SHERQ MANAGEMENT POLICY
(SAFETY, HEALTH, ENVIRONMENT, RISK, and QUALITY)) FOR THE PUBLIC SERVICE

ANNEXURE A

November 2012
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NO</th>
<th>TABLE OF CONTENT</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>ABBREVIATIONS</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>PART A: GENERAL</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>1. INTRODUCTION</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>2. SCOPE</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>3. OBJECTIVE</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>4. MISSION</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>5. PRINCIPLES</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>6. LEGAL FRAMEWORK</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>7. DEFINITIONS</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>8. ROLE PLAYERS</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>10. IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11. MONITORING AND EVALUATION</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12. REVIEW</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PART B: IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICY OBJECTIVES</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. HEALTH AND SAFETY MANAGEMENT</td>
<td>18</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT</td>
<td>19</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. RISK MANAGEMENT</td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. QUALITY MANAGEMENT</td>
<td>21</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### ABBREVIATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Full Form</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AU</td>
<td>African Union</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COIDA</td>
<td>Compensation for Occupational Injuries and Diseases Act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPSA</td>
<td>Department of Public Service and Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EH&amp;W</td>
<td>Employee Health and Wellness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EH&amp;WMSF</td>
<td>Employee Health &amp; Wellness Management Strategic Framework</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEMS</td>
<td>Government Employee Medical Scheme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HRMD</td>
<td>Human Resource Management Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HR</td>
<td>Human Resource</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IEC</td>
<td>Information Education and Communication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO</td>
<td>International Labour Organisation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISO</td>
<td>International Standard Organisation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IR</td>
<td>Industrial Relations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KPA</td>
<td>Key Performance Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MDGs</td>
<td>Millennium Development Goals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M&amp; E</td>
<td>Monitoring &amp; Evaluation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEPAD</td>
<td>New Partnership for Africa’s Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NWHA</td>
<td>National Employees Health Agenda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OHS</td>
<td>Occupational Hygiene and Safety/Occupational Health and Safety</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OHSAS</td>
<td>Occupational Health Standards and Systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PDP</td>
<td>Personal Development Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PILIR</td>
<td>Policy and Procedure on Incapacity Leave &amp; Ill-Health Retirement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSR</td>
<td>Public Service Regulations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SADC</td>
<td>South African Development Community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHERQ</td>
<td>Safety, Health, Environment, Risk and Quality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SITA</td>
<td>State Information Technology Agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMS</td>
<td>Senior Management Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOPs</td>
<td>Standard Operating Procedures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNAIDS</td>
<td>United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WHO</td>
<td>World Health Organisation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PART A: GENERAL

A. INTRODUCTION

A.1 The pillar (SHERQ) as described in the EH&W Strategic Framework (2008) deals with the intangible and tangible factors of safety, health environment, risk and quality management for purposes of optimal occupational health and safety of employees; the safety of citizens; the sustainability of the environment; and the management of occupational and general risks and quality of government products and services. The pillar is developed in response to National legislation that includes the Occupational Health and Safety Act No 85 of 1993, Basic Conditions of Employment Act [No. 75 of 1997] and Employment Equity Act, Environmental Management Act 1998. SHERQ also takes into consideration international Organisation for Standardization (ISO) instruments used to promote health and Safety this includes OHSAS 18001 which is an Occupational Health and Safety Management System Standard, ISO 9001 for Quality Management and ISO 14001 for Environmental Management.

