

**REPORT ON THE STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKSHOP OF THE
PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON HOUSING HELD AT CLUB MYKONOS,
LANGEBAAN ON 23 – 24 MARCH 2006**

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Portfolio Committee on Housing held a workshop to discuss their business plan. The purpose was to evaluate the Business Plan of 2004/05 and also to align it with the State of the Nation Address and the Budget Speech of the Finance Minister.

2. IN ATTENDANCE

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| • Ms ZA Kota-Fredericks | ANC (Chairperson) |
| • Ms BN Dambuza | ANC |
| • Mr DC Mabena | ANC |
| • Mr ZS Mkhize | ANC |
| • Ms MM Ramakaba-Lesiea | ANC |
| • Mr GD Schneemann | ANC |
| • Ms LS Chikunga | ANC |
| • Ms NJ Ngele | ANC |
| • Mr AC Steyn | DA |

3. APOLOGIES

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| • Mr LJ Modisenyane | ANC |
| • Mr MT Likotsi | PAC |

STAFF:

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| • Ms N Giba | Committee Secretary |
| • Mr S Makeleni | Committee Assistant |
| • Ms M Ndumo | Committee Researcher |

4. REMARKS BY THE CHAIRPERSON

- 4.1 The Chairperson's presentation was based on the activities the Committee needs to focus on. She said the committee should evaluate its Business Plan and that there is a great need to monitor the Department of Housing's key indicators in order to enable government to get value for the money allocated for this purpose.
- 4.2 She requested the Committee to align the Business Plan with the State of the Nation Address by the President, the Budget Speech by the Minister of Finance.
- 4.3 The Chairperson submitted a guide consisting of areas that need the Committee's attention to assist the Committee when monitoring the delivery process and the performance of the Department of Housing.

- She reminded the Committee about the Breaking New Ground policy (BNG), which was initiated to integrate communities, to come up with three tier categories in terms of subsidies, to build homes at accessible land, to provide access to credit and provide access to innovative rental sections, eg N2 Gate Way project. She said the Committee needs to push this project, and if there is an increase in its budget, the committee should check whether the money is used for this purpose.
- She further mentioned that with the introduction of the BNG policy, the government is trying to do away with quantity, but rather focus on quality, though the number of units is also critical.
- In the State of the Nation Address, the President mentioned that the National Housing Finance Corporation (NHFC) should be revamped into an entity that deals with housing issues and that the two departments, Housing and Land Affairs should work together to deal with the challenges in housing.
- With regard to the resolutions on the Fire Conference, she requested that the Committee Secretary retrieves this report for committee consideration.
- She said, for the envisaged Housing Indaba, the following departments need to be invited: Local Government, Water Affairs and Forestry, Trade and Industry and Land Affairs.
- Finalization of an agreement with financial institutions on the R42 billion.
- Consumer education for citizens. To raise an awareness to the public on their rights and responsibilities. To include education on bond payments and payment of services.
- Women in Housing conference, with a theme: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow.
- The Committee needs to take a closer look at Housing in 2010 World Cup.
- Construction Charter. The committee to be taken through the process.

4.4 She concluded her presentation by requesting the Committee to plan its work against the above guidelines.

5. COMMITTEE PROGRAMME OF ACTION

5.1 The Committee compiled a programme of action as at March 2006, which was presented by Mr Scheemann. It was agreed that the Committee Programme is subject to change. (programme attached).

5.2 The Committee agreed that all Members would carry out activities during the constituency period in April and would engage with MEC's, Director-Generals, provincial departments and municipalities on the following:

- Projects embarked upon with respect to BNG in the past five years. The current status, completion date, problems/challenges encountered. Number of blocked projects and how long will it take to unblock these?
- 30% women contractors. How far is the implementation with respect to this?
- The number of PHP projects (especially in construction), and the numbers completed. Housing support centres and their accessibility.
- Whether the IDP process includes housing sector plans

- The relationship between the provincial Departments of Housing and the municipalities in the provinces and the capacity, in terms of housing delivery
- Availability of a central up- to- date housing database for each province
- Availability of a database on emerging contractors. Capacity building programmes for emerging contractors
- The role of NHBRC in quality control and monitoring tools by the Department of Housing
- Interaction between provincial departments and housing institutions in terms of performance
- Land audit. To include number of buildings not utilised, number utilised for social housing units, hostel conversion programmes (number outstanding and date of completion)
- Update on transfer of old stock. Maintenance of and control over social housing units

6. COMMITTEE MANAGEMENT TEAM

6.1 The following Committee members and were suggested as the Committee's Management Team:

- Ms ZA Kota-Fredericks – Chairperson
- Mr GD Scheemanni, MP
- Mr DC Mabena, MP
- Ms BN Dambuza, MP
- Ms NJ Ngele, MP
- Mr AC Steyn, MP
- Mr BW Dlamini, MP
- Ms N Giba – Staff

9.2 This committee was tasked to identify dates for the programme of action and to come up with a manageable committee programme. The next committee management meeting was scheduled for the Tuesday, 28 March 2006 at 13h00.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

10.1 The date of the next committee meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, 29 March 2006 at 11h00.

10.2 The workshop ended at 15h30 on 24 March 2006.

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CHAIRPERSON

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DATE

PROGRAMME OF ACTION

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

MANAGEMENT MEETING HELD ON 29 MARCH 2006 AT 13H00, NEW WING

- **Indaba** with Provincial MPL's, MEC's, SALGA, Social Service Cluster, Housing support institutions, Department of Water Affairs and Forestry, Land Affairs (Deeds office) and Mineral and Energy. Houses to be built during this period – 2 days
- **Provincial visits** which will include hearings with beneficiaries in the following provinces: Northern Cape, North West, Limpopo and Mpumalanga in ~~July~~ KwaZulu-Natal, Free State, Eastern Cape and Gauteng – **before end of the year** – 3 days
Questionnaires on aspects to be covered to be sent to all provinces, including those not visited by April
- **Public hearings** on PHP in Parliament. To include PHPT and participants in the PHPT process, Homeless Peoples Federation. Also to cover the role of Cuban engineers
- **Public hearings** on emerging contractors. To include Construction Seta, Construction Charter and incubator programmes
- **Debate on Fire Conference** resolutions. CS to retrieve the report, committee to consider the report and the declaration of the conference, formal adoption by Parliament *Review of disaster management*
- **Training for Members:** Members to identify short certified courses on housing at UNISA, Wits, UCT and Stellenbosch universities
- **Consumer education.** Follow-up on Nedbank/Gauteng similar pilot project
- **Statistics SA and Institute on Housing** on housing statistics
- **House building programmes** for the next 3 years
- **Follow-up on AMCHUD**
- **Information** on finalisation of 42 billion agreement with financial institutions
- **Conference: Women on Housing and Construction.** To include people with disabilities – **between July and October**
- **Role of Housing in 2010 World Cup**

- To celebrate June 16: Involvement of **youth in building houses**. Invite student in the Quantity Survey and Construction study fields
- Update on **the transfer of residential housing** to the Department of Housing. Information on the social contract 20/80 scenario.
- Update on **housing policies**: farmworkers, selling of houses, transfer of homes to dependents (where beneficiary has passed away)
before taking occupation of house
- Update on **Indigent Policy**
- **Legislation**: PIE Bill, Social Housing Bill and Rental Housing Amendment Bill
- **International study tour**: Canada in June; Cuba in October

• housing policy on minor dependants, engage dept.

• Dept has to slot in Ascisa
 • Ascisa critical for no skills people.