

SASSETA AGM TO HIGHLIGHT SECTOR, GOVERNANCE AND FINANCIAL SUCCESSES

20 October 2009

The Safety and Security SETA (SASSETA) Annual General Meeting (AGM), to be held on Thursday, 29 October 2009, this year undoubtedly represents the considerable progress and accomplishments achieved by the authority in its ongoing commitment to alleviate the scarce and resultant critical skills shortage in the country's Safety and Security sector.

The 2008/9 financial year Annual Report, to be presented at the upcoming AGM, clearly reflects the strides made by SASSETA in honouring the priorities set by the National Skills Development Strategy (2005-2010).

Says Zongezile Baloyi, chief executive officer of SASSETA: "The 2008/9 fiscal year represented a number of important milestones which included proactively contributing to skills development and growth of the sector on a countrywide basis. And indeed, we have seen considerable improvement in areas such as our learning programmes; ABET participation levels; provincial presence; and our overall engagement with the safety and security sector

"These factors together with our consistent performance levels have stood us in good stead and will continue to strengthen our efforts in areas such as the renewed support and development of skills in the transitional areas which includes small BEE firms and BEE co-operatives."

In terms of financial performance, SASSETA has also for the third consecutive financial year recorded performance levels above average, according the Department of Labour's annual performance oversight monitoring.

No doubt contributing to authority's strong financial performance is its strong corporate governance principles. Throughout the 2008/9 financial years, the SASSETA board has implemented a number of governance steps such as extending the mandate of the Audit Committee to formally include risk issues. This in turn greatly enhanced the authority's governance accountability and contributed to the board's effective and quarterly monitoring of the authority's performance.

Comments Baloyi: "By implementing strong corporate governance principles, which effectively aligns us the worldwide trend in governance accountability and risk mitigation, we have for one been able to deal with urgent compliance issues while at the same time laying a strong foundation for the healthy growth of SASSETA."

The AGM and resultant Annual Report will provide greater detail on SASSETA achievements, outlining core areas of achievement that include new and existing programmes as well as a detailed report back on the authority's financial performance. The SASSETA AGM will be held at in Pretoria on Thursday, 29 October 2009.

The Safety and Security SETA (SASSETA) was established in July 2005 following a merger between POSLEC SETA (Police, Private Security, Legal, Correctional Services and Justice) and DIDTETA (Diplomacy, Intelligence, Defence and Trade). SASSETA is governed by a board

of members representing approximately 1 500 organisations within the sector across seven subsectors grouped into chambers.

The seven chambers include: Correctional Services; Defence; Justice; Legal; Policing; Private Security; and Statutory Intelligence. Committee members within each sector represent employers and employees and come from trade unions, employers' organisations, government departments, professional bodies, and bargaining councils.

Appropriate representation from small, medium and large organisations is also ensured in each chamber, with small organisations comprising one to-50 employees; medium organisations 51 to 150; and large more than 150.

As with all SETAs, SASSETA's income is governed by levies sourced from its member base according to national regulations.

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