A.2 The report on the survey conducted following the public sector strike of 2007, the January 2008 Cabinet Lekgotla decision to improve the working environment in government front and back office environment, and the Parliaments’ noting of the ILO Convention 187 Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health, 2006 are all events and documentation that adds to the rationale for this pillar. The January 2009 Cabinet Lekgotla decided on the implementation of the SHERQ Policy with effect from 1 April 2009. The Minister of Public Service and Administration approved all the other three policies in November 2009 which must be read and implemented together with this policy. At the end of 2007, South Africa noted the ILOs Convention 187 Promotional Framework for
Occupational Safety and Health, 2006 for ratification. This promotional framework provides for:

(a) The development of **national policy on occupational safety and health** and the working environment developed in accordance with the principles of Article 4 of the Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981 (No. 155);

(b) The development of **national system for occupational safety and health or national system** i.e. infrastructure which provides the main framework for implementing the national policy and national programmes on occupational safety and health;

(c) **National programme on occupational safety and health or national programme** which is a national programme that includes objectives to be achieved in a predetermined time frame, priorities and means of action formulated to improve occupational safety and health, and means to assess progress;

(d) A **national preventative safety and health culture** which is a culture in which the right to a safe and healthy working environment is respected at all levels, where government, employers and workers actively participate in securing a safe and healthy working environment through a system of defined rights, responsibilities and duties, and where the principle of prevention is accorded the highest priority. *ILO DECLARATION OF PHILADELPHIA* to further programs among nations of the world to achieve adequate protection for the life and health of the workers in all occupations.

The ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and its follow-up, 1998. SHERQ seeks to contribute to Decent Work for Public Servants. The goal is not just the creation of jobs, but the creation of jobs of acceptable quality. The quantity of employment cannot be divorced from its quality. Decent work sums up the aspirations of public servants in their working life. It involves opportunities for work that is productive and delivers a fair income, security in the work place and social protection for families, better prospects for personal
development and social integration, freedom for people to express concerns, organise and participate in the decisions that affect their lives, and equality of opportunity and treatment for all women and men.

A.3 Decent work Country Programme calls for the integration of economic and social objectives and for a well-orchestrated combination of measures in the areas of employment promotion, rights at work, social protection and social dialogue. This coherent approach is proving its relevance to a wide-ranging policy agenda, from social dimensions of globalisation to poverty reduction strategies. The focus of the decent work programmes varies from department to department, reflecting different priorities and conditions. The PSCBC resolution 1 of 2012 decided to conduct an independent study on the principle of decent work and an independent audit on compliance with the occupational Health and Safety Act. The report of the decent work study will be tabled at the PSCBC for discussion by April 2014 and the audit report must also be tabled at the PSCBC.

2. SCOPE

This policy shall apply to all National and Provincial Government Departments as mandated by the Public Service Act 1994 as amended by Act [No 30 2007] and the Occupational Health and Safety Act [No. 85 of 1993] as mandated by the Department of Labour and the Employment of Educators [Act No. 76 of 1998] and the Compensation for Occupational Diseases and Injuries Act [No.130 of 1993]

3. OBJECTIVE

3.1 To improve Occupational Health and Safety by controlling health hazards in the Workplace;

3.2 To have a healthy and safe public service environment that is safe for both public Servants and the community at large;

3.3 To have a public service that can identify and manage risks and improve quality of services.

3.4 To guide the public service on how manage risks; eliminate illness, diseases and accidents.
4. **MISSION**

The Public Service is committed to the provision and promotion of a healthy and a safe work environment for employees and clients utilizing Public Service Delivery environment.
This could be done by assessing and controlling risks through the enforcement of Occupational Health and Safety Act, [No. 85 of 1993] in the Public Service and by assessing risks and ensuring the implementation of the Occupational Health and Safety Act [No. 85 of 1993].

5. **PRINCIPLES**

The SHERQ Management programme is underpinned by the following principles:

5.1 Focus on all levels of employment.
5.2 Responding to the needs of designated groups such as women, older persons, people with disabilities and people living with HIV and AIDS
5.3 Representation of targeted groups and creating a non-sexist, non-racist and fully inclusive public service
5.4 Equality and non-discrimination upholding the value that discrimination on any grounds should be eliminated
5.5 Healthy integration and embracing change
5.6 Human dignity, autonomy, development and empowerment
5.7 Barrier-free Public Service
5.8 Collaborative Partnerships
5.9 Confidentiality and ethical behaviour
5.10 Cohesiveness with HRD processes
5.11 Policy Coherence: DPSA Policy measures should not contradict the measures of DOH, DSD, DCS etc
5.12 Coherence of models: The service delivery models should offer the same package to public servants in spite of it being in-house, outsourced, or DOH collaboration
5.13 Programme coherence: The programmes / protocols that are offered should not contradict each other in the various departments (remove full stops at end of incomplete sentences)

