



PARLIAMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

COMMITTEES

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**SELECT COMMITTEE ON CO-OPERATIVE GOVERNANCE AND TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS
2009 – 2014 STRATEGIC PLAN**

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This plan outlines the strategic initiatives and commitments by the Select Committee on Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs, to guide and direct the political mandate of the Committee over the next five years. It is a blueprint that defines the Committee's strategic path in pursuit of a developmental agenda of the fourth administration.

2. Background and Overview

- 2.1 The NCOP during August 2009 finalized its Strategic Framework Plan. The plan is intended to guide the oversight work of the select committees during the electoral mandate period of the fourth Parliament. The following are the strategic objectives to be achieved during this electoral mandate period:
- 2.2.1 To promote provincial interests and adherence by the three spheres of government to the principles of co-operative government and intergovernmental relations;
 - 2.2.2 To follow up on the implementation of government priorities as identified for the three spheres of government;
 - 2.2.3 To enhance public participation programmes through educating the people, especially in rural villages, and creating forums for public consideration of issues affecting provinces; and
 - 2.2.4 To initiate and implement programmes aimed at assisting the vulnerable groups in society by ensuring that the NCOP plays its role towards building a Parliament that is responsive to the needs of the electorate.

3. Contextualising the Strategic Plan

3.1 Local government is central to achieving the nation's vision of a better quality of life for all citizens as it is the sphere of government that is at the coalface of service delivery. The interests of local government will be served through, primarily, the strengthening of the oversight function of the Committee. It is therefore, within this context that the strategic thrust of the Committee is positioned and contextualised. The plan is informed by the strategic priorities as identified in government's Medium Term Strategic Framework (MTSF) in order to improve the lives of the people of South Africa. These priorities are as follows:

3.1.2 Strategic Priority 1: Speeding up growth and transforming the economy to create decent work and sustainable livelihoods.

3.1.3 Strategic Priority 2: Massive programme to build economic and social infrastructure.

3.1.4 Strategic Priority 3: Comprehensive rural development strategy linked to land and agrarian reform and food security.

3.1.5 Strategic Priority 4: Strengthen the skills and human resource base.

3.1.6 Strategic Priority 5: Improve the health profile of all South Africans.

3.1.7 Strategic Priority 6: Intensify the fight against crime and corruption.

3.1.8 Strategic Priority 7: Build cohesive, caring and sustainable communities.

3.1.9 Strategic Priority 8: Pursuing African advancement and enhanced international cooperation.

3.1.10 Strategic Priority 9: Sustainable Resource Management and use.

3.1.11 Strategic Priority 10: Building a developmental state including improvement of public services and strengthening democratic institutions.

4. Department of Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs (CoGTA): Strategic Plan 2009 - 2014

4.1 **Mandate:** CoGTA is the new Department for Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs. President Jacob Zuma had announced the establishment of CoGTA on 10 May 2009. CoGTA was established to shift away from the narrower mandate of the former Department of Provincial and Local Government and to respond decisively to the enforcement and coordination weaknesses and failures observed in Government over the past 15 years.

4.2 **Strategic Priorities:** Based on the lessons of the last 15 years, the electoral mandate of the ruling party and the expanded mandate of the Department, five strategic priorities have been identified for the term 2009 – 2014:

4.2.1 Building the Developmental State in Provincial and Local Government that is efficient, effective and responsive.

4.2.2 Strengthen accountability and clean government.

4.2.3 Accelerating service delivery and supporting the vulnerable.

4.2.4 Improving the developmental capability of the institution of traditional leadership.

4.2.5 Fostering development partnerships, social cohesion and community mobilisation.

5. **Department of Public Service and Administration (DPSA):
Strategic Plan 2009 - 2014**

5.1 **Mandate:** The DPSA mandate is to lead the modernisation of the public service by assisting government departments to implement their management policies, systems, structures and governance arrangements within a generally applicable framework of norms and standards in order to improve service delivery to the citizen.

5.2 **Strategic Priorities:** The Department has identified ten strategic priorities which provide the direction of what needs to be done within the Department's medium term programme of action in order to drive government's agenda. These are:

5.2.1 Service delivery mechanisms that ensure quality, and access within an efficient environment.

5.2.2 Effective systems, structures and processes which include the provisioning of standard operating procedures.

5.2.3 Well functioning service through ICT connectivity at service delivery centres.

5.2.4 Effective entry into the public service through HRD standards to ensure cadre development.

5.2.5 Efficient human resources management practices by providing common norms and standards.

5.2.6 Healthy, safe working environments for all public servants.

5.2.7 Appropriate delegations and decision-making government structures.

5.2.8 Adequate levels of transparency of administrative actions by ensuring citizen engagement and public participation.

5.2.9 Corruption must be tackled effectively.

5.2.10 Collaboration towards improved public administration in Africa and internationally.

**6. Select Committee on Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs:
Strategic Plan 2009 - 2014**

6.1 The Select Committee on Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs was established in terms of the rules of Parliament, and serves as an extension of the NCOP. The Committee is one of Parliament's 13 Select Committees under the NCOP. The Committee undertakes work and report regularly on its activities to the NCOP.

