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TO: ALL HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS, PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION AND GOVERNMENT COMPONENTS

COMMEMORATION OF THE 2024 AFRICA PUBLIC SERVICE DAY CIRCULAR NO. 18 OF 2024

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This circular contains information on the 2024 Africa Public Service Day (APSD) commemoration that will be held from 24–28 June 2024 across the Public Service.
- 1.2 Africa Public Service Day (APSD), 23 June, is an initiative of the Pan-African Ministers of Public/Civil Service that serves as a strategic African inter-state platform to advance the African Agenda for building capable developmental states. It serves as a transnational policy learning and development network in the areas of governance, public administration, civil service, and service delivery.
- 1.3 As an AU Member State, the Republic of South Africa commemorates the APSD annually at a national level and biennially at a Continental level in line with an African Union determined theme and sub-themes.
- 1.4 The Minister for Public Service and Administration (MPSA) leads the country's participation in the celebration of the APSD and coordinates the national celebrations through the Department of Public Service and Administration (DPSA) in collaboration with national and provincial departments.

2. THE 2024 APSD THEME

- 2.1. In line with the African Union 2024 theme: The year of Education: **'Educate an African fit for the 21st Century: building resilient education systems for increased access to inclusive, lifelong quality and relevant learning in Africa'**, the adapted theme for the 2024 APSD is **'Professionalising the public service to build capacity of the state through lifelong education and training'**.
- 2.2. The 2024 APSD will not only be celebrated in the context of the country's **30th anniversary of** democracy but also to usher in the 7th administration by reflecting on the performance of the 7 key priority areas of the 6th administration.

2.3. The following focus areas are to guide the engagements and discussions to elucidate the theme: -

Focus area	Key issues
a. Promote the awareness on the African Agenda for a better Africa better world aspiration, reflect on the thirty years of our democracy in the context of the transformation of public service delivery and gender-based violence and femicide.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of Agenda 2063. • Governance measures
b. Raise awareness on the CESA activities and SDG 4 goals as well as the STISA 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National, Regional and Continental roadmaps / strategies
c. Create understanding of the national education strategy in ensuring that the appropriate skilled population with the needed knowledge, armed with the right social and cultural values for engendering peaceful co-existence and creation of wealth are produced. (including the role of the public service in supporting the implementation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed change for the social well-being of the population; focus on youth month. • Science and Technology and innovation strategy for Africa (Youth)
d. Engage on the Public Service strategy to raise performance and competence levels in government (the National framework towards the professionalisation of the public service/ sector –in particular the pillars: pre-entry, merit recruitment and selection, as well as continuing learning & professional development).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PS Professionalisation Framework • Institutionalisation of the Ethics Officers function in the Public Service
e. Engage on setting standards to restore prestige and dignity of the public service/national pride and social cohesion;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • African Charter on values and principles of public service and administration • Professionalisation framework • Global reputation and nation branding
f. Taking government services to the communities and community engagements (may take place throughout the week)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • APSD plans –provinces/ national departments (and civic services)
g. Showcase innovation and good practice in service delivery- reflection on service delivery innovations / awards / ICT advancement and improvements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • transition to an innovation led, knowledge-based economy.

3. REQUEST FOR SUPPORT AND PARTICIPATION

- 3.1 The APSD is a national calendar event, it is for this reason that national and provincial departments are encouraged to develop and/or customise activities in line with the theme and focus areas mentioned above.
- 3.2 To achieve the desired impact, amongst which is to reach as many public servants as possible, you are kindly requested to support, coordinate, and share the 2024 APSD activities of your department and/or province for the month of June 2024. The DPSA will further share the Communication plan including standardised key messages and a communication toolkit.
- 3.3 The 24th of June will serve as the main event and the rest of the week earmarked to intensify the awareness and recognition of the work of public service through stakeholder engagements/dialogues/letsema service delivery site visits.

4. Invitation to participate in the National events.

- 4.1 The national events will be spread throughout the country and mostly delivered in a hybrid approach:

Date	Activity	Time	Purpose	Key focus
24 June	Launch of the APSD Week (hybrid)	09h00-14h00	Public Servants engagement -reflecting on the theme and the African Agenda	MPSA to launch the week in partnership with the Ministers of Education and hosting province
25 June	NSG Master Class – Webinar	09h00-15h30	Public servant engagement – webinar-based learning to share good practices that guide through real life experiences on the professionalisation of the public service	NSG to facilitate knowledge exchange program between African countries. Science and Technology to share future public service occupation profiles
26 June	Youth Engagement (hybrid/expo)	08h00-16h00	Semi formal event with expo, exhibitions to share information on youth development opportunities and social cohesion issues	Ministerial youth outreach program – Science & innovation; Higher and Basic Education/Academia, BrandSA, Presidency, DSAC DTIC, NSG, CPSI, other government departments and SETA's

28 June	Citizen Engagement event (hybrid)	09h00-13h00	APRM 2 nd generation report and the roll out plan, taking services to the people (mobile services)	The National APRM Committee to lead citizen engagement activities and GCIS through Thusong Service Centre's to mobilise improved access for services
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- 4.2 Find attached, the concept document, the registration invitation and virtual connection links will be communicated with departments at a later stage.
- 4.3 Contact details for further clarity and information should be forwarded to Ms Mamello Mahomed at (012) 336 1300 / E-mail address: mamellom@dpsa.gov.za: 082 787 8525 and Ms Matsetso Botha at (012) 336 1252 / 084 628 2550: e-mail address mbotha@dpsa.gov.za.

Signed by: Yoliswa Makhasi
Signed at: 2024-05-10 09:07:09 +02:00
Reason: I approve this document




MS. YOLISWA MAKHASI

DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE: 10/05/24