

## **NATIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION ON MEDIUM AND LONG-TERM FUTURE OF THE COUNTRY**

**6 SEPTEMBER 2024**

The National Planning Commission (NPC) held its quarterly plenary meeting on 6 September 2024, its first meeting since the May 2024 national and provincial elections. The Commission welcomed the re-appointment of Minister Maropene Ramokgopa as the Chairperson of the NPC. In his opening remarks, the Deputy Chairperson of the National Planning Commission, Prof Maluleke emphasised that the NPC would continue to engage the seventh administration with the same sense of independence and professionalism with which it worked with the sixth administration. He also noted the high quality of the work done by the NPC since its last plenary, especially in the development of advisories and public consultations.

The Commission acknowledged Casual Day as an important national reminder to ensure inclusive planning that takes account of the challenges faced by persons with disabilities.

As an independent advisory body appointed by the President, the NPC is the custodian of South Africa's [National Development Plan: Vision 2030](#) (NDP). The primary role of the NPC is to advise government and Parliament on matters pertaining to the implementation of the NDP. It also has the responsibility to mobilise the whole of society, including the private sector, around the objectives of the NDP, which remains the only cross-cutting long-term plan for national development in South Africa.

As part of the deliberations, the NPC approved seven advisory notes to government and to society as a whole. Each of the advisory notes makes recommendations aimed at addressing

the key objectives of the NDP, namely, to reduce poverty, unemployment and inequality. The advisory notes cover the following themes:

- NDP implementation priorities for the medium-term development plan
- The District Development Model
- Prevention of crime and violence
- Leveraging on South Africa's international standing
- Harnessing administrative data for policy and planning purposes
- Improving basic education
- Financing for water infrastructure.

The NPC will be hosting engagements with the relevant stakeholders on these topics over the next few months as they refine the proposals and seek to influence decision-makers and implementers about the significance and implications of the advice.

The Chairperson, Minister Ramokgopa, appreciated the independence of the NPC's views as expressed through the advisories and encouraged this approach that did not focus on one sector only, and that similarly was drawn from wide-ranging stakeholder consultation. She noted, "that the NPC was about South Africa coming together, not only about government, but about bringing everyone together to find solutions".

For media inquiries, kindly contact Zarina Rahman 082 345 2919 or email at [Zarina@dpme.gov.za](mailto:Zarina@dpme.gov.za)

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