and radio. These includes Human rights day, Freedom day, Africa day and Youth day.

b) **Promote access to cultural facilities/community arts centres and participation in arts, culture and heritage programmes:** Against a target of nine (9) only seven (7) provincial Community Arts Development Programmes were supported in Limpopo, Free State and Eastern Cape, Gauteng, Northern Cape and North West. Some of the programmes will only be implemented when the Covid-19 regulations are lifted due to the fact that they are mass based.

c) **Implement the community conversations / dialogue programme:** Against a target of 10 only two (2) community conversations were held. Indigenous Languages Seminar on 21 February 2020, Western Cape and Setsoto Social Cohesion and Nation Building Community Conversation on 12 March 2020 in Free State. Community conversations were cancelled due to Covid-19 and the fact that they are mass based.

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d) **Implement advocacy platforms on social cohesion by Social Cohesion Advocates:** Six (6) Advocacy platforms were held from January – June 2020 instead if a target of 10. The rest of the advocacy platforms were not implemented due to the Covid-19 restriction on mass gatherings and travelling. As a remedial action, the targets have been revised and different formats of implementation are being explored.

e) **Use international events to promote advocacy amongst South Africans living abroad:** Nine (9) Global South Africans activations have been implemented. Activation in Los Angeles, USA; Perth, Australia; Activation with ICC, Perth, Australia; Melbourne, Australia; virtual Activation, Zambia; Messages of Hope for SA from GSAs in the UK; Freedom Day Celebrating GSAs in the UK; Global Citizen Campaign, Head Office; Africa Day Virtual Shout-Out Event in collaboration with the GSA and Diaspora community, USA.

f) **Greening of public spaces through the Community Works Programme:** As part of the Local Government effort of investing in the greening and making public spaces safe, 44 greening projects through the implementation and maintenance of vegetable gardens and parks respectively in Elias Motswaledi with nine (9) food gardens and one (1) park; Makhuduthamaga had five (5) food gardens; Fetakgomo Tubatse 23 food gardens and one (1) park; Ephraim Mogale had five (5) food gardens.

g) **Promote participation in sport and recreation by facilitating opportunities for people to share space and by providing equipment and/or attire to schools, hubs and clubs:** This intervention includes sport and recreation promotion campaigns and events implemented; and schools, hubs and clubs provided with equipment and/or attire as per the established norms and standards. The reported progress was not backed by evidence or means of verification and therefore it could not be recorded.

h) **Develop talented athletes by providing them with opportunities to excel at the national school sport championships and by supporting athletes through the sports academies:** This intervention includes learners participating in the national school sport championship; and athletes supported by the sports academies. The reported progress was not backed by evidence or means of verification and therefore it could not be recorded.

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i) **Support high performance athletes to achieve success in international sport:** The intervention includes athletes supported through the scientific support programme per year. The reported progress was not backed by evidence or means of verification and therefore it could not be recorded.

6.2.4 Promoting active citizenry and leadership.

a) **Civic and Democracy Education (CDE) campaigns to improve participation in elections:** Against a target of 6333, only 5384 campaigns were held and due to face to face restrictions of Covid-19, no activity took place between April and June 2020.

b) **Maintain an accurate national common voters' roll to ensure the credibility of elections:** Against a target of 26 800 000 registered voters reflected on the voters' roll as at 31 March each year, capturing of addresses is ongoing, with 26 550 467 (91%) voters captured with complete addresses in the voter registration system for the year under review.

c) **Promote participation in community-based governance processes (Active citizenship bodies):** GovChat is a social media platform for community engagement and has been implemented in 3 provinces (WC, FS & NC) but fully accessible countrywide. The Know your Traditional Council feature is fully activated. The platform has been activated and live with built-in features for Covid-19. As at 30 June 2020, it had over 2,595 million active monthly users. Over 125 million messages received; 1397 reports of covid-19 regulation violations reported; 2,694 million Covid-19 SRD applications received; and over 854 requests for location of Covid-19 testing facilities. The platform has also been activated to map and locate non-registered ECD facilities through the Vangasali Campaign in preparation for opening post lockdown restrictions.

d) A total of 113 municipalities were supported to have functional ward committees with effective community engagement structures, cumulative to the municipalities supported in the previous years. The review of the legislative framework for ward committees has been incorporated into the Municipal Structures Amendment Bill process.