6.2 The key strategic objectives of the Committee are:

6.2.1 to process, scrutinize and pass legislation referred to it;

6.2.2 to scrutinize and oversee executive action (keep oversight of the executive and organs of state);

6.2.3 facilitate public participation in its processes;

6.2.4 to consider International Agreements referred to it; and

6.2.5 to consider budget vote of the Department (CoGTA and DPSA).

6.3 Below is the Select Committee on Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs 2009- 2014 Strategic Plan, the measurable objectives incorporates the SMART principle, which means they Specific, Measurable, Appropriate, Realistic and Time-bound:



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STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	INTENDED GOAL	MEASUREABLE OUTPUTS	RESPONSIBILITY	TIME FRAME
1. Processing, scrutinizing and passing of legislation.	To strengthen current policies and legislation across the three spheres of government for co-operative governance and the implementation of service delivery.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legislation amended. • Reports tabled. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee Members. • Support Staff. 	Ongoing
2. To scrutinize and oversee executive action.	To entrench a culture of public accountability in order to improve service delivery.	Assessment of governance systems in local government to verify whether they facilitates significant delivery in pursuit of effective, good and clean government.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee Members. • Support Staff. 	Ongoing.
3. Facilitate public participation in its processes.	Improved and enhance public participation in governance, since it is the cornerstone of effective and accountable governance.	Involvement of all critical stakeholders in the business of the Committee, with regard to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • public hearings on legislation; • intervention in local and provincial government; • engagements; and • briefings by Ministry, CoGTA, NHTL, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee Members. • Support Staff. 	Ongoing.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	INTENDED GOAL	MEASUREABLE OUTPUTS	RESPONSIBILITY	TIME FRAME
4. To consider International Agreements referred to it.	Support government's international relations obligations in order to establish partnerships, draw lessons that will enhance the work of the Committee.	As per the rules, the Committee will conduct overseas study visits that are relevant to the Committee's work.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee Members. • Support Staff. 	Two study visits during the 5-year term of the 4 th Parliament.
5. To consider budget votes of the Departments.	To ensure the departments are adequately funded and able to fulfil its constitutional mandate.	Analysing, scrutinising departmental budget votes, annual and quarterly performance reports.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee Members. • Support Staff. 	Yearly and quarterly.

2011/12 OPERATIONAL PLAN OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	INTENDED GOAL	MEASUREABLE OUTPUTS	RESPONSIBILITY	TIME FRAME
6. To ensure intergovernmental checks and balances with regard to legislative and constitutional compliance.	Providing strategic intervention when necessary in local and provincial affairs as a corrective measure, when for example a municipality/province fails to govern and thus jeopardises the enterprise of development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intervention visits undertaken. • Objectivity, mediation and on-site investigation provided. • Report and recommendations tabled to the NCOP. • Follow-up visits undertaken to verify effectiveness of intervention process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee Members. • Support Staff. • CoGTA. 	<p>Timeously and whenever referred to by NCOP.</p> <p>Committee to decide.</p>
7. Joint oversight visits to identified municipalities to ensure the Committee functions systematically and not merely responding to crises.	Conducting proactive oversight visits to identified municipalities in order to find out the bottlenecks/obstacles in their service delivery obligations in order to strengthen governance and improve public engagement.	Reports tabled in the NCOP.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee Members. • Support Staff. • CoGTA. • Auditor-General. • SALGA. 	Quarterly.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	INTENDED GOAL	MEASUREABLE OUTPUTS	RESPONSIBILITY	TIME FRAME
8. Contribute meaningfully to the quest of creating decent work.	<p>Monitoring departments' actual contributions especially in filling vacant positions.</p> <p><i>DoF Coopta</i> <i>DEPT of Public Service Admin</i></p>	<p>Analysing and scrutinising departmental annual and quarterly performance reports.</p> <p>Analysing and scrutinising provincial reports and briefings to ensure provinces and municipalities put in place necessary conditions for more jobs to be created utilising MIG.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee • Support Staff. • CoGTA. • DPSA. • DPW. 	<p>Quarterly and annually.</p>
9. Implementation of the intergovernmental programme of support to the institution of traditional leadership to perform their constitutional mandate.	<p>To restore the dignity of traditional leadership and to transform its institutions in order to play their statutory role in the reconstruction and development of SA, in partnership with Government.</p>	<p>Monitoring departmental support and capacity building programmes to the institution of traditional leadership.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee Members. • Support Staff. • CoGTA. 	<p>Ongoing.</p>