



correctional services

Department:
Correctional Services
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL COMMISSIONER

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Dr. MS Motshekga, MP
Chairperson: Portfolio Committee on Justice and Correctional Services
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Dear Chairperson

RE: SUBMISSION OF THE PRESENTATION FOR THE BRIEFING SCHEDULED FOR 17 SEPTEMBER 2014

The Department of Correctional Services is scheduled to appear before the Portfolio Committee on 17 September 2014 to brief the Committee on challenges experienced by the Department in the delivery of Rehabilitation and Reintegration programmes/services.

Kindly receive the attached presentation for the abovementioned meeting.

Yours sincerely

ZI MODISE
ACTING NATIONAL COMMISSIONER
DATE:

2014/09/09



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OVERVIEW TO THE PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE

17 SEPTEMBER 2014

REHABILITATION EFFORTS

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

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- Production Workshops and Agriculture
- Sports, Recreation, Arts, Culture and Libraries
- Rehabilitation Budget
- Retention of professional staff
- Partnerships
- Summary

PURPOSE

The purpose of the presentation to the Portfolio committee is to provide an overview on the following aspects:

- A report on rehabilitation for the period 2009 - 2014
- Obstacles to increase the rehabilitation budgets
- Measures in place to mitigate the negative impact on the shortage of professional staff
- DCS partnerships with community-, religious-, non-governmental organizations, organs of state to extent rehabilitation services

MANDATES

International

- United Nations Conventions, has agreed on minimum standards which actually accentuate human rights such as:
 - The Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (1957);
 - The Body of Principles for the Protection of All Persons under Any Form of Detention or Imprisonment (1988);
 - The Basic Principles for the Treatment of Prisoners (1990);
 - The Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice (1985).

MANDATES (continued)

DCS specific

- The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (Act 108/1996)
- Correctional Services Act (Act 111/1998), as amended
- Criminal Procedure Act (Act 51/1977)
- The White Paper on Corrections (2005) - guiding document outlines the strategic direction of the Department with rehabilitation at the centre of all its activities

PURPOSE OF CORRECTIONAL SYSTEM

The purpose of the correctional system is to contribute towards maintaining and protecting a just, peaceful and safe society by —

- “(a) enforcing sentences of the courts in the manner prescribed by this Act;
- (b) detaining all inmates in safe custody whilst ensuring their human dignity; and
- (c) promoting the social responsibility and human development of all offenders and persons subject to community corrections”. (Section 2 of Correctional Services Act, Act No 111 of 1998)

REHABILITATION (continued)

- Active engagement of the community in the rehabilitation process of the offender as a collective responsibility strengthens partnerships in the correcting, development and care of the offender and leads to a change in the community's attitude towards ex-offenders.
- The important role of family members and the community at large cannot be over emphasized



REHABILITATION (continued)

- Sentenced offenders attend a variety of interventions in order to be successfully reintegrated back into society
- Successful reintegration and rehabilitation remain the Departments focus
- Ex-offenders need support and job opportunities upon their release, with the assistance of communities

Needs-Based Sentence Planning

- Needs-based correction, development, care and security programmes, have been developed and implemented as part of the rehabilitation of offenders and preparing them for reintegration back into communities. Assessment tools are available and implemented with the aim to identify specific risks and needs. This facilitates proper placement of offenders and guide the provision of programmes, services and interventions.

Security Classification for Rehabilitation

- Offenders are classified based on their security risks and needs. It facilitates a need-driven approach to secure accommodation of offenders, as well as a needs-driven rehabilitation strategy. This ensures a balance between provision of secure and safe incarceration versus correction, rehabilitation, promotion of social responsibility and human development.