



## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

***06 APRIL 2017***

### ***FREE STATE HOSTED THE HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT PROVINCIAL COORDINATING FORUM (HRDPF)***

The Human Resource Development Council Provincial Coordinating Forum (HRDCPF) held a meeting hosted by the Office of the Premier, Free State, on Thursday, 6 April 2017. This forum comprising representatives mainly from the office of the Premier of each province, included invited guests from critical stakeholders including the Phalaborwa Mining Company, National School of Government, and the representatives from both Delloittes and Accounting Made Easy (AME), started on a high note. The HRDC Maths and Science Committee also gave a progress update on the work done so far in enhancing the quality of Maths and Science outputs.

The AME presented a programme designed to assist learners to improve their understanding of and marks in accounting. This programme suite includes a one day course that has proven to change how accounting is taught and learnt at school. Mark Samowitz from AME offered to pilot the programme to grade 12 learners of one government high school to measure the impact the programme can have on improving their grades.



The HRDC Maths and Science Committee presented a brief progress report on activities around improving Maths and Science. This committee, amongst other things, is mainly focusing on teacher education at school level.

Challenges around teaching of Maths and Science were raised and possible solutions were deliberated on. The Forum noted issues that provinces faced with regards to Maths and Science and are keen to implement recommendations from this committee to improve the quality of Maths and Science. The forum emphasised the need to improve teacher education to close the gaps in the learning and teaching process.

Palabora Mining Company (PMC) presented the difference the company is making in their local community with regards to Skills Development in Phalaborwa. The presentation shared plans to respond to the local community challenges relating to unemployment and skills development. There is significant impact made in both employment creation and community development. PMC has made a significant effort in partnering with the Limpopo provincial government through the office of the Premier and colleges in the province. They offer lecturer and learner development as well as trade tests to artisans. Other programmes that are offered include training in mining, metallurgy and mineral processing to employees, contractors and communities.

The Free State as the host province shared key highlights from their province with regards to HRD initiatives in the province. The office of the Premier assists young people in areas of artisan development, foundation learning, production of professionals and small medium macro enterprises through strong industry



and education institutions partnerships. The remainder of the provinces also made presentations on progress and challenges faced relating to HRD.

The importance of TVET colleges responding to industry skills needs was highlighted. The forum further resolved to encourage partnerships between industry and colleges in keeping with the HRD Council's Adopt-A-TVET College.

The HRD Provincial Coordinating Forum was established with the mandate of creating a link between the Human Resource Development Council (HRDC) and activities at provincial level. The forum is a platform where Provinces provide feedback on the implementation of the HRD strategy.

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