e) **Training of School Governing Bodies on school policies and code of conduct:** None of the 5 SGB Associations have been trained on school policies and code of conduct. Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic has halted progress on this. However, the Education Management and Governance unit is soliciting alternative plans for the training of the SGB Associations, who would then facilitate cascade training with their SGB constituencies.

f) **Implement Play Your Part (PYP) activities that promote nation brand values implemented to encourage South Africans to use their time, money, skills or goods to contribute to a better future for all:** A target of six (6) PYP activities that promote nation brand values have been implemented and these included school activities in Western Cape; online school's activation in KZN in partnership with Gagasi FM; school's activation delivered in Limpopo in partnership with Capricorn FM; Virtual TV series launched and showcased 6x stories about NGOs that are playing their part during the Covid-19 Pandemic located in Gauteng, Northern Cape and Western Cape; Prepare, Plan and Prosper (#PPP) campaign radio and digital educational awareness in response to COVID 19.

6.2.5 Fostering Social Compacts:

a) With regard to crafting a social compact for a more democratic, equal and more prosperous society, the DSAC has convened a social compact convention for social cohesion and nation building on 6 to 7 February 2020. It is hoped that the compact will foster partnerships with civil society, private sector and citizens; and contribute substantially to provide the political, economic and social conditions for development. A monitoring plan for the compact will be used to track progress on commitments made in the compacts. However, there were many sector specific social compacts concluded and these include the Solidarity fund, the economic reconstruction and recovery plan

Safer Communities

6.2.6 Improvement in corruption

a) The target of 74% conviction rate of persons arrested for cable theft was exceeded by achieving 80% (4 convictions from 5 verdicts).

b) With regards the target to strengthen the capacity of the Special Tribunal established under the SIU Act for civil, it is reported that 14 civil cases were enrolled in the Special Tribunal Court, between April to September 2020.

6.2.7 Reduced organised crime

a) Serious Organised Crime continues to be a threat to the authority of the State and the safety and security of the citizens of South Africa. In particular, drug syndicates and those perpetrating illegal mining activities, pose a major risk to the safety of law-abiding citizens.

b) It is to be noted that 57,14% of registered serious organised crime project investigations were successfully closed, against a target of 72%. It is reported that projects had to be extended due to COVID.

c) The target to neutralise 90% of identified organised criminal groups or syndicates with arrests was not achieved as no organised criminal groups were neutralised. The reason for the non-achievement is alluded to lockdown restrictions which makes access to public and courts difficult and also to the decline in the aggressive approach to suspect track and trace operations and the utilisation of an informer network.

d) The Cluster also received and responded to 100% (6) of requests to reduce identified Illegal mining operations, and they terminated the operations with arrests

6.2.8 A well defended and secured cyberspace

a) Cybercrime has been described as being relentless and having a catastrophic impact on economic growth, jobs and investment.

b) Government is hard at work in ensuring that the Cybersecurity Bill is reviewed as progress to date includes proposing draft Cybersecurity provisions for

addition in the General Intelligence Laws Amendment Bill, 2020. The Amendment Bill, is planned for tabling in Parliament.

c) With regards the target to have BMA operational at 36 Ports of Entry by 2024 and 10 segments of the land borderline, it is reported that the BMA Bill, 2016 was adopted by Parliament in March 2020 and was assented (signed into law) by President on 21 July 2020 (Act No. 2 of 2020: Border Management Authority Act, 2020). The establishment of the BMA will address the issue of porous borders.

6.2.9 Rehabilitation of offenders

a) The target to increase the number of victims participating in Restorative Justice Programme, the Victim Offender Dialogues (through the use of Social Auxiliary Workers) have been suspended. The Department is using AVR (audio/video receiver) to conduct victim offender dialogues where stakeholders indicated readiness to engage. As a result, the performance in quarter 1 has decreased by 85%.

b) In terms of social integration, 99% in terms of the percentage of parolees without violations per year was attained

c) And 99% in relation to percentage of probationers without violations per year, all against a set target of 97%.

6.2.10 Community-Police partnerships

a) Crime is a social phenomenon that cannot be prevented by the police alone, hence partnerships are critical in the fight against crime. Community Police Forums (CPFs) play a pivotal role in the building of partnerships, sharing information between the police and the community and tapping into resident's knowledge and expertise.

b) With regards the target to implement the Community in Blue Concept in nine provinces by 31 March 2020, it is noted that to date, no Province has implemented the Community-in-Blue Concept.

c) Also the Traditional Policing Concept, which was planned to be implemented in KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern Cape, Limpopo and Mpumalanga by 31 March 2021. In the 1st Quarter of 2020/2021 has not been implemented.

d) Regarding the Implementation of the Safer City Framework (including smart technology), it is reported that the Safer City Framework was implemented, in three cities, namely, EThekwini (Durban), Cape Town, and Port Elizabeth. There are delays in the implementation of the framework due to the travel ban between Provinces, which makes it difficult to have regular engagements between all stakeholders in the different provinces.

