Cabinet Statement

Statement on the Cabinet Meeting of Wednesday, 24 May 2023

ISSUES IN THE ENVIRONMENT

Cabinet noted the progress made in the implementation of the Energy Action Plan, while it acknowledges significant constraints that still remain against the national grid.

As the country enters the Winter period, Cabinet welcomed the finalisation of the Contract for 400 megawatts (MW) of additional capacity through the Standard Offer Programme which will be online before the end of May 2023.

- Furthermore, the Department of Health has identified 213 hospitals for exclusion from load-shedding, with 76 of these already excluded and work to add another 46 hospitals at an advanced stage.
- Cabinet further welcomed the imminent launch of the Energy One-Stop Shop on 31 May 2023 by Invest SA to speed up the regulatory processes that will assist new power-generating companies to come on
- It has noted progress made at the Kusile Power Station to restore 3 200 MW, through units 1, 2, 3 and 5, to the national grid by the end of 2023

Cabinet is concerned about

the continued circulation of fake news through social media alleging an imminent national grid collapse that will result in a total blackout. Eskom has assured government of plans in place for the system safeguards to prevent a national blackout.

Cabinet reiterates calls

to all people in South Af-

rica to continue to save

electricity. The target is to save at least 1 000 MW everyday, which equals saving one stage of load-shedding each day. The Minister of Electricity, Dr.

Kgosientsho Ramokgopa, will update the country on the implementation of the Energy Action Plan on Friday, 26 May 2023, through a media briefina.

Government has established a

- technical working committee. led by the National Department of Health, in response to the outbreak of cholera in Hammanskraal in the City of Tshwane, which has already claimed 15 lives as of 24 May 2023 Extensive work is underway to
- test all possible sources of the contamination, be they water sources, tankers delivering water, taps and the Rooiwal Wastewater Treatment Works (WWTW). To date, no evidence of cholera bacteria has been found in these sources, giving confidence to the likelihood that the cholera outbreak could be from a once-off contamination event, with the current cases being a result of secondary and tertiary contamination. As these interventions unfold,
- residents of Hammanskraal



before drinking it. In addition, anyone with a runny tummy, nausea or gastrointestinal symptoms must immediately visit their doctor or local clinic. The Minister of Water and

water and add a pinch of salt

- Sanitation, Mr Senzo Mchunu, will meet with the City of Tshwane Executive Mayor, Cllr Cilliers Brink, on Friday 26 May 2023 in an effort to develop a joint plan for the long overdue refurbishment of the Rooiwal WWTW. For more information you can
- call the 24-hour hotline of the National Institute for Communicable Diseases (NICD) on 082 883 9920. Cholera treatment guidelines are online at www.nicd.ac.za. **Quarterly Labour Force**

Cabinet is encouraged that the 2023 first OLFS has

Survey (QLFS)

indicated a sixth consecutive quarterly increase on the number of jobs and that the employment of 16.2 million people is inching closer to the 16.4 million employed people in pre-Coronavirus (COVID)-19 days. This is a clear indication that the South African economy is firmly recovering from the impact of that pandemic.

The first quarter employ-

ment figures show

209 000 jobs were created in the formal sector and 107 000 jobs in the informal sector during the first quarter of the year. South Africa - United States (US) relations

between South Africa and the US remain cordial, strong and

Cabinet affirmed that relations

- mutually beneficial following a meeting between the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Dr Naledi Pandor and US Ambassador to South Africa, Mr Reuben E Brigety, over his remarks alleging that South Africa supplied weapons to Russia. Cabinet reiterated that established diplomatic channels are available to all nations, including the US, to raise issues as
- of the bilateral relations. Cabinet welcomed the announcement by President Cyril Ramaphosa of the establishment of an independent inquiry to probe the allegations of the supply of weapons from South Africa to Russia.

they arise in the management

South Africa - Singapore relations

announced in due course.

President Ramaphosa hosted Prime Minister Lee Hsien

- Loong of the Republic of Singapore on Tuesday, 16 May Singapore is a significant investor in South Africa with
- investments totalling over R5 billion in sectors such as manufacturing, financial services and real estate. Signed agreements between the two countries aim to strengthen trade, investment, education and defence cooperation. **Western Cape District Development Model**

(DDM) Presidential **Imbizo** President Ramaphosa undertook the sixth DDM Presidential Imbizo to the

Western Cape, Drakenstein Local Municipality, Cape Winelands District, on Friday, 19 May 2023. The President led a delegation from all three spheres of government under the theme:

