



MINISTRY IN THE PRESIDENCY: WOMEN, YOUTH & PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION FOR ORAL REPLY

QUESTION NUMBER: 468

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 06 SEPTEMBER 2022

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NUMBER: 30 of 2022

Ms A S Hlongo (ANC) to ask the Minister in The Presidency for Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities:

Given that the improvement of the financial inclusion and entrepreneurship of women through the introduction of a regulatory environment for preferential procurement, and the strengthening of women-focused and women-owned businesses and co-operatives is a focus of her Office that ensures the economic emancipation of women, what specific steps has her Office taken to ensure that this happens to a far greater extent? NO3491E

REPLY:

The department's efforts towards accelerated initiatives that address women's unequal economic and social position, the following milestones have been achieved:

- The Department has in August 2021 to September 2021 implemented radio talk shows: The weekly schedule for the radio talk shows had been divided as follows:
 - ✓ week one (Business Registration);
 - ✓ week two (SARS Compliance);
 - ✓ week three (SABS Compliance);
 - ✓ week four (Local Content);
 - ✓ week five (Youth Policy);
 - ✓ week six (Youth Unemployment);
 - ✓ week seven (SMMEs with Disabilities); and
 - ✓ week eight (Cooperatives with Disabilities).

The envisaged outcome of this intervention is an increase participation of women owned businesses in the public procurement space as well as in the general economy.



**MINISTRY IN THE PRESIDENCY: WOMEN, YOUTH & PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

- Women's Economic Assembly (WECONA) – was launched by the President on the 6 October 2021, a multi-stakeholder platform to activate the public and private sector value chain particularly on commitment and actions in terms of the 6 key industries (i.e. Energy, Agriculture and Agro-processing, Textiles, auto-motives, steel and Tourism).
- The DWYPD in collaboration with the Department of Trade and Industry (DTIC) and National Treasury (NT) are working on the establishment of the Women's Empowerment Fund (WEF) by 2022.
- DWYPD supports the process of developing NT's Draft Policy Paper on Financial Inclusion to mainstream WYPD in the economy.
- Regarding the Sanitary Dignity Programme (SDP), the DWYPD in collaboration with the DSBD are currently implementing a project plan on putting in place the best possible approach for WOB's to take up manufacturing opportunities within the SDP value-chain.
- To this end through a National Task Team a business case is being developed exploring opportunities of establishing women owned and managed small scale manufacturing hubs/factories across provincial/regional clusters to enable meaningful participation of existing value chain actors and new entrants within SDP value chain.
- The value-chain actors in the business case will be unpacked in relation to cost implications in the short, medium and long-term and through DSBD approach NT to fund such activities to benefit WoB's.
- In the current financial year we have completed successful Imbizo's in the KZN and EC regarding the Eastern Seaboard Smart City Development Programme with recommendations that are now being developed into a programme of action that will ensure that WYPD are mainstreamed across all its programmes, tracked and measured for impact.



**MINISTRY IN THE PRESIDENCY: WOMEN, YOUTH & PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

- Around SheTradeZA, the DWYPD is supporting DSBD to register 10 000 women owned and managed enterprises (WOME) per year on their online platform.
- An MOU with DALRRD to support and facilitate development initiatives in support of WYPD in their efforts to access land and acquire ownership of land around 6 Key Priority Areas; 1. Access / acquisition of land, 2. Post-settlement Support, 3. Rural Enterprise & Cooperative Development, 4. Skills Development, 5. Market Access and 6. Procurement.

To this end the DWYPD has intentional undertaken a series of interventions that will ensure economic participation of WYPD's in the mainstream economy.

Approved by Minister

Ms M Nkoana-Mashabane, MP

Date: 12/09/2022



**MINISTRY IN THE PRESIDENCY: WOMEN, YOUTH & PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The Economic Empowerment and Business Development radio talk shows were bridging this gap. The weekly schedule for the radio talk shows had been divided as follows: week one (Business Registration), week two (SARS Compliance), week three (SABS Compliance), week four (Local Content), week five (Youth Policy), week six (Youth Unemployment), week seven (SMMEs with Disabilities) and week eight (Cooperatives with Disabilities). The envisaged outcome of this intervention is an increase participation of women owned businesses in the public procurement space as well as in the general economy.

