



Commission On Gender Equality

PRESS RELEASE

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CGE ANNOUNCES PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENT OF NEW CHAIRPERSON

Johannesburg, March 12 2008 - President Thabo Mbeki has appointed Ms. Nomboniso Gasa as the Chairperson of the Commission on Gender Equality (CGE) for a period of 5 years with effect from February 23, 2008. Ms Gasa's appointment comes at a critical time as the CGE has embarked on a comprehensive organizational change strategy and processes.

Ms. Gasa is a renowned gender equality and human rights activist who has published widely on the subject. Her passion and commitment to gender equality, human rights and dignity of all persons is known to all those who have worked with her.

The Commission on Gender Equality welcomes this appointment and also that of Dr. Andre Keet, who has been appointed as a twelfth Commissioner.

Currently the CGE has undertaken an overarching and systematic Organisational Diagnosis aimed at overhauling its systems, processes and institutional culture. After in-depth discussions, the CGE Commissioners decided to undertake this bold action which will assist in the development and growth of the CGE. Commissioners have, in particular, noted the comments, reports and reviews of various studies, including the Ad Hoc Committee on Chapter Nine Institutions.

“This Organisational Diagnosis is an attempt to address some of the limitations and challenges facing the CGE. But above all, we have undertaken this project because we want the Commission on Gender Equality to become the institution many hoped it would be. We know that strengthening an institution of this nature is not an easy task but it is our commitment to ensure that by the time our term comes to an end, we have developed a strong, systematic and dynamic organisation,” said Acting Chairperson and Commissioner Memani-Balani today.

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