6. LEGAL FRAMEWORK

The policy should be read in conjunction with the following instruments:

6.1 INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS UNDERPINNING SHERQ MANAGEMENT

6.1.1 WHO Global Strategy on Occupational Health for All
6.1.2 Global Plan of Action on Workers 2008-2017
6.1.3 ILO Decent Work Programme 2007-2015
6.1.5 United Nations Millennium Declaration and its Development Goals
6.1.6 World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg 2002
6.1.7 WHO Commission on social determinants of health
6.1.8 WHO Convention on Tobacco Control (CTC) 2010 (Afganistan)
6.1.9 WHO ILO UNAIDS HIV&AIDS and TB management for Health Care workers 2005

6.2 LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR SHERQ MANAGEMENT WITHIN THE PUBLIC SERVICE

6.2.1 Constitution of the RSA, [Act No. 108 of 1996]
6.2.2 Disaster Management Act [No. 57 of 2002 and]
6.2.3 Basic Conditions of Employment Act [No. 75 of 1997]
6.2.4 Occupational Health and Safety Act [No. 85 of 1993]
6.2.5 Employment Equity Act [No. 55 of 1998; 97 of 1998; 9 of 1999]
6.2.6 Labour Relations Act [No. 66 of 1995]
6.2.7 Promotion of Equality and Prevention of Unfair Discrimination [Act No. 4 of 2000]
6.2.8 Public Service Act [No 1994] as amended by Public Service [Act No 30 2007]
6.2.9 Compensation for Occupational Diseases and Injuries Act [No.130 of 1993]
6.2.10 Mental Health Care Act [No. 17 of 2002]
6.2.11 The Medical Schemes Act [No. 131 of 1998]
6.2.12 Tobacco Products Control Amendment Act [No. 12 of 1999]
6.2.13 National Environment Management Act [No. 107 of 1998]
6.2.14 Building Standards Act [No. 103 of 1977] and National Building Regulations”
6.2.15 Hazardous Substance Act [No. 15 of 1973]

6.3 STRATEGIC FRAMEWORKS APPPLICABLE TO SHERQ WITHIN THE PUBLIC SERVIC

6.3.1 National Disaster Management Framework
6.3.2 Decent Work Country Programme 2010-2014
6.3.3 NSP HIV&AIDS 2012-2016
6.3.4 Tobacco Products Control Amendment Act 23 of 2007
6.3.5 Public Service Regulations 2012
6.3.6 Public Sector Summit
6.3.7 Accelerated School Infrastructure Development Initiative (ASIDI)
6.3.8 Programme Memorandum Infrastructure delivery Improvement Plan 2010
6.3.9 AG Report 2011
6.3.10 National Strategy for Quality Improvement in Health Care 2012

6.4 ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL POLICY, PROGRAMMES AND STRATEGY

6.4.1 Presidential and Provincial Pronouncements and Budget Speech
6.4.2 Integrated Development Plans (IDPs), Occupational Health and Safety Programme Local Government.
6.4.3 Medium Term Strategic Framework
6.4.4 National Spatial Development Strategies
6.4.5 Provincial Growth and Development Strategies
6.4.6 National Development Plan 2030
6.4.7 New Growth Path South Africa 2012
6.4.8 Public Service Regulations 2001 as amended 2011
6.4.9 Other Economic Development Plans (NSDPIII, Social Security Framework, NHI,

7. DEFINITIONS

7.1 “OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH” includes occupational hygiene, occupational medicine and biological monitoring.

