

19 AUGUST 2010

HON. ANELE KABINGESI
COMMITTEE SECRETARY
CAPE-TOWN
8000

Dear Sir

SUBMISSION ON BILL 26 - 2010 HIGHER EDUCATION AND
TRAINING LAWS AMENDMENT

I apologise for having this submission made and written in plain pen & paper. I do not have sufficient resources.

Having observed the bill as well as the ABET Act sections that are proposed to be amended by the legislature / the Portfolio Committee on Higher Education and Training, I hereby make my submission as follows:

REGARDING THE AMENDMENT OF DEFINITIONS [ABET IN PARTICULAR]

-I support the omission/deletion of term "basic" in ABET. The acronym ABET has brought much discomfort to both the learners and ABET educators. Mentioning of the word 'ABET' has had most people including mainstream

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educators (our peers) to believe that ABET is an attempt (not necessarily a plan) by unqualified and underqualified educators to offer tuition to Old, poor and inferior groups in our society and teach them only alphabets and sounds of letters. The word does not have value and has received no or little recognition even in the education department. We rarely hear superior role players saying anything about ABET. Even its own directors. I fully support the change of ABET expression to that of AET expression.

REGARDING INCLUSION OF SECTION 3A

The inclusion has received much applause from our Centres, CGB's, Learners and Educators. The section will create stability in our Public Adult Learning Centres across the country. This will do away with the helter skelter model of appointing educators. In reality, each province uses its unique model of appointments, determination of salaries as well as conditions of service. Other provinces allocate too little money on the ABET sector to can equably remunerate educators or rather to ensure that professionals are retained in this sector. In North-West too much power is vested on APO ABET Specialists and Managers to appoint, recruit, transfer and approve payments for educators. Some educators do extremes to ensure job security, cases which are never reported against the Superiors.

It is hoped that the amendment will promote

uniformity on the employment and on conditions of service. This ought to, surely, improve job security thus creating stability in our PALC's, rather than fuelling en masse departure of educators throughout the year and placements of novice unqualified or underqualified educators, who outsource the sector as more money is spend on retraining of these new educators time and time again. We fully support the inclusion of this section i.e. section 3A

REGARDING CHAPTER 4A

Inclusion of this chapter is also welcomed, it is understood to create or provide for establishment of bodies that will look at and improve/develop New National Education and Training Policy for Adult Education and Training. The document will be implemented by all provinces thus creating stability and uniformity, however, the old policy of 1997 will still apply until such time a new policy is made available by the Minister in terms of section 25J of the chapter.

GENERAL COMMENTS

The amendment of ABET ACT, 2000 is an ideal step forward by our Government towards the realization of right of education to all. It is a light to an existing darkness in Adult Education and seemingly seeks to provide relevant and well structured legal prescripts that will surely ensure that this profession

and the development of our people through education is not only priority in speeches but in reality.

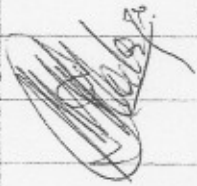
We further salute the Portfolio Committee on Higher Education and Training for this magnificent piece of legislation. We salute the Minister under whose direction would implementation be a success.

We honestly didn't know under which Ministry is Adult Education falling. Understanding now that it is under the Higher Education and Training Minister. Confusion made by the term 'basic' in ABET.

We say forward Minister Blade Nzimande and the Portfolio Committee chaired by Mr M. Fransman.

THE NATION IS DELIGHTED BY YOUR WORK!

Yours faithfully



JUSTICE MAHLAKAZE

CELL NO: E

P.S. I would appreciate to give verbal presentation but I don't have the means to travel to and from Cape Town even if I'm summoned.

Thanking you so much!