ALL HEADS OF NATIONAL DEPARTMENTS, PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATIONS, AND PROVINCIAL DEPARTMENTS


1. The Head of Department’s 8-Principle Action Plan for Women’s Empowerment and Gender Equality in the Public Service (herewith referred to as the 8-principle action plan) was launched in 2007, and institutionalized for implementation in 2008. The 8-principle action plan provides a framework for the advancement of women in the workplace and for evaluation of progress made in this area. Through this programme, the Head of Department is expected to systematically create an enabling environment for women empowerment and gender equality in the workplace.

2. The Public Service Women Management Week (PSWMW) which is held during the last week of August each year, provides space to review progress made in the empowerment of women and achievement of gender equality. The Public Service is currently at 41.3% of the required 50% equity representation for women at Senior Management Services (SMS) levels. There is therefore a need for individual departments to increase efforts implement the 8-principle action plan which is a mechanism to address the under representation of women at SMS levels and gender transformation in the workplace.

3. The PSWMW is in its 10th year of implementation and this year’s meetings will be used to evaluate the implementation of the 8-principle action plan.

4. This year the date for the PSWMW meetings is the 28 August - 1 September 2017. The Heads of Department and Directors-General are required to:

   4.1. Host a meeting with female senior managers during this week;
   4.2. Use the 8-principle action plan exclusively as the agenda of the meeting; and
   4.3. Review the impact that the implementation of the 8-principle action plan has had in the department (only 1 template per department).
5. Reports should be submitted to the DPSA using the attached template (Annexure A). The report should reach the DPSA on or before the 31st October 2017. The electronic copy of the reporting template is available on www.dpsa.gov.za.

6. The Office of the Premier is required to coordinate submission of provincial departmental reports to the DPSA. This is to enhance their monitoring role and ensure compliance by all departments.

7. Further enquiries can be directed to Ms Fanani Manugu or Mr. Tebogo Monye at 012 336 1200/1271, email: tebogom@dpsa.gov.za or fanani.manugu@dpsa.gov.za.

Regards

[Signature]

MR MASHWALE DIPHOFA
DIRECTOR-GENERAL
DATE: 19/07/2017