

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
DEPARTEMENT VAN ONDERWYS**

No. 75

3 February 2006

**ESTABLISHMENT OF A MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE ON LITERACY**

I, Grace Naledi Mandisa Pandor, Minister of Education, in terms of section 20.2 and 20.3 of the Public Finance Management Act, 1999: hereby establishes a Ministerial Committee on Literacy.

**TERMS OF REFERENCE**

1. The functions of the committee will include the following:
    - a. To advance cordial relations that South Africa has with Cuba, to consider the Cuban Literacy Model and to learn from the remarkable success that Cuba achieved in literacy;
    - b. To investigate the nature, character and content of the Cuban model, particularly when translated and practised in other countries, such as Venezuela and New Zealand;
    - c. Investigate the nature, character and content of other mass literacy models that committee members may be familiar with; (a desktop research conducted by the compiler has also shown strong similarities between the National Literacy Mission (NLM), a literacy campaign launched in India in **1983**, the Alfa Sol programme launched in Brazil in 1995 and the SANLI programme)
    - d. To locate this review and recommendations emanating out of it within the context of what has been tried and done in South Africa (relating to both successes) e.g. what could be learned from the SANLI process?
    - e. To present a proposal for access to Mass Literacy in South Africa, utilising social mobilisation or a national call to action of a broad range of partners and communities;
    - f. Develop an implementation plan with an indication of the targets to be achieved, the implementing partners and the institutional driver or drivers to the process;
    - g. Recommend appropriate and reasonable systems, programmes and resources that would be required to implement the (adapted) model in our country; and
    - h. To recommend proposals for monitoring and evaluation of progress.
  2. As part of its brief, members of the Ministerial Committee would conduct study tours of Cuba, Venezuela and New Zealand to learn first hand about the implementation of the model in these contexts.
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**COMPOSITION**

3. The following persons will be appointed to conduct this investigation on behalf of the Minister of Education:
- i. Dr Cassius Reginald Lubisi (Chairperson and HEDCOM representative)
  - ii. Professor John Aitchison (University of KwaZulu-Natal)
  - iii. Ms Leonie du Plessis (NGO Representative/Project Literacy)
  - iv. Professor Veronica McKay (UNISA and UNISA ABET Institute)
  - v. Mr. Gordon Naidoo (OLSET Radio in ICT)
  - vi. Mr. Rod Grewan (Digital Partnership and Bridges to the Future Initiative – South Africa Partner)
  - vii. Mr. Obed Maguvhe (Disability Sector Representative)
  - viii. Mr Martin Ngcobo (National Youth Commission)
  - ix. Mrs. Mercedes Zamora : Cuban Literacy Expert

**TIME FRAME**

4. The committee will be appointed to commence with activities on 01 January 2006 and should submit its final report to the Minister after a three month period, ending on 31 March 2006.

  
GRACE NALEDI MANDISA PANDOR, MP  
MINISTER OF EDUCATION

DATE: 22-12-2005