7.2 “OCCUPATIONAL HYGIENE” is the discipline of anticipating, recognising, evaluating and controlling health hazards in the working environment with the objective of protecting worker health and well-being and safeguarding the community at large.

7.3 “HAZARD” means any source of / or exposure to danger.

7.4 “RISK” means the probability that injury or damage will occur.

7.5 “DG/HOD” Means head of a national department, the office of the premier, a provincial department, or a head of a national or provincial component, and includes any employee acting in such post.

7.6 “SENIOR MANAGER” Means a member of the senior management service who is tasked with championing the SHERQ management programme.

7.7 “EMPLOYEE” Means a person appointed in terms of the Public Service Act 1994 as amended by Public Service [Act No 30 2007] and the Employment of Educators Act [No. 76 of 1998], but excludes a person appointed as a special adviser in terms of section 20(3).

7.8 “HEALTH AND SAFETY REPRESENTATIVE” It is a representative for workers that each and every employer who has more than 20 employees in his employment at the workplace shall designate. This designation should be done within four months after the commencement of the Occupational Health and Safety Act [No. 85 of 1993], or after commencing business, or from such time as the number of employees exceeds 20, as the case may be. The designation
should be done in writing for a specific period in the workplace and for different sections thereof.

7.9 HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE” It is a committee that initiates, develops, promotes, maintains and reviews measures to ensure the health and safety of employees at work. The employer shall in respect of each workplace where two or more health and safety representatives have been designated, establish one or more health and safety committees. They must be established under section 19 of the Occupational Health and Safety Act [No.85 of 1993].

7.10 “STEERING COMMITTEE” The Steering Committee is a vehicle of coordination, communication, collaboration, and consultation, which seeks to establish harmonised communication of the EH&W Framework; build commitment for its implementation and create avenues through which collaborative initiatives can be forged.

8. ROLE PLAYERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

This policy involves the following role players:

8.1 The Head of Department shall:

8.1.1 Provide and maintain, as far as reasonably practicable, a working environment that is safe and without risk to the health of employees

8.1.2 Ensure that there is a written policy concerning the protection of the health and safety of employees at work, and the safety of the general public

8.1.3 Appoint a designated senior manager to champion SHERQ programmes in the workplace

8.1.4 Designate in writing for a specified period health and safety representatives for the workplace, or for different sections thereof

8.1.5 Establish one or more employee health and wellness /health and safety committees and consult with the committee with a view to initiating, developing, promoting, maintaining and reviewing measures to ensure the health and safety
of employees at work.

8.1.5 Ensure Total Quality Management Systems are in place

8.2 The Designated Senior Manager shall:

8.2.1 Develop capacity building programmes i.e.
   a) Promote competence development of practitioners
   b) Improve capacity development of auxiliary functions (OD, HR, IR, Skills Development, Change Management etc.) to assist with SHERQ promotion at an organisational level
   c) Establish e-Health and Wellness information systems

8.2.2 Form organizational support initiatives i.e.
   a) Establish an appropriate organizational structure for SHERQ
   b) Ensure Human Resource planning and management
   c) Develop integrated SHERQ information management system
   d) Provide physical resources and facilities
   e) Ensure financial planning and budgeting
   f) Mobilize management support
   g) Ensure the Systematic Review Process for Operational Planning

8.2.3 Develop Governance and Institutional Initiatives i.e.
   a) Establish an SHERQ Steering Committee
   b) Obtain Stakeholder commitment and development
   c) Develop and implement an ethical framework for SHERQ
   d) Develop the management of wellness care policy/guideline?
   e) Develop and implement management standards for SHERQ
   f) Develop and maintain an effective communication system
   g) Develop and implement a system for monitoring, evaluation, and impact analysis

8.2.4 Develop Economic Growth and Development Initiatives i.e.
   a) Mitigate the impact of Diseases on the economy
   b) Ensure responsiveness to the Government’s Programme of Action
   c) Ensure Responsiveness to Millennium Development Goals
   d) Integrating NEPAD, AU and Global programmes for the economic sector
8.2.5 Identify appropriate to the nature and scale of the departments SHERQ risks and impacts
8.2.6 Ensure alignment with the SHERQ hazard identification and risk assessment outcomes
8.2.7 Ensure commitment to continual improvement of the SHERQ system
8.2.8 Ensure commitment to comply a minimum with current applicable legislation regulations and other requirements to which the department subscribes.