"Leave No One Behind". The

- Imbizo was preceded by the President's visit to the nearby Vlakkeland Catalytic Human Settlement Development, which is the largest public housing development to date in the Drakenstein Local Municipality. The development that commenced in 2017 will upon completion provide 2 556 houses to qualifying beneficia-The construction of 942 houses in the First Phase is
- underway, with 454 completed and 301 under construction. The importance of this project is that it caters for a variety of housing options from those with an income of R0 to R3 500 (under Breaking New Ground), to Finance Linked Individual Subsidy Programme, for those earning between R3,501 and R22 000 per annum. Both Social Housing opportunities as well as opportunities for Military Veterans are available in this project.

uMgungundlovu District **Municipality on 18 and 19 May 2023** Deputy President Paul Mashatile engaged stakeholders in education and training, agriculture, commerce and in-

eThekwini Metropol-

itan Municipality and

Oversight Visit to

dustry during an oversight visit

was established in 2019 to

investigate cases of sexual

Cabinet is pleased by the

exploitation and abuse (SEA)

part of the DDM oversight visits One of the key projects visited was the Ntshongweni Catalytic Project site,

Municipality and uMgungun-

dlovu District Municipality as

where a Smart City is being constructed between Durban and Pietermaritzburg. The project will revitalise economic activity in the area, contributing about R15 billion worth of investments in the next 10 to 15 years. **Water infrastructure** President Ramaphosa visited

the Lesotho Highlands Water

Project on Tuesday, 23 May 2023 during which he participated in the sod-turning ceremony of Phase 2 of the project. Signed a number of years back and having faced delays, this ceremony signified the pacing up of this critical binational initiative. The Lesotho Highlands **Water Project is critical**

in ensuring security of water supply in Gauteng, the Free State, Mpumalanga, North West and Northern Cape. The investment in water infrastructure to uplift the lives

- of South Africans continues with the allocation of over R14 billion to municipalities to address water infrastructure backlogs, through the Regional Bulk Infrastructure Grant (RBIG) and the Water Services Infrastructure Grant (WSIG) The RBIG will be spent on 130 projects and the WSIG will be allocated to over 400 projects across the country. Cabinet is also pleased that the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) is making
- strides in the fight against corruption with nearly R600 million repaid by companies who benefited from receiving irregular tenders. Cabinet also noted the preventative control measures put in place by the department to eliminate irregular, fruitless and wasteful expenditure. Social Security Award South Africa has received
- Security for Africa 2023, which recognises government's investment in the lives of our children, especially those from poor and vulnerable house-

the prestigious International

Social Security Association

Good Practice Award in Social

South Africa's entry to this prestigious award was titled: "Gradual extension of social security coverage to vulnerable children: The case of the Child Support Grant, South Africa". A total of 138 entries were received from 48 member institutions in over 30 countries in Africa.

Our social assistance is at the heart of government's poverty alleviation programme and central to restoring the dignity of our people. South Africa's social protection system is amongst the largest in the world, with more

than 18 million benefi-

ciaries.

Cabinet is pleased that

Budget Votes

- Budget Votes by government departments are progressing well. The schedule of upcoming Budget Votes and supporting media briefings: Friday 26 May 2023 at 13:00, the Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional
 - Affairs (CoGTA), Ms Thembi Nkadimeng, will conduct a media briefing on the CoGTA Budget Vote which will outline measures aimed at strengthening the performance of municipalities. On Tuesday, 30 May 2023, the Minister of Social Development, Ms Lindiwe Zulu, and the Minister of Justice and

Correctional Services, Mr

Ronald Lamola, will hold their

Budget Votes and details of their media briefings will be shared in due course. The Presidency's Budget Vote will be tabled on Wednesday, 31 May 2023 and the media briefing on Progress with Structural Reforms and the Employment Initiatives coordinated through Operation Vulindlela will be held on Tuesday, 30

Mechanism (APRM) 20 year anniversary Cabinet and all South Africans join the African

Africa Day and the

African Peer Review

May 2023.

- continent and the globe in celebrating Africa Day on Thursday, 25 May. This year is particularly important as it marks the 60th anniversary of the signing of the founding charter of the Organisation of African Unity, the forerunner to the African The theme for the 2023 celebrations - "Acceleration of
- acknowledges the strides being made in bringing into operation of the world's largest free trade area. This year's Africa Month commemoration coincides with the 20th anniversary of the APRM, which is aimed at fostering good governance in the continent through

systematic peer learning and

self-assessment.

