



MEDIA STATEMENT

JOHANNESBURG THE DEPUTY PRESIDENT CHAIRED THE HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (HRDC) OF SOUTH AFRICA MEETING IN JOHANNESBURG, 10 JUNE 2016.

Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa who is the Chairperson of the Human Resource Development Council of South Africa, today, 10 June 2016 chaired the 16th meeting of the Human Resource Development Council (HRDC) of South Africa in Johannesburg.

The meeting was held at the Harambee Youth Accelerator Centre, where the Deputy President Ramaphosa together with HRD Council members, took a tour which showcased the centre's contribution to youth development and employment.

The centre recruits, screens, trains and places first-time youth work-seekers who are marginalized from the existing corporate recruitment networks.

In his opening remarks, the Deputy President thanked the leadership of Harambee centre, as an excellent partner of the City of Johannesburg and different Corporates in South Africa. He emphasised that the centre is a rich expertise which requires greater support from industry, government and civil society.

The HRDC meeting discussed among other things, issues relating to labour market intelligence, the current challenges facing Post-School Education. The National Education Collaboration Trust (NECT) also provided Council with feedback on what it does in supporting the Districts in Basic Education. There was a presentation from the University of Stellenbosch which focused on the challenges in early grade reading of the South African learners.

The presentation on Labour Market Intelligent Project (LMIP) focused on amongst others; the labour market analysis framework, skills forecasting and pathways through education and training into the workplace.

The meeting also touched on the National Education Collaboration Trust (NECT) which deals with projects that are being implemented to improve the quality and outputs for basic education in the country. NECT is also seen as a catalyst that mobilises social partners in testing and implementing innovations aimed at improving the performance of basic education system.

The presentation on current challenges facing the higher education sector highlighted the need to expand the TVET system so that it addresses the NDP targets of 2.6 Million and to improve throughput. It also noted an increase on the enrolments at universities, establishment of three new universities in the country; the good academic reputation and the establishment of community Training colleges.

The meeting agreed on the following decisions:

- That Universities must build a culture of responsible students, by changing their mind sets

- The establishment of a task team comprising of the Departments of Higher Education and Training, Basic Education and Science and Technology to address teaching of Maths and Science in our Schools.
- The Council agreed that Harambee should work with Community Education and Training Colleges to provide training to out of school unemployed youth.
- The Council also agreed that strong collaborations must be forged and exchange programmes be established to address the resource gaps in particular to historically disadvantaged institutions.

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**Issued by Human Resource Development Council of South Africa
Secretariat**

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