8.3 The SHERQ Coordinator shall:

8.3.1 Coordinate the implementation of SHERQ, projects and interventions
8.3.2 Plan, monitor and manage SHERQ according to strategies, policies and budgetary guidelines
8.3.3 Make provision for counseling to individual employees and to their immediate family members
8.3.4 Identify personal development needs for individual employees
8.3.5 Analyze and evaluate data and communicate information, statistics and results to various stakeholders and management
8.3.6 Coordinate activities of Safety and Health Coordinators
8.3.7 Promote work-life balance for employee

8.4 Health and Safety Representatives:

8.4.1 Review the effectiveness of health and safety measures
8.4.2 Identify potential hazards and potential major incidents at the workplace
8.4.3 In collaboration with the employer, examine the causes of incidents at the workplace; investigate complaints by any employee relating to employee’s health or safety at work
8.4.4 Make representations to the employer on general matters affecting the health or safety of the employees at the workplace
8.4.5 Inspect the workplace, including any article, substance, plant, machinery or health and safety equipment at the workplace with a view to improve the
health and safety of employees, at such intervals as may be agreed upon with the employer: Provided that the health and safety representative shall give reasonable notice of his intention to carry out such an inspection to the employer, who may be present during the inspection

8.4.6 Participate in consultations with inspectors at the workplace and accompany inspectors on inspections of the workplace.

8.4.6 In their capacity as health and safety representatives attend meetings of the health and safety committee of which they are members, in connection with any of the above functions.

8.4.7 Act as a focal point for the distribution of evidence-based and generic health and wellness promotional material at the workplace

8.4.8 Take initiative to implement awareness activities, or to communicate health and wellness information at the workplace

8.4.9 Act as a referral agent of employees to relevant internal or external health support programmes

8.4.10 Be involved with the identification of health risks at the workplace

8.4.11 Obtain and make condoms and femidom available at the workplace and provide usage education thereof

8.4.12 Initiate and arrange staff training with regard to employee health and wellness

8.4.13 Ensure adherence to standards as set by legislation, regulations, SABS, ISO and DOL

8.4.14 Submit monthly reports of activities to the SHERQ coordinator

8.5 Intradepartmental Health and Safety Committee (as part of the EHW committee) shall:

8.5.1 Make recommendations to the employer or, where the recommendations fail to resolve the matter, to an inspector regarding any matter affecting the health or safety of persons at the workplace or any section thereof for which such committee has been established

8.5.2 Discuss any incident at the workplace or section thereof in which or in consequence of which any person was injured, became ill or died, and may in writing report on the incident to an inspector
8.5.3 Keep record of each recommendation made to an employer and of any report made to an inspector.

8.5.4 Ensure adherence to standards as set by legislation, regulations, SABS, ISO and DOL.

8.5.5 Involve Labour relations movements.

8.6 The Employee shall:

8.6.1 Take reasonable care for the health and safety of him/herself and of other persons who may be affected by his/her acts or omissions.

8.6.2 Obey the health and safety rules and procedures laid down by his/her employer or any authorized person in the interest of health and safety.

8.6.3 Report as soon as practicable any unsafe or unhealthy situation which comes to his/her attention, to the employer or to the health and safety representative for his/her workplace or section thereof.

8.6.4 If involved in any incident which may affect his/her health or which has caused an injury to him/herself, report such incident to his/her employer or to his/her health and safety representative, as soon as practicable.

