



MINISTRY IN THE PRESIDENCY: WOMEN, YOUTH AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

OPENING REMARKS

**BY THE MINISTER IN THE PRESIDENCY FOR WOMEN, YOUTH AND
PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES,**

MAITE NKOANA-MASHABANE

**VIRTUAL WEBINAR ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NATIONAL
COUNCIL ON GBVF PROCESSES**

23 SEPTEMBER 2020

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Adviser to the Minister in the Presidency for Women, Youth and
Persons with Disabilities;

Honourable Deputy Minister in the Presidency for Women, Youth
and Persons with Disabilities; Professor Hlengiwe Mkhize

The Director General in the Department of Women, Youth and
Persons with Disabilities; Advocate Joyce Mikateko Maluleke

DDG Shoki Tshabalala, Deputy Director General: Social
Transformation and Economic Empowerment

Chief Director: Governance, Transformation, Justice, Security,
Ms Esther Maluleke

Our esteemed guests from the business sector

Ladies and Gentlemen

Good morning

I welcome you all to this virtual consultation webinar as the Minister in the Presidency for Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities and Chair Person of the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Gender-based Violence and Femicide.

The objective of the meeting today is to ensure your participation and collaboration in the implementation of the National Strategic Plan on Gender Based Violence and Femicide (GBVF-NSP) as well as the process for establishing the National Council on Gender Based Violence and Femicide (NCGBVF). We have had many consultations, but this one is overdue.

Ladies and Gentlemen.

On 11 March 2020, Cabinet approved the National Strategic Plan on Gender Based Violence and Femicide for the decade (2020–2030) and the establishment of the National Council on GBVF.

Cabinet also approved the setting up of the Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) to establish the National Council on Gender Based Violence and Femicide.

The Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) comprises the Ministers of Police (SAPS), Justice and Correctional Services (DWYPD), Public Service and Administration (DPSA), Social Development (DSD) and myself as the chairperson and convener. The IMC plays a key facilitation and political liaison role in the formation of the National Council on GBVF.

The National Council on Gender Based Violence and Femicide is based on the agreement and understanding that a multi-sectoral approach is central to effectively addressing Gender Based Violence and Femicide in South Africa.

The National Council on Gender Based Violence and Femicide will work with and through key strategic government departments, civil society networks and organizations and the private sector to build on-going national, provincial and local accountability for urgent, comprehensive and all-inclusive responses to GBVF.

The scope encompasses comprehensively and strategically responding to gender-based violence and femicide, with a specific focus on violence against all women (across age, physical location, disability, sexual orientation and gender identity, gender expression, nationality and other diversities) and

violence against children and how these serve to reinforce each other.

The National Strategic Plan vision is a South Africa free from GBVF directed at women, children and LGBTQIA+ persons.

To achieve this vision, South Africa will centre its efforts on bringing about specific changes around the following six key pillars:

- 1) Accountability, Coordination and Leadership;
- 2) Prevention and Rebuilding Social Cohesion;
- 3) Efficient and Sensitive Criminal Justice;
- 4) Adequate Care, Support and Healing;
- 5) Building Women's Economic Power; and
- 6) Better Information Management to Inform Action.

A great deal of work and progress has been made in the implementation of the interventions since the launch of the National Strategic Plan and the release of the Emergency Response Action Plan (ERAP) Report, including in the midst of the covid-19 pandemic.

We need to work together to end GBVF by focusing on stopping violence before it happens through a national drive towards

shifting away from toxic masculinities, restoring human dignity and rebuilding the social fabric.

The role of business cannot be under-estimated. We are in this battle to secure the safety of all women in this country, more than 50% of the population. Women form part of your companies, are your clients and form an integral part of your businesses. Many think that the fight against GBVF is someone else's problem, but it's everyone's fight. We don't only ask that you look outward but also how your organisation treats its women, handles sexual harassment, promotion of women, ensuring equal pay for work of equal value and other policies that ensure the equality and safety of women within your businesses.

We are therefore looking forward for further inputs on a draft terms of reference and the selection criteria of the National Council on GBVF, the proposed project plan as, as well as possible mechanism to speed up the roll-out implementation of the National Strategic Plan

I wish all attendees a productive session as we forge forward in ending gender-based violence.

I thank you!

