

NATIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION URGES COUNTRY TO CRAFT VISION BEYOND 2030

3 MARCH 2024

The National Planning Commission (NPC) held a strategic Lekgotla on 1 - 2 March 2024 under the theme: ***“National Planning Commission: Taking the NDP Forward.”***

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 around the objectives of the NDP, which remains the only cross-cutting long-term plan for national development in South Africa.

Minister Maropene Ramokgopa, in her capacity as the Chairperson of the NPC, said, “The NPC is expected to provide evidence-based advice on futuristic national planning and foresight scenario planning. The NPC must assist in forging a conversation among key stakeholders, leading to effective and impactful social compacts on key issues facing the country. We cannot succeed unless we all pull together in the same direction”.

As part of its deliberations at the Lekgotla, the NPC resolved to continue to focus on possible solutions to the challenges identified in its Ten-Year Review and to use the NPC Call to Action, to rally the state, the private sector and society at large to play their role in the implementation of the NDP towards 2030. The Call to Action identified four priority issues:

- a national infrastructure implementation programme,
- a sectoral growth implementation programme,
- a just energy transition implementation programme, and
- a national state capability building programme.

The Commission welcomes the recent passing of the Public Service Amendment Bill by the National Assembly. This is a major milestone in the construction of a capable state and the creation of a professional public service. The NPC played a pivotal role in the shaping of this crucial Bill and thereby facilitating the eventual adoption of this essential legislation.

The NPC recognises that the successful implementation of long-term planning requires ongoing adaptation and learning based on rigorous research and evidence that builds on previous endeavours by the state and its partners. Internationally, the practice of periodically revising long-term development plans is common to guide policy decisions and resource allocation.

During his address, the Deputy Chairperson of the Commission, Prof Tinyiko Maluleke referring to the post-1994 generation reminded the Commission that, “In 2030, Tintswalo will be 36 years old and fast approaching 40. So will the South African democracy. We have a responsibility to give hope to Tintswalo’s children and her grandchildren too”.

While not losing sight of Vision 2030, and in the context of the dire challenges being faced by the country, the NPC also confirmed its forward-looking perspective by setting priorities for the remaining period of its term and beginning preparations for the country's subsequent National Development Plan.

The NPC remains convinced that the strategic goal of the NDP namely, the elimination of poverty, unemployment and inequality remains as compelling as ever. However, for these goals to be achieved, a comprehensive, co-ordinated, multi-sectoral approach to development is required. Such an approach must include partnerships between civil society, the private sector, government, and academia.

It is our future, let us make it work!

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Vision 2030: Our Future, Make it Work