8.6.5 Comply with standards as set by legislation, regulations, SABS, ISO and DOL.

8.7 The Interdepartmental Committee shall (National, provincial and district levels):

8.7.1 Draw lessons from policy implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

8.7.2 Assess the impact of SHERQ on the ongoing transformation of the Public Service.

8.7.3 Consistently measure the impact of SHERQ on productivity of the Public Service.

8.7.4 Coordinate the efforts of Departments to address strategic and SHERQ related issues.

8.7.5 Ensure that information is cascaded to all levels in provinces and in the departments, in directorates and in Institutions as well as with stakeholders and supporters.

8.8 Labour Representatives shall:

8.8.1 Represent employees in the workplace.
8.8.2. Ensure that the employer fulfill mandates of OHS ACT and Regulations in order to optimize Health and Safety in the workplace.

8.8.3 Sit in OHS committee meetings and

8.8.4. Make representation to the employer on agreed issues affecting the health and safety of employees at the work place.

9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The expenditure associated with the implementation of this policy must be met from the individual department’s budget.

10. IMPLEMENTATION

Implementation of this policy will follow a result-based management system as according to the outcomes based management model of the South African Government as approved by DPME; outlining SHERQ Management programme inputs, process, outputs, outcomes and impact indicators. The pillars for implementation should comprise the four functional pillars as reflected in the EHW Strategic Framework, namely Occupational Health and Safety Management; Environment Management; Risk Management and Quality Management. The process pillars for implementation, which are the primary responsibly of the Designated Senior Manager, will include Capacity Development; Organizational Support; Governance; and Economic Growth and Development. These four process pillars are to operationalize each functional pillar and its related activities to achieve the intended annual outputs and intermediate outcomes leading to the desired impact.

11. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Implementation of this policy needs departments to work together to develop an efficient and effective M&E system to monitor and review progress and results of the implementation. The 12 components that should be included in the SHERQ M&E System are indicated below:

1. Organisational structures with SHERQ M&E functions
2. Human capacity for SHERQ M&E
3. Partnerships to plan, coordinate, and manage the M&E system
4. National multisectoral SHERQ M&E plan
5. Annual costed national SHERQ M&E work plan
6. Advocacy, communications, and culture for SHERQ M&E
7. Routine SHERQ programme monitoring
8. Surveys and surveillance
9. National and sub-national SHERQ Databases
10. Supportive supervision and data auditing
11. EH&W evaluation and research
12. Data dissemination and use

12. REVIEW

The Policy shall be reviewed as and when there are new developments or after every three years.

PART B: IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICY OBJECTIVES

The SHERQ Pillar as indicated in the EH&W Strategic Framework is based on four sub-objectives, which represent the recommended core functions of SHERQ Units in line departments, and identify a critical set of initiatives to be undertaken by the SHERQ practitioners in carrying out their roles and responsibilities. SHERQ initiatives in the Public Service embrace the occupational health of employees and to promote the quality of work life within the Public Service.

New developments in Governance indicate that juristic persons like government departments and other private sector companies are integral to wellbeing of individuals and their families. There is international consensus that issues of Safety, Health, Environment, Risk and Quality are issues that must be addressed as governance issues. The EH&WSF affirms through this pillar the strategic importance of SHERQ in enhancing governance of government departments in general and improvement of public servants health and wellness in particular.

This SHERQ Pillar provides for increased responsibility of political and executive leadership to ensure that government departments conduct their affairs in an
accountable, responsible, transparent and sustainable manner; as decent citizens to promote the health and wellness of their employees and the quality of services delivered to the public; the sustainability of the environment for the long term effects of service delivery improvement; and adding value to economic growth. Implementation of both the intangible and tangible aspects of SHERQ are to be implemented guided by a human rights culture that impacts on health, environment and also the practice of quantitative measurements sciences applied in risk and quality management.