Co-hosting of the

Forum for Agricultural

Research in Africa's

(FARA) 8th African

the African Continental Free

Trade Area implementation"

Namakwa Special Economic Zone (SEZ)

CABINET DECISIONS

Cabinet approved the desig-

nation of the Namakwa SEZ in Aggeneys in the Northern Cape. The proposed designation is done in terms of the Special Economic Zones Act, 2014 (Act 16 of 2014) and the proposed SEZ is part of the Presidential Investment Drive. The Namakwa SEZ will unlock mining beneficiation, production of green

hydrogen, infrastructure

development, renewable energy and agro-procession. These sectors are critical to job creation and economic development of the Northern Cape and the country. More than R29 billion in investments has already been committed for phase one of the SEZ. These include

commitments from Vedanta

Rare Earth (R13 billion), Hive

Zinc (R16 billion), Frontier

Energy (R200 million) and

RRS Trade and Investment

(R100 million). National Water Resource Strategy Third Edition (NWRS-3) 2023

Cabinet approved

the NWRS-3 2023 for implementation and the strategy is binding on all authorities and institutions implementing the National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of This strategy is informed by a three-year review of the

NWRS-2, which identified

areas of success and areas

that remain a challenge.

The NWRS-3 comprises three thematic goals, that water and sanitation must support development, the

and controlled sustainably and equitably. This strategy makes tangible proposals for increasing water supply, reducing water demand, effective water and sanitation

elimination of poverty and

inequality, contribute to the

economy and job creation,

used, developed, managed

and water must be protected,

management, regulating the water and sanitation sector, redistributing water for transformation, promoting international cooperation, and managing water and sanitation under a changing The NWRS-3 is published on the DWS website on www. dws.gov.za. Report on measures

implemented by the

Department of Defence

and behaviour of South

African National Defence

(DoD) to address the conduct

Force (SANDF) members deployed in peacekeeping missions. Cabinet received a report on progress South Africa is making to address the conduct of some of the members of the SANDF deployed in peacekeeping

missions across the

The SANDF has been a

source of national pride as it

continent.

participates in peacekeeping missions on the continent to secure stability and peace in war-torn African nations under the auspices of the United Nations (UN). With allegations of sexual offences involving military

peacekeepers surfacing in

2015, a Ministerial Task Team

set of measures that have been put in place to address the incidents of SEA in the SANDF peacekeeping

within the DoD.

- missions. The UN recognises South Africa as best practices and had commended the country for the progress it has made in stamping out SEA in the SANDF. Cabinet emphasised that the practice of SEA will not be allowed to tarnish the good record of the SANDF on the
- **2023 Youth Month** Cabinet approved the 2023 Youth Month

Programme under the

theme: "Accelerating youth

continent.

economic emancipation for a sustainable future". Deputy President Mashatile will address the National Day which will this year be celebrated over a two-day period from 16 to 17 June

2023 at the Mangaung

Outdoor Sport Centre,

Mangaung, Bloemfontein,

in the Free State. Over the two days, there will be the opportunity for youth to participate in dialogues with Ministers, Deputy Ministers and other stakeholders on various training, entrepreneurial and developmental opportunities available within government and social partners. Youth Month will be launched on Thursday, 1 June by the

Minister in The Presidency

Persons with Disabilities, Dr

for Women, Youth and

institutional architecture that enables effectiveness and efficiency by establishing the

domestic intelligence agency

and the foreign intelligence

service; (b) remedy the de-

fects on the functioning of the

Signals Intelligence Capacity

as confirmed by the Constitu-

intensify efforts to ensure young people access opportunities which allow them to enter active

Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma

Memorial and Museum in

Cabinet urged society to

at the Hector Pieterson

Soweto.

participation in the economy. Government, as the largest employer, has responded to the need for skills development and youth employment by enabling

unemployed graduates to

gain experience through the Public Service Graduate Internship and Learnership Programme. Government is also implementing the Social Employment Fund and revitalised National Youth Service job-creation initiatives that draw thousands of young people into the economy. The Presidential Youth **Employment Intervention**

has already successfully

supported access to 1.5

million temporary earning

opportunities, one million

work-based placements, 250 000 work-integrated learning opportunities. 250 000 paid-service opportunities and 500 000 voung people engaged in sustainable earning opportunities. As we enter Youth Month, government reminds young people to register on the SAYouth. mobi platform as four

million of their com-

patriots already have,

where work opportuni-

ties can be accessed.

interests or agenda of certain

The amendments will strength-

en the oversight of the intel-

ligence agencies by bodies

such as the Inspector-General

of Intelligence, the Joint Stand-

ing Committee on Intelligence

individuals

Agri-Business and Science Week Conference and its 9th General **Assembly** Cabinet approved for South Africa to co-host FARA's 8th African Agri-Business and

and its 9th General Assembly in Durban from 5 to 9 June 2023. The FARA is the apex continental organisation responsible for facilitating and coordinating agricultural

research and innovation ad-

vancement on the continent.

