



BMF
DEVELOPING MANAGERIAL
LEADERSHIP

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Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities

Fedsure Forum Building
1st Floor
268 Lilian Ngoyi Street, Pretoria
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Per Email

31 May 2023

Attention: Ms N Nobatana

RE: COMMENTS ON THE NATIONAL YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AGENCY AMENDMENT BILL [B13-2022]

The provincial committee, on behalf of the Black Management Forum Gauteng provincial Women Empowerment Desk welcomes the opportunity to make a submission to the Portfolio Committee on Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities on the National Youth Development Agency Amendment Bill [B13-2022].

We have set out our comments in detail in Annexure **A**.

On a more general note, we wish to raise the following general points regarding the current National Youth Development Agency Act 54 of 2008 with regard to the objectives and functions of the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA).

1. NYDA should create monthly advertising of job opportunities, tendered and scholarships in various sectors in order to broaden inclusivity in economic participation.
2. NYDA should create a formal platform for young people from secondary level through campaigns. This can include the creation of a platform for the youth in high schools to have access to opportunities and to know of the type of opportunities available for them when they leave school.
3. NYDA should make township economy attractive as it is often perceived as degrading to operate a business in the township. This can be accomplished by NYDA hosting township talks in the township where the marginalised have access to these talks.
4. NYDA must provide youth with the various opportunities that exists in the agency for low level economic development by choosing a location in (rural and township) that has a high rate of youth unemployment. This initiative will aim to provide youth who do not have access to opportunities to easily accessible opportunities.

Directors:

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Company Secretary: (Vacant)
Reg. No. 1981/001893/08



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5. South Africa is known as a rich country in terms of its diversity and the NYDA should capitalise on this and reflect it on its website, application forms and for inclusivity, it should encourage the youth to submit business plans in all eleven official languages.
6. Since some universities require students to do work integrated learning. It would be beneficial if NYDA could certify itself with the department of Higher Education to declare that students can come to the NYDA to gain entrepreneurship experience. Currently, students struggle to be acknowledged in corporate. With this assistance, the NYDA can state that it is equipping young people to be job makers rather than job seekers.
7. As we live in a digital era, we propose technological/tech classes that can be conducted online and digital marketing can be considered as one of the modules that can be conducted to the youths so that they are not left behind in technological transformation. This can be done via multiple partnerships i.e. technological companies can offer Tech Tuesday classes.
8. NYDA should conduct door-to-door campaigns in rural and township areas to assist the youth in those areas with accessing opportunities that that the NYDA has.
9. NYDA should have a mechanism for youth to provide suggestions and feedback anonymously to allow people who are not comfortable with participating in societal progress in public.

Contact details:
Ayanda Masina



Ayanda Masina
BMF WED committee member

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Annexure A

Section	Heading in Principal Act	Comments
1 - definitions	Definitions	No comments
2 - Amendment of section 3 of Act 54 of 2008	Objects of the Agency	We are in agreement with the more focused objectives but propose that the following objective from the Act (with amendments) remain in the Act: Co-ordinate, evaluate and monitor all programmes initiated and implemented by the Agency Provide a platform for the public sector, private sector and civil organisations to share efforts and opportunities for empowerment, education, training to increase the employability of youth and for opportunities for youth to be partake/participate in the economy of the country partner and assist organs of state, the private sector and non-governmental organisations and community-based organisations on initiatives directed at attainment of employment and skills development Initiate and monitor and evaluate programmes directed at poverty alleviation, urban and rural development and the combating of crime, substance abuse and social decay amongst youth
3 - Amendment of section 5 of Act 54 of 2008	Functions of the Agency	We fully support the insertion of the management of interventions needed to assist the youth to find employment



		As an important note - the amended functions seem to focus more on youth that are already employed or have business and less focus on assisting unemployed youth. The unemployed youth need the support the most as employed youth have access to civil-society organisations as so the NYDA should focus on the youth who do not have access to opportunities. As such, we are not in full agreement with the amended functions and so propose that the following functions from the Act (with amendments) remain in the Act:
		create and administer databases of employment opportunities
		provide bridging programmes for youths to facilitate the transition from school or training to the work environment
		provide training for unemployed youths to enhance their life and professional skills which would enable them to be integrated into the economy
4 - Substitution of section 6 of Act 54 of 2008	Reporting by the Agency	The Agency report to the Minister on the status of youth in the Republic must be annually instead of every two years - the youth unemployment rate is shockingly high and so it requires the necessary attention, urgency and monitoring which must be consistent. In fact, quarterly is more appropriate in order to deal with the dire situation of the youth unemployment rate.
5 - Substitution of section 7 of Act 54 of 2008	Role of organs of state, companies and civil society organisations in youth development	We do not agree with the amendments and the current provisions of the Act must remain as these are more definite and specific. The proposed amendments are too vague and give organs of state too much leeway to not consider and implement policies inclusive of the youth

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6 - Substitution of section 8 of Act 54 of 2008	Control and management of affairs of Agency	Amendments accepted
7 - Amendment of section 9 of Act 54 of 2008	Composition, appointment and conditions of service of the Board	Amendments accepted
8 - Amendment of section 10 of Act 54 of 2008	Disqualification, removal from office and resignation of director of Board	Amendments accepted
9 - Amendment of section 11 of Act 54 of 2008	Meetings of Board	Amendments accepted
10 - Amendment of section 12 of Act 54 of 2008	Committees of Board	Amendments accepted
11 - Amendment of section 17 of Act 54 of 2008	Delegation and assignment	Amendments accepted
12 - Amendment of section 18 of Act 54 of 2008	Funding and investments	Does the deletion of "money received from the Umsobomvu Fund in terms of the Demutualisation Levy Act" imply that the funds from Umsobomvu are no longer part of funding? It would not seem so as the memorandum of the objects of the Bill stipulate that the funding was removed due to the fact that the Demutualisation Levy Act was replaced by the Taxation Laws Amendment Act, 2013.

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13 - Amendment of section 19 of Act 54 of 2008	Regulations	Amendments accepted
14 - Amendment of Arrangement of Sections of Act 54 of 2008		No comments
15 - Short title and commencement	Short title and commencement	No comments

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