The SHERQ Pillar has four sub objectives; Occupational Health and Safety Management, Environment Management, and Risk and Quality Management. These sub objectives are to be implemented in compliance with international instruments, national legislation, national policies and other strategic documents mentioned that form the legal and policy framework. The implementation will be in accordance with the standards identified by the International Organization of Standards OHSAS 18001 for OHS, ISO 14001 for Environmental Management, ISO 9001 for Quality Management.

The SHERQ Policy objectives have an Aim, Policy Measures and procedural arrangements.
AIM is the intended goal and purpose of the policy measures.

Policy measures are actions developed to address a perceived problem or further government objectives. It can include regulatory, fiscal (fiscal means financial matters) or information based tools.

All procedural arrangements for implementation will be the same as identified for the role of the designated senior manager in Part A paragraph 8.2 of this policy. This policy will be further implemented as according to the implementation Guide in Annexure A
1. OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY MANAGEMENT

1.1 Aim

To ensure a healthy and safe work environment

1.2 Policy Measures

   - Occupational health and related risks Identified and managed.
   - occupational Safety and related risks Identified and managed
   - Ergonomics

2. Occupational Hygiene
   - Medical Surveillance. (Baseline and Periodical)

3. Health and safety representation
   - All OHS Statutory appointments

4. Management of Occupational Injuries and Diseases
   - Application of COIDA

PROCEDURAL ARRANGEMENTS

All procedural arrangements for implementation will be the same as identified for the role of the Designated Senior Manager in PART A, paragraph 8.2 of this policy. These are the four Process Pillars, specifically the Systematic Review as part of Organizational Support Initiatives, Generic Implementation Guide and the Operational Plan template.

2. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

2.1 Aim

To monitor the effectiveness of risk controls measures and trigger corrective actions when required.
2.2 Policy Measures

a. Well maintained buildings and offices
b. Safe waste disposal
c. Maintained and practiced Good housekeeping method.
d. Well maintained machinery and electrical equipment

2.3 PROCEDURAL ARRANGEMENTS

All procedural arrangements for implementation will be the same as identified for the role of the Designated Senior Manager in PART A, paragraph 8.2 of this policy. These are the four Process Pillars, specifically the Systematic Review as part of Organizational Support Initiatives, Generic Implementation Guide and the Operational Plan template.

3. RISK Management

3.1 Aim

Identify and assess risks through a dynamic, formal, structured and holistic process to facilitate effective risk reduction plans and actions.

3.2 Policy Measures

a) Safety, Health, Environment and Quality risks Identified, assessed and controlled.

b. Workplace preparedness plans established (disaster management Plan)

c. An emergency/evacuation plan for DPSA developed

3.3 PROCEDURAL ARRANGEMENTS

All procedural arrangements for implementation will be the same as identified for the role of the Designated Senior Manager in PART A, paragraph 8.2 of this policy. These are the four Process Pillars, specifically the Systematic Review as part of Organizational Support Initiatives, Generic Implementation Guide and the Operational Plan template.

4. Quality Management

4.1 Aim
To establish, document, implement and maintain a quality management system (ISO 9001), SMT and Check list/Inspection tool to continually improve its effectiveness.

4.2 Policy Measures

a) SHERQ Quality Standards Developed.

b) Establishment of the Audit team (include SHERQ manager, SHERQ Reps, Line Manager, Supervisor and employees.

c) Compliance to each element of the SHERQ system monitored.
   • It should be done twice a year or yearly.
   • Focus on organization risk profile (OHSRA/IHRA/HIRA) Other risk profiles for each element
   • Deviation (findings) report and recommended action plan should be shared with relevant stakeholders for corrections.
   • Follow up to check progress made on the corrective actions-monthly report back should take place at the SHERQ committee meetings.

4.3 PROCEDURAL ARRANGEMENTS

All procedural arrangements for implementation will be the same as identified for the role of the Designated Senior Manager in PART A paragraph 8.2 of this policy. These are the four Process Pillars, specifically the Systematic Review as part of Organizational Support Initiatives, Step by Step Guide, Generic Implementation Guide and the Operational Plan template.