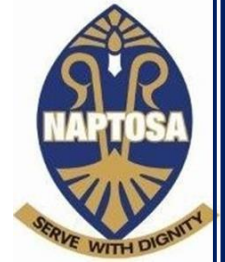


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STATEMENT ON THE PUBLICATION OF THE SEXUAL OFFENDERS AND GBV PERPETRATORS LIST

NAPTOSA reaffirms its commitment to fostering safe and inclusive learning environments as we observe **World Day of Social Justice** under the theme "*Empowering Inclusion: Bridging Gaps for Social Justice*". This year's theme underscores the importance of inclusive policies, lifelong learning, and social protections to combat systemic inequality—principles that are vital in addressing gender-based violence (GBV) within the education sector.

It is in this spirit that NAPTOSA welcomes the announcement by the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development, Mmamoloko Kubayi, that the **National Register for Sex Offenders (NRSO)** will be made public by the end of February 2025. This decisive action is a game changer in the fight against GBV and femicide, ensuring that perpetrators can no longer lurk in the shadows while our communities remain vulnerable.

With over **32,500 convicted offenders** already listed and an additional **10,325 individuals** awaiting inclusion, this step is crucial in strengthening the safety of our schools and protecting our children. NAPTOSA believes that access to this register will empower schools, creches, and other child-focused institutions to make informed hiring decisions, preventing those who violate the rights and dignity of others from being employed in the education sector.

This development aligns with our **Safe Schools = Safe Nation** campaign, which advocates for secure learning environments free from threats of violence and exploitation. We commend the Department of Justice for prioritising the safety of children and education professionals, and we urge for swift implementation to ensure that every institution working with children has seamless access to this vital information.

On this **World Day of Social Justice**, NAPTOSA calls for continued collaboration in **bridging gaps for social justice** by implementing strong policies that protect the most vulnerable. We remain committed to working with all stakeholders to safeguard our schools and create a society where learners, educators, and education support personnel can thrive without fear.

Mr BL Manuel - Executive Director