
GENERAL NOTICE

NOTICE 676 OF 2008

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

The Acting Minister of Labour intends to introduce the Skills Development Amendment Bill, 2008, in the National Assembly in 2008. An explanatory summary of the Bill is hereby published in accordance with Rule 241(1)(c) of the Rules of National Assembly.

The Skills Development Amendment Bill 2008, will be the third amendment to the current Skills Development Act 97 of 1998 was assented to by the President on 2nd November 1998. The first amendments were effected on the 30th April 1999 when the Skills Development Levies Act 9 of 1999 was passed, on the 14th November 2003 when the Skills Development Amendment Act No 31 of 2003 was passed.

The Bill removes uncertainties said to have been caused by the Skills Development Act Transitional Provisions on the future of artisans or perceptions that artisan development has been discontinued. The Bill will support accelerated delivery of quality and quantity of scarce skills artisans in the country. The Bill proposes strengthening the institutional capacity of the Department of Labour in relation to artisan assessment, moderation and registration. The Bill provides a legal basis for the establishment of the Quality Council for Trades and Occupations (QCTO) as proposed in the Joint Policy Statement on the Review of the National Qualifications Framework issued by the Ministers of Labour and Education during August 2007. The (QCTO) will support improvement in the quality assurance for learning in and for the workplace. The QCTO will be a centralized body for the development, monitoring and quality assurance of occupationally related learning and will function closely with the Further and Higher Education Quality Councils under the Department of Education as proposed in the National Qualifications Framework Bill 2008. The legal status of the National Skills Fund and the Productivity South Africa are further clarified.

Copies of the Bill can be obtained from:

1. Government Printers: Pretoria and Cape Town; and
 2. Department of Labour
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