

MINISTRY: ARTS AND CULTURE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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The Honourable Ms XS Tom, MP
Chairperson: Portfolio Committee on Arts and Culture
Parliament of the RSA
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Dear Ms Tom

MONITORING BY PANSALB OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE USE OF OFFICIAL LANGUAGES ACT, 2012

The Use of Official Languages Act, 2012, requires the Pan South African Language Board (PanSALB) to monitor the implementation of the Act by national government departments, public entities and public enterprises. In addition, PanSALB is mandated to monitor and investigate the observance of the constitutional provisions regarding the use of language.

Although PanSALB has not performed the function assigned to it by the Language Act since its enactment, it has indicated its intention to do so from 2017. The Department of Arts and Culture (DAC) has been facilitating implementation of the Language Act by national government departments, public entities and public enterprises since its coming into operation, as well as ensuring its own compliance as a national government department.

In other words, the DAC has been both player and referee thus far. We are therefore pleased that PanSALB will take up its rightful role going forward.

Thus, we hereby inform you formally that henceforth PanSALB will be the organisation to communicate with you regarding the implementation of the Act by national government departments, public entities and public enterprises. Letters have been written to all stakeholders informing them that from now on they will be reporting their compliance status to PanSALB.

Yours sincerely

MR NATHI MTHETHWA, MP MINISTER OF ARTS AND CULTURE

DATE: 20/03/17