By hosting the event, South

Science Week Conference

Africa will benefit from collaboration and partnerships with continental agriculture and research institutions through sharing of best practices in agricultural science and research. South Africa values agricultural research for development, especially in light of climate change and other factors that affect the country's ability to achieve food security, economic development and employment. The conference is expected to attract 800 delegates to KwaZulu-Natal and Gauteng, and this will contribute to economic activity.

port programme. The report indicated that South Africa

Trade matters

Cabinet received a report

that point to improvements

in the country's trade and ex-

exported goods to the value of R300 billion during 2022 to 12 countries, sustaining an estimated 57 300 direct jobs.

PSC a more focused approach

contribution towards building

a responsive, ethical and val-

ues-driven public service. The Bill is available on www.dpsa.

to making a meaningful

gov.za

Police Investigative Directorate (IPID) Amendment Bill of 2023 Cabinet approved the draft

BILLS

for submission to Parliament. The Bill amends the IPID Act, 2011 (Act 1 of 2011), and makes proposals aimed at

entrenching the institutional

and operational independence

IPID Amendment Bill of 2023

Draft Independent

of the IPID, giving effect to the "McBride judgement". The amendments also address the issues raised by the Constitutional Court which declared as invalid certain

provisions of the IPID Act of

Minister of Police to suspend

the Executive Director, to take

disciplinary steps against the

2011, which authorised the

- Executive Director following suspension, and to remove the Executive Director from office. The Bill proposes a more transparent and open process for the appointment of the Executive Director and also a detailed and thorough process for integrity testing of IPID officials. The Bill further **UPCOMING EVENTS**
- Inauguration of the **President of the Federal** Republic of Nigeria On Monday, 29 May 2023, President Ramaphosa will honour an invitation to attend the Inauguration of President-Elect Mr Bola Ahmed Tinubu of the
- in Nigeria, while Nigerian companies are also developing a footprint in South Africa. **Child Protection Week** South Africa will mark Child

biggest trade partner in West Africa. A broad range of South African firms have invested

theme: "Let us Protect Children during COVID-19 and Beyond". The campaign mobilises all sectors and communities **MESSAGES**

Congratulations

and well-wishes to:

Cabinet extended its congratulations

the Minister of Finance, Mr

provides for the amendment of other provisions of the Principal Act, so as to ensure that IPID executes its mandate effectively and efficiently. The draft Bill can be found at www.

policesecretariat.gov.za.

Draft General Intelli-

- National Strategic Intelligence Act, 1994 (Act 39 of 1994). The Bill gives effect to the recommendations of the Presidential High-Level Review Panel on the State
- Security Agency (SSA) as well as the implementation plan of the recommendations of the into Allegations of State Capture, Corruption and Fraud in the Public Sector including Organs of State. Amongst others the Bill seeks to: (a) restructure the intelligence services to provide an protection of children. This year the campaign will focus on RISIHA, a community-based prevention and
- gence Laws Amendment Bill (GILAB) of 2023 Cabinet approved the draft GILAB of 2023 for submission to Parliament. The GILAB proposes amendments to the
- Judicial Commission of Inquiry towards development, care and

- tional Court; (c) address the weaknesses identified through Financial Action Task Force process, including measures to combat money laundering and terrorist financing by empowering the national security structures to investigate and
 - conduct security assessment if a person or institution is of national security interest; (d) Strengthen measures to regulate and coordinate the private security industry as part of a broader national security approach; and (e) put in place measures to regulate the conduct of former members of the service and others with access to intelligence information. • The Bill will further ensure that the services of the SSA are not abused to serve the of the PAP. The sitting will end
 - continent Intergovernmental

sion (IOC)

on 2 June 2023.

The PAP seeks to address

common challenges across the

continent and is represented by

African leaders from across the

Oceanographic Commis-

tive council to be held in Paris, France from 16 to 30 June 2023. The IOC of the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization is responsible

for supporting global ocean

South Africa recognises the

to provide early warnings against ocean-based disasto make informed decisions.

and the Auditor-General of South Africa. The Bill is available on www.gov.za.

Draft Public Service

of 2023

Commission (PSC) Bill

Cabinet approved the publi-

cation of the draft PSC Bill of

The Bill repeals the PSC Act,

Constitution of the Republic of

1997 (Act 46 of 1997) of the

2023 for public comments.