6.2.11 Border Security

a) Improving border security and management by addressing security threats and vulnerabilities is one of the key objectives identified in the NDP and the National Security Strategy.

b) During the reporting period, 15 landward subunits for border safeguarding were deployed. Landward, air and maritime capabilities were committed for the purposes of supporting the people of South Africa internally by safe guarding our borders, disaster relief, search and rescue, bridge building in communities isolated from essential services and conducting coastal patrols. The Defence Force rendered support to the SAPS at the Cape Flats, Western Cape in order to curtail gang violence.

c) The target to have 100% of identified ports of entry equipped with biometric functionality is not attained as it is reported that the developers were not allowed to access the work place during level 5 of the lockdown and had to review the target to 70%. This means instead of rolling out the new system on all counters, only 70% will be upgraded and the 30% will remain with the old system for stability of the new system and service continuity.

d) Progress with regards the target to implement the DHA Automated Biometric Information System (ABIS) is that 49 of the 54 million records of HANIS data is migrated into ABIS.

6.2.12 Gender-Based Violence and Femicide

a. The SAPS prioritises the provision of Victim-Friendly Rooms at police stations that currently don't have these facilities.

b. Currently, 1 149 police stations are rendering a victim-friendly service to victims of crime.

c. It is to be noted that SAPS developed and distributed the guidelines for the policing of gender-based violence, during the COVID-19 lockdown and beyond, accompanied by a resource directory for services available from departments and civil societies on gender-based violence

d. It is also reported that local community radio stations were used to conduct public awareness raising on services available, regarding the various forms of gender-based violence and child abuse.

e. The prioritisation of GBV has managed to fast-track government processes as an immediate response to the scourge, wherein the President announced an Emergency Action Plan (EAP) for R1.6 billion focusing on improving access to justice for survivors of violence and prevention campaigns to change attitudes and behaviour. The GBVF Emergency Response Action Plan (ERAP) that was implemented by government and civil society between October 2019 and March 2020 demonstrated the effectiveness of multi-sectoral coordination. The approach harnessed the roles, responsibilities, resources and commitment of all stakeholders across different tiers of government and sections of society.

f. Cabinet approved the National Strategic Plan on Gender-based Violence and Femicide (NSP on GBVF) and established the Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) on gender-based Violence and Femicide to oversee its implementation in November 2019. The NSP on GBVF provides a framework for different role players to intervene in a multifaceted and integrated manner. Similarly, the NSP is based on the understanding that a multi-sectoral approach is central to effectively addressing the GBVF affront. The Department of Women, Youth and Persons with disabilities is the custodian of the NSP and entrusted with the coordination and reporting on progress to the President. This is done in collaboration with DPME including the production of the weekly reports as directed by the President. for the implementation of the strategy.

g. One of the key highlights for pillar three of the strategy aimed at providing protection, safety and justice for survivors of GBVF and effectively holds

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perpetrators accountable for their actions; progress is underway to amend three separate Bills that are intended to address GBVF. The first Bill amends the Domestic Violence Act to address practical challenges, gaps, and anomalies that have manifested themselves since the Act was put into operation in 1999. This is aimed providing greater protection to victims in violent domestic relationships and to curb domestic homicides and femicide.

h. The second Bill amends primary law dealing with sexual offences which, among others, contains a Chapter on a National Register for Sex Offenders to broaden the scope of the categories of sex offenders whose names must be included in the Register, which currently only convicted sex offenders whose victims are children or mentally disabled persons are included.

i. The last Bill tightens up on the bail and sentencing laws in cases that have a bearing on gender-based violence and femicide. The intention is to ensure that persons who pose a danger to members of society because they are alleged to have committed GBVF-related offences are not released on bail; and also proposes changes to the laws on sentencing to ensure that convicted offenders for GBVF-related offences receive sufficiently severe sentences and that they are not released on parole in the normal course.

j. The success of the GBVF-NSP is therefore dependant on respective stakeholders moving beyond differences, building meaningful relationships of trust, and finding ways to work together – recognising that B+GBVF is a shadow pandemic to Covid-19.

