



**REMARKS BY HONOURABLE MR TW NXESI, ACTING MINISTER FOR THE PUBLIC SERVICE AND ADMINISTRATION, AND APRM NATIONAL FOCAL POINT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**AT