



## Commission for Gender Equality

A society free from gender oppression and inequality

### RESEARCH & PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INFORMATION COMMITTEE

#### QUARTERLY REPORT

JANUARY TO MARCH 2015

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

The Research & PEI Committee submits this Report to provide progress on its oversight activities over the two line function departments (i.e. Research & Public Education and Information) during the fourth quarter of the Financial Year 2014/15. During this quarter, the Committee held one scheduled oversight meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2015.

#### 2. RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

##### RESEARCH CONDUCTED

##### **Gender Barometer Project:**

The Research Report has been completed and is currently submitted for design, layout and printing.

##### **GBV Council Project:**

Draft Report has been completed and is being edited. The HOD reported that the members of Council have become inactive, marginalised and excluded from current activities relating to gender-based violence. The Committee agreed that the matter of the Council and its problems should be taken very seriously and also to convey these issues in their ongoing engagements with government, especially the Ministry for Women, in terms of clarifying the legal and operational status of the Council.

##### **AGDI Project**

A draft Report has been submitted by the external consultants for discussion and input by management. The HOD indicated that a complete draft will be submitted by the end of May for consideration by the Project National Advisory Panel.

### **Policy Dialogues**

The Research Department had set itself a target of 20 Policy Dialogues for the 2014/15 Financial Year. Eighteen Policy Dialogues were held thus achieving the baseline target. Only two Policy Dialogues were not completed. These two were reported to have been done outside the 2014/15 Financial Year.

### **2014 Election Monitoring Report**

The Report has been published and tabled in Parliament. It formed part of a batch of research reports that were presented to the Parliament Portfolio Committee on the 21<sup>st</sup> April 2015.

The Report was well received and the Portfolio Committee members promised to share it with their political party members.

## **3. PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INFORMATION DEPARTMENT (PEI)**

### **PROVINCIAL ACTIVITIES AND INTERVENTIONS**

#### **Human Rights Campaign-**

A Concept Paper was developed and dispatched to provinces. All provinces implemented the campaign guided by the Concept Paper. Provinces have developed reports on the campaign.

➤ **Radio Slots:**

Eighteen Radio Slots were conducted through SABC Radio Stations. This service was provided without cost.

➤ **House of traditional leaders and the Religious Sector**

Provinces concluded their activities. They consolidated the interventions that were conducted throughout the financial year and submitted them to the National Office.

➤ **Gender-based Violence in schools**

Provinces implemented the programme and have submitted reports on activities conducted.

#### **4. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES**

##### **Disciplinary Matters and Risks for Line Function Departments**

The Committee Members raised concerns over issues of disciplinary procedures and processes currently under way through the HR Department which appear to take too long to resolve. Both HODs reported that there were outstanding matters of disciplinary processes involving individual staff members in the two departments, and that such matters were taking too long to resolve, resulting in each department having to deal with the possible risks arising out of such processes.

#### **5. RECOMMENDATIONS TO PLENARY**

The Committee wishes to bring to the attention of plenary the following:

5.1 There is need to speed up disciplinary processes.

5.2 The GBV Council matter should be taken very seriously. The issues should be conveyed to government, especially the Ministry for Women, in terms of clarifying the legal and operational status of the Council.

##### **Members:**

Committee Chairperson – Commissioner Sobahle  
Commissioner Maphazi  
Commissioner Mazibuko  
Commissioner Mpumlwana  
Commissioner Nare

##### **Secretariat:**

Ms Maema - CEO  
Dr Rapoo - HOD Research  
Ms de Klerk - HOD PEI  
Ms Bekker - Minute Taker

Signed:

Commissioner Pinkie Sobahle  
Chair: Committee on Research and PEI

Date: May 2015