6.3 Major challenges and blockages affecting implementation of the interventions identified in the MTSF. Include the Impact of Covid-19 on the planned interventions by the sector.

6.3.1 COVID-19 experience, implications and lessons learned

a) Covid-19 experiences meant certain rights had to be limited in order to enable social distancing so as to curtail the spread of the virus. Directions issued in terms of the Disaster Management Act, 2002 suspended all sporting, arts, cultural and religious events; directed for the closure of public places such as

parks, theatres and cinemas; imposed restrictions on gathering and movements of persons including regulations on visits. The Covid-19 lockdown from level 5 up to level 4 has demonstrated improved levels of trust in the government, a sense of belonging and a willingness to participate and help others, which are all classic signs of strong social cohesion and a capable state. Both surveys from BrandSA and UJ-HSRC on citizen perception conducted in April 2020 confirm confidence (73%) in the President and government in handling the Coronavirus outbreak. The lockdown regulations, although necessary, also brought about some unintended consequences including the compromise of the objectives of social cohesion and nation building, particularly that of fostering solidarity among individuals and communities and sharing of common spaces.

b) The cancellation of events has had a huge impact on both national and provincial plans particularly on customised sector indicators that are predominately mass-based. Women, youth and persons with disabilities are disproportionately impacted due to attitudinal, environmental and institutional barriers that are reproduced in the Covid-19 response. Social cohesion initiatives, particularly at this time of isolation are best placed to bring hope and comfort to South Africans as we unite in the fight against COVID-19.

c) The introduction of the GovChat provides another opportunity for public interface with government and the fact that the platform has been activated and live with built-in features for Covid-19 response. This should be considered as a valuable source of citizen experiences on the ground and this seeks to promote the District Development Model

d) As the lockdown progressed, the South African public got further acquainted with the state apparatus and measures put in place to enforce the legal framework of the Disaster Management Act such as the National Coronavirus Command Council (NCCC). The lockdown has enhanced the use of technology, the effect of which will have an impact far beyond the pandemic, and may well change the way Government provides services and support in the future.

e) The outbreak of Coronavirus also imposed major disruptions on safety, security and international relations. Food security was one of the challenges, marred

with allegations of theft of food parcels by public officials and nepotism with food parcel allocation, increases in the looting of premises selling liquor, incidents of corruption and bribery on the part of law enforcement, vandalising and burning of schools and increase in gender-based violence against vulnerable groups, in particular women and children.

f) In addition, there were borderline security challenges experienced with residents from neighbouring countries seeking medical assistance and the smuggling of cigarettes and alcohol.

g) In the Correctional Service facilities, there were challenges with regards to overcrowding, which is a risk factor for COVID 19 infections. In a proclamation gazetted on 08 May, President Ramaphosa authorised the release on parole of low-risk inmates to ease overcrowding and curb the spread of COVID-19 in correctional facilities. This was a measure to combat the spread of the virus in correctional facilities which are considered high risk areas for infection. At the time it was reported that 19 000 low risk sentenced offenders would be eligible for this parole.

h) The initial releases started from 20 May 2020 and by 30 June 2020, 5 026 offenders were placed on parole and four (4) have been re-arrested. The released inmates are placed in Community Corrections where they will continue serving their sentences. Community Corrections officers will be entrusted with monitoring the parolees and administrating their parole conditions.

i) COVID-19 has reduced physical monitoring of offenders within the system of community corrections. High risk offenders have been prioritised for physical monitoring while field calls are conducted for low and medium risk offenders. Low risk and medium risk that are monitored remotely telephonically are confirmed by location and video of the surroundings. In certain circumstances the police and other law enforcement agencies are requested for assistance. The lack of physical monitoring does pose challenges particularly where probation officers are unable to fully verify the facts that have been provided. The current crisis has accelerated the Department's plans to increase monitoring through alternative means such as electronic monitoring.

j) Non-compliance with lockdown regulations also a concern. Government put measures to curb social activities to help the citizens in preventing the rapid

spread of the virus. And efforts were increased to ensure that there are patrols, roadblocks and increased police visibility and However, some of the community members still did not comply to the regulations. Alcohol and cigarettes bans were put in place however; we saw a surge to illegal trade in these products. After tears, after funerals, as a form of social gatherings, was also noticed, which is also a transgression of lockdown regulations. Noteworthy was also an increase in the destruction and damage of critical social and public infrastructure during the lockdown.

