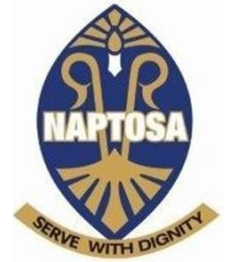


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12 January 2025

IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM FOR THE BASIC EDUCATION LAWS AMENDMENT ACT

Commencement and Leadership

- The BELA Act (Act No. 32 of 2024) was promulgated on **24 December 2024**.
- The Minister of Basic Education is tasked with overseeing its implementation.

Progress Since Promulgation

➤ Mediation Programme:

- The Department of Basic Education (DBE) has initiated mediation across provinces to ensure a uniform understanding of the Act.

➤ Targeted Stakeholders:

- Senior Provincial Officials, Legal Services, District Directors, Circuit Managers, and officials responsible for school safety, Grade R, home education, and small school rationalisation.
- Organised labour, SGB (School Governing Body) associations, and professional organisations are included.

➤ Next Steps in Mediation:

- Provincial Education Departments will train SGBs, principals, and teachers between **January and March 2025**.
- A community mediation programme, led by QLTC, will begin in **February 2025**.

Guideline Development Process

- Steps include consultations, stakeholder inputs, and approvals by HEDCOM, CEM, and distribution to provinces, districts, and schools.

Regulation Development and Oversight

- A Task Team will oversee the management and development of regulations, with the first meeting scheduled for 16 January 2025.

- Regulations will address areas such as:
 - ❖ Learner pregnancy management.
 - ❖ Admission policies for public schools.
 - ❖ Prohibition of unauthorised remuneration.
 - ❖ Norms and standards for education institutes and centres
 - ❖ Education district roles.
 - ❖ National education information systems.
 - ❖ School governance and capacity determination.

Progress on Regulation Development

- **SGB Elections:** Task Team is drafting regulations.
- **Learner Pregnancy Management:** Conversion of policy to regulations underway.
- **Admissions to Public Schools:** Existing policy requires alignment with the Act.
- **Unauthorised Remuneration:** Existing drafts to be reviewed.
- **Education Development Centres:** Guidelines available for conversion.
- **Education District Roles:** Policy amendments needed for regulations.
- **National Education Information Systems:** Circulars available for groundwork.
- **School Capacity Determination:** Draft norms ready; consultation pending.
- **Learner Discipline & Alternatives to Corporal Punishment (Guidelines):** Drafts near completion.

This structured implementation roadmap outlines steps to ensure compliance with the Act, foster uniformity across provinces, and strengthen governance in education. NAPTOSA will continue to monitor and communicate developments.

Mr BL Manuel

Executive Director