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GOVERNMENT NOTICE

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

No. 796

7 June 2002

NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY ACT, 1996 (ACT NO. 27 OF 1996)

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO SERVE ON THE MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE AND ADVISE ON A SINGLE EXAMINATION SYSTEM FOR NQF EXIT POINTS (1 TO 4) IN SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES.

I, Kader Asmal, Minister of Education, hereby in terms of *Section 3(4)(l) of the National Education Policy Act, 1996 (Act No. 27 of 1996)*, relating to curriculum frameworks, core syllabuses and education programmes, learning standards, examinations and the certification of qualification, approved the establishment of a Ministerial Committee to investigate and advise on the feasibility of a single examination system for NQF exit points (1 to 4) in schools and colleges.

Summarily the Terms of Reference for the Ministerial Committee will be:

To investigate and advise on the desirability and feasibility of a single examination system for NQF exit points (1 to 4). Should the investigation suggest that a single examination system may be desirable and/ or feasible, the enquiry will encompass recommendations on strategies for its conduct.

In conducting its investigation, the committee will:

- investigate the nature, character and philosophical underpinnings of current assessment and examination structures and practices at this level in relation to any proposed new system;
- undertake comparative studies of examination systems in countries such as Australia, France, Botswana, Namibia, India, Nigeria and Zimbabwe- this

comparative study will inter alia look at the role of private examining authorities and how this bears on their possible role in South Africa;

- examine advantages and disadvantages of a single examination system (including a comparison with current practice), with reference especially to:
 - the process of examination setting
 - the process of examination marking and resulting
 - the process of moderation
 - questions of security
 - examination and marking logistics
 - issues of finance
 - issues relating to the GETC
 - likely impact on post level 4 education and training
 - feedback to schools, parents, provincial authorities and the DoE
- make recommendations in relation to the function and roles of the Chief Directorate: National Examinations and Assessment and the various provincial examining authorities and possible new examination structures
- make recommendations in relation to the functions and roles of the Further Education and Training Quality Assurance Council and SETA ETQA's in respect of quality assuring the schooling and FET colleges results;
- make recommendations in relation to the role and future in South Africa of private (national and /or international) examination authorities;
- make recommendations in relation to the implementation of any changes advocated.

Considering the above, I have appointed the following persons as members of the Ministerial Committee to investigate and advise on the suitability of a single examination system for NQF exit points (1 to 4) in schools and colleges.

Ministerial Committee

NAME	DESIGNATION
Prof N Yeld (Chairperson)	University of Cape Town
Ms M Pahad	Consultant
Mr K Lehoko	Department of Education
Mr AJ Reyneke	Department of Education
Dr P Lolwana	South African Certification Council
Mr S Isaacs	South African Qualifications Authority
Ms L Scott	Independent Examinations Board

Prof. Kader Asmal, MP

Minister of Education