The National Strategic Plan on GBVF, under its pillars, has through pillar 5 on Economic Power set out to intentionally transform the structural foundation of GBVF by addressing women's unequal economic and social position, through access to government and private sector procurement, employment, housing, access to land, financial resources and other income generating initiatives.

- Women's Economic Assembly (WECONA) – was launched by the President on the 6 October 2021, a multi-stakeholder platform to activate the public and private sector value chain particularly on commitment and actions in terms of the 6 key industries (i.e. Energy, Agriculture and Agro-processing, Textiles, auto-motives, steel and Tourism).
- In each of these sectors, there has been a number of commitments made.
- The latest commitment made by the Auto-motives sector, is that the auto-transformation fund committed that 30% of their new expenditure will be targeted to women owned businesses.
- There has also been financial commitments made both by the public and private sectors as well as commitments related to the training of women specifically technical capacity building not just the generic training of running a business but industry specific training.
- The next step is to start working on the activation strategy which seeks to ensure that the women in these industries are also activated to benefit from some of these opportunities
- The localization and decentralization strategy for WECONA is also under consideration.



**MINISTRY IN THE PRESIDENCY: WOMEN, YOUTH & PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

- The WECONA team is also working on an institutional framework.
- The next WECONA is to be held on the 5&6 October respectively.

The Department in collaboration with the Department of Trade and Industry (DTIC) and National Treasury (NT) are working on the establishment of the Women's Empowerment Fund (WEF) by 2022.

The Department supports the process of developing National Treasury's Draft Policy Paper on Financial Inclusion to mainstream WYPD in the economy.

Regarding the Sanitary Dignity Programme (SDP), the Department in collaboration with the DSBD are currently implementing a project plan on putting in place the best possible approach for WOB's to take up manufacturing opportunities within the SDP value-chain. To this end through a National Task Team a business case is being developed exploring opportunities of establishing women owned and managed small scale manufacturing hubs/factories across provincial/regional clusters to enable meaningful participation of existing value chain actors and new entrants within SDP value chain.

Under the leadership of the Presidency, another a flagship programme which emanated from NSP GBVF Pillar 5 is the implementation of the Presidential Women Owned Business Multi Stakeholders Women Owned Business Capacity Building Initiative which aims to contribute to the achievement of the 40% public procurement target for women.

Equally under this pillar the ILO C190 work stream is tackling key non-financial elements of inclusion wherein they are concerned with the elimination of violence and harassment in the world of work.

We also look at targeted interventions with implementing departments to expand equitable job creation, representation and ownership by women, youth and persons with disabilities (WYPD).



**MINISTRY IN THE PRESIDENCY: WOMEN, YOUTH & PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

In the current financial year we have completed successful Imbizo's in the KZN and EC regarding the Eastern Seaboard Smart City Development Programme with recommendations that are now being developed into a programme of action that will ensure that WYPD are mainstreamed across all its programmes, tracked and measured for impact.

Around SheTradeZA, the DWYPD is supporting DSBD to register 10 000 women owned and managed enterprises (WOME) per year on their online platform.

An MOU with DALRRD to support and facilitate development initiatives in support of WYPD in their efforts to access land and acquire ownership of land around 6 Key Priority Areas; 1. Access / acquisition of land, 2. Post-settlement Support, 3. Rural Enterprise & Cooperative Development, 4. Skills Development, 5. Market Access and 6. Procurement.

We continue to mobilise the global community to support women's leadership; and the development and implementation of the African Union Protocol and Programme of Action on Women in Trade through the Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

The Department also participates in the Generation Equality Forum which is a civil society-centred, global gathering for gender equality, convened by UN Women and co-hosted various the governments, corporations and change makers from around the world. Regionally being a member of The Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA), which has various working groups and amongst others is the Women Economic Empowerment Working Group (WEEWG) in which we also serve.

We are indeed placing Women, Youth & Persons with Disabilities at the centre of the country's agenda and the goal is to achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women whilst ensuring that we transform all sectors of our economy.