6.4 Cross-cutting issues that have a contribution to major challenges and blockages affecting the sector's implementation of the interventions identified in the MTSF.

6.4.1 Transformation pace in the labour market is noted with concern and the finalisation of the Employment Equity Amendment Bill 2019 tabled in Parliament in March 2020 will be key in realising imperatives of the affirmative action policies which includes the representation of Africans, Women and People with Disabilities.

6.4.2 Whilst the lockdown regulations have been eased, the current restrictions on mass events remains and impacts directly on the delivery mode for mass-based interventions which also includes the schools, sport, arts, culture and recreation environment.

6.4.3 In view of the need to seamlessly champion the struggle to eradicate GBVF, it is of paramount importance that the national response continues to be founded on a participatory and multi-sectoral approach. Given the enormity of the task and the need to uphold an inclusive approach, all government tiers must be encouraged and brought on board to support and build cohesion around the GBVF-NSP vision of eradicating gender-based violence and ensuring that the NSP is fully implemented.

6.4.4 The BrandSA online public perception survey results from April to June 2020 shows a three-month trend that is dwindling on public confidence in government

measures to minimise the spread of the virus from 88% in April to 76% in June 2020. The results show that confidence in the leadership of the NCCC has retreated the most (13% decline), dropping from 81% in April to 68% in June. In addition, several legal challenges to regulations also stirred public distrust in certain regulations and measures taken by government.

6.4.5 Compared to the early period of the national lockdown, people are also feeling more at risk of contracting the virus than during April with 69% and up with 73% in June. This in turn is hoped to encourage people to adhere to basic hygiene principles such as washing of hands, wearing of musk and keeping social distance.

6.4.6 The most important point to note is that addressing some of the key drivers of crime are beyond the scope and mandate of the criminal justice system. Consequently, more progress will need to be made in order to address the socio-economic determinants of crime through, inter alia, implementing the Integrated Social Crime Prevention Strategy and the Charter of positive values of the Moral Regeneration Movement.

6.4.7 The prevalence of violent crimes and deaths of women and children as a result of gender-based violence and femicide in society is a challenge. Women do not feel free in their homes and communities and this puts a serious challenge on the Criminal Justice System.

6.4.8 Endemic allegations of corruption, especially that relates to the fraudulent UIF claims, overpricing of goods and services, violation of emergency procurement regulations, and collusion between officials and service providers.

6.4.9 Proliferation of drugs and drug abuse is a precursor to social ills such as violence, crime, injures and premature deaths. Therefore, the three key pillars of the National Drugs Master Plan, namely demand, supply and harm reduction should all receive the attention they deserve, through a coordinated and multi-pronged approach, to address the scourge of drugs.

6.5 Actions needed to address major constraints and challenges (innovative action to achieve the MTSF targets (in the presence of COVID-19).

6.5.1 In normalising Covid-19 and noting some remedial actions and alternative methods of delivery that have been proposed including the review of the Departmental Strategic Plans and Annual Performance plans in order to intensifying government response to the pandemic (circular 2 of 2020 from DPME), the immediate review of the MTSF to reprioritise and repurpose it accordingly is inevitable. This will ultimately inform and assist in building a relevant and responsive monitoring system with adjusted targets and indicators in accordance with Covid-19.

6.5.2 Proposed platforms of engagement are mostly digital and on a positive note, costs are being saved, however, on another note a high level of exclusion prevails due to the required means to participate in these engagements. This means that the poor and those located in rural/remote areas remains excluded in the empowerment programmes, some services targeted at them. Adopting new Information Technology (IT) systems therefore requires upskilling and empowering of employees to meet the emerging demand in line with the alternative implementation modalities for the affected programmes whilst maintaining values of the Constitution.

6.5.3 Stable, well-functioning families tend to exhibit higher levels of social capital and resilience which in turn contributes to greater social cohesion at the societal level (HSRC review 2016). Taking cognisance of the importance of issues of families in fostering social cohesion, programmes aimed at strengthening families so that they can inculcate constitutional values have continuously lagged behind by the Department of Social Development. As a result, they also do not feature in the current MTSF Priority 6 (Social Cohesion). This become a critical intervention noting that families are a base for social cohesion. Family is critical to achieving a healthy, cohesive society.

6.5.4 In realising the imperatives of the GBVF-NSP, it should be mandatory for all sectors to make commitments and operationalise the plan into their respective mandates according to the Pillars of the strategy. This will assist in dealing with the GBVF scourge across the sectors and with the participation of civil society and the private sector through collaboration.

