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A Commission for Gender Equality Newsletter

26 January 2023

EDITION 65

Nkomo Meets Stakeholders Involved in GBVF Fight



CEO of the Commission for Gender Equality, Ms Phelisa Nkomo.

The South African society needs a man-driven gender conversation to help break the constructs of gender-based violence & femicide and patriarchy, because this responsibility cannot be left to women's organisations alone. This was a message by Ms Phelisa Nkomo, the Chief Executive Officer of the Commission for Gender Equality (CGE).

Speaking at a high-level stakeholder engagement that welcomed her to her new role at the CGE, Ms Nkomo also lamented existing economic barriers that stop women from realising real gender empowerment and called on state entities to work together to bring this to an end. "Economic imbalance has to do with the social instability we collectively experience as a society, and for us to change this, we will

need to contribute immensely to the knowledge development around this area" she said. The stakeholder engagement was attended by senior representatives from the Gauteng South African Police Service (SAPS), Gauteng Premier's office, City of Johannesburg, Department of Women, Youth and People with Disabilities (DWYPD), and the Commission for Cultural, Religious and Linguistic Communities (CRL).

Major General Hendricks from Gauteng SAPS welcomed Ms Nkomo and committed to working with the CGE in the fight against gender-based violence, "We deal with a lot of violence in Gauteng and as the police, we always witness the impact it has on families. We pledge our full support to the CGE and will work with them on an

ongoing basis, as we see them as a partner that can help us prevent tragedies and reduce violence" he said. Deputy Director General from the DWYPD, Ms Shoki Tshabalala, said the department would continue to give its full support to the Commission, "The call for economic empowerment of women has to be met with the greatest sense of urgency, because we want to build women's resilience through socio-economic development" she said.

CGE's acting chairperson, Ms Nomasonto Mazibuko, thanked the Commission's stakeholders for their support, "We are building a strong institution that will fulfil the promise we made of delivering on our Constitutional mandate" she said. The gathering took place at CGE head offices on 20 January.



"We pledge our full support to the CGE because we depend on organisations like them to succeed in our work of ending violence" – MG Hendricks, Gauteng SAPS.



"Gauteng Province takes gender equality seriously and we call on the CGE to take us in their confidence when they do policy development" – Ms. Ntombikayise Zulu, Gauteng Premier's Office.



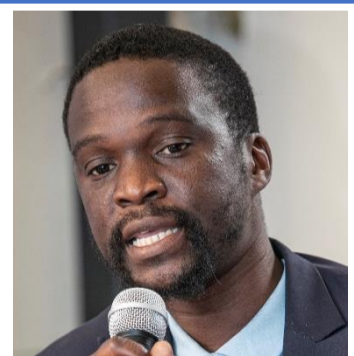
"We are looking forward to CGE pushing us to our limit, we want to build women's resilience through socio-economic development" – Ms. Shoki Tshabalala, Department of Women, Youth and People with Disabilities.



CGE to probe allegations of sexual exploitation of vulnerable workers at liquor firms

The Commission for Gender Equality (CGE) has launched an investigation into allegations of sex-for-jobs conducted by labour brokers at the operation centres of liquor firms Distell and Heineken. The allegations emerged during hearings at the Competition Tribunal into the merger of the two firms.

A non-profit organisation representing temporary workers at the firms' operations brought these allegations to light. CGE Head of Legal, Dr Dennis Matotoka said the CGE will use the investigation to establish facts and engage the two firms on its findings. "Our investigation will be a separate process from the Tribunal" Matotoka said.



Dr Dennis Matotoka, CGE Head of Legal Services

CGE Celebrates Top Matric Achievers in Class of 2022



The Commission for Gender Equality has commended learners from different backgrounds who passed Grade 12 with flying colours, "The protection, development and the attainment of gender equality aligns with the promotion of equitable access to education for children of all social classes," said Commissioner Ohara Ngoma-Diseko during the matric results announcement ceremony hosted by the Department of Basic Education. The Commission was represented by the Acting Chairperson

Nomasonto Mazibuko and Commissioners Ngoma-Diseko and Dibeela Mothupi. "We believe that no child should be prevented from accessing a classroom. Education is an important vehicle for transforming society and eradicating the factors which entrench gender inequality such as unequal access to education, thus the CGE will conduct this oversight" Ngoma-Diseko added. The director-general of basic education, Mweli Mathanzima said 422 478 girls sat for the NSC

exams compared to 329 522 boys. A total of 326 894 girls passed compared to 253 661 boys. "The Commission has a men and boys programme that needs to be strengthened to focus on men and boy's mental health as well. The promotion and attainment of gender equality is not and should not be at the detriment of the boy child, and men" Acting Chairperson Mazibuko said.