The Bill provides for the establishment of an independent secretariat for the PSC to strengthen the independence and impartiality of the organisation. Once the Bill is enacted into law, the mandate of the PSC will be extended

South Africa of 1996.

to municipalities and public The amendment will give the

South Africa hosting

onships

major sporting champi-

Sporting fans from across the

tu welcome and world-class

world can expect a warm Ubun-

hospitality when they attend the

Netball World Cup and Kimura

Karate World Championship in

South Africa. South Africa has a

proven track record in success-

World Cup in Cape Town

hosted on African soil.

from 28 July to 6 August 2023.

prestigious tournament is being

This is the first time that this

Shukokai International (KSI)

Draft National Nuclear Regulator (NNR) **Amendment Bill of 2023** Cabinet approved the draft Nuclear Regulator Amendment Bill for submission to Parliament. The Bill amends the NNR Act, 1999 (Act 47 of

The Bill seeks to address the

existing gaps in the current

international best practices

in the field of nuclear safety

regulations because it does not

address occupational exposure

KSI South Africa is also hosting

the 20th KSI Karate World

Championship in Cape Town

well-wishes are extended to

Team SA as they prepare for

this prestigious global event. South Africa is proudly hosting

the 2023 Table Tennis Cham-

pionship Finals at the Durban

International Convention

Centre. Around 600 players

from different countries around

the world are currently in action

and this tournament presents

our players with an opportu-

nity to display their talent. The

tournament started on 20 May

from 10 to 15 July 2023, and our

NNR Act of 1999. The Act in its

current form is not in line with

of aircrew to cosmic radiation. The Bill is also designed to align the NNR Act of 1999 with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) prescripts and its best practice. South Africa is a member of the IAEA.

Federal Republic of Nigeria. The President's participation **■ Eastern Cape DDM Over**will demonstrate continuity

- in the strategic relationship between South Africa and Nigeria. Nigeria is South Africa's

Protection Week from 28 May

to 4 June 2023 under the

sight Visit Deputy President Mashatile will on 26 and 27 May 2023 conduct a DDM Oversight Visit to

OR Tambo District and Buffalo

City Metro, Eastern Cape.

early intervention programme,

aimed at moving children from

vulnerability to resilience.

- The visit is part of government's initiative to ensure the development of communities happens in an integrated way underpinned by the DDM approach.
- South Africa will participate at the 56th session of the execu-
- fully staging mega events Excitement continues to mount with just over sixty (60) days to go to the start of the Netball
- to support the Netball for sustainable development. Friday's campaign, by wearing supporter's outfits or adorning national colours to rally behind the ters and assist governments South African National Netball team.

Cabinet calls on everyone

eration, including as a member University.

2023 and will continue until 28 May 2023. Information Engineering in the Faculty of Engineering and the Built Environment at Wits

the people who have lost

their lives to cholera in the

outbreak at Hammanskraal

in the City of Tshwane.

of Umkhonto we Sizwe. Murthi Naidoo, who dedicated his life to the country's liberation struggle. He was detained by security police from

Struggle for South Africa's lib-

Mr Michael Currin

- Enoch Godongwana, who was awarded the prestigious African Banker 2023 Finance Minister of the Year Award in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt on Wednesday, 24 May 2023 for his efforts over the past year to manage the South African economy through a complicated global and domestic environment. The award recognised the Minister's use of fiscal policy to accelerate investments in the renewable energy sector.
- Sixth Parliament of the

Pan-African Parliament

(PAP) Leaders from across the continent gathered from Monday, 15 May 2023 in Midrand, South Africa for the Sixth Parliament

Hana Gammon, a 20-year-old

South African writer for winning

the 2023 Commonwealth Short

- Story Prize, Africa region and becoming the youngest in the history of the award. the Stormers Rugby Team for reaching the final of the United Rugby Championship.
- The Stormers will be up against the Irish Musters at Cape Town Stadium on Saturday, 27 May

Mr Zakes Mda, the South

African novelist and Prof

Tshilidzi Marwala, the former

University of Johannesburg

Deputy Vice-Chancellor and

importance of research and management of its oceans and coastal environments Ocean research also helps

science and services.

Principal, who have both been nominated for the 2023 African Genius Awards. Mr Mda and Prof Marwala are nominated among 19 other African achievers who have excelled in

a variety of fields.

Condolences

the family and friends of: Ambassador to the Republic of Algeria, Mr Billy Masetlha, who served South Africa in various capacities in government, including as Director-General of the intelligence services. He was deeply involved in the

Cabinet expressed condolences to

- November 1965 to April 1966 without charges and played an active role at the height of the
- state of emergency in the late Barry Dwolatzky, who was a pioneering figure in the country's information and communications technology sector. He was Professor (Emeritus) in the School of Electrical and