6.5.5 Efforts should be enhanced to reduce incidents of serious crimes through interventions such as implementing, the revised National Drug Master Plan, the White Paper on Safety and Security, the National Anti-Gang Strategy etc.

6.5.6 The production of an integrated crime and violence prevention strategy needs to be expedited. It is noted that a Draft Integrated Crime and Violence Prevention Strategy (Draft Strategy) was approved for consultation at the end of the 2019/20 financial year. The Draft Strategy proposes a 'whole of government' and 'whole of society' approach, and clarifies the roles and responsibilities of key national and provincial departments in implementing safety programmes, as well as placing emphasis on the role of local government in planning for and implementing safety programmes.

6.5.7 There is consequently, a need for improvement in areas of investigations and prosecutions, increased police visibility, tackling the scourge of corruption and serious and violent crimes, implementing measures to increasing the effectiveness and efficiency of the criminal justice system.

6.6 Implication of this to the review of the MTSF and optimizing how government operates

6.6.1 The review of the MTSF will ensure alignment and a relevant response to the current environment in terms of planning, monitoring and resource allocation in line with the Covid-19 pandemic and the scourge of GBVF. This means that focus should be on reprioritisation of interventions that contribute to improvement of livelihoods with a specific focus on initiatives creating employment opportunities, reducing poverty and inequalities of opportunities. Implementation of social cohesion programmes remain relevant in transforming society and uniting the country- specifically with the implementation of the redress measures, because without unity of purpose it will be impossible to weather this period of minimal resources.

6.6.2 Raising revenue and reducing costs to government should be prioritised. For example, cognisance should be taken that Illegal mining is on the rise in South Africa and presents challenges including lost revenue (lost tax) that need to be addressed from a range of perspectives. It takes place at abandoned mines and

at operating mines with illegal miners often operating under dangerous conditions. Community-based alternative sentencing should be enhanced to reduce the inmate population, to better meet basic human needs, such as healthcare, food, and accommodation, and to promote effective rehabilitation and successful reintegration of offenders into the community.

6.6.3 In 2016, the process to develop the National Anti-Corruption Strategy, which is a comprehensive Strategy to support improved coordination between the numerous role-players in the fight against corruption, and tackle the systemic causes of corruption was developed. To date there is a draft National Anti-Corruption Strategy (2020-2030), with a monitoring plan and an implementation strategy, which was targeted to be finalised in June 2020 but it was delayed owing to COVID 19. However, a Reference Group was established to provide quality assurance and to endorse the draft strategy for Cabinet Approval.

6.6.4 The surge of violent crimes and deaths of women and children as a result of GBVF remains a concern. Women do not feel free in their homes and communities and this is a challenge for the Criminal Justice System. To deal with the increase in sexual offences, focus should be on ensuring the increase in the reporting of these crimes in order to overcome the problem of acute under-reporting.

7. **Recommendations**

It is recommended that:

7.1   It is recommended that:

7.1.1   the new MTSF, departmental strategic plans and annual performance plans must infuse the national Strategic Plan on Gender Based violence to ensure that women are and feel safe and the constitutional value of non- sexism are realised. All members of the executive must drive all six pillars of the NSP (GBV)

7.1.2 In order to deal with both crime and social cohesion fostering values of the constitution becomes necessary and programmes for the family, schools and society at large should be resourced

7.1.3 Efforts should be enhanced to reduce incidents of serious crimes through interventions such as implementing, the revised National Drug Master Plan, the White Paper on Safety and Security, the National Anti-Gang Strategy etc.

7.1.4 Redress and righting the wrongs of the past must be prioritised for all to feel the belong. This includes ensuring all have access to the social wage as well as economic, cultural and space redress.

7.1.5 Raising revenue and reducing costs to government should be prioritised- illegal mining, illicit financial flows etc must be prioritised to mobilise funds for development.

Cabinet recommendation:

2.4.4 The **Committee recommended** that Cabinet –

(a) notes the Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation's Review of the Bi-Annual Progress Report of the Medium-Term Strategic Framework (MTSF): January to July 2020 for Priority 6: Social Cohesion (Including Gender and Persons with Disabilities) and Safe Communities, as presented; and

(b) notes the proposal for the Ministers of Social Development, of Home Affairs, of Employment and Labour and of State Security to collaborate on establishing an integrated Comprehensive Social Security System linked to the National Population Register (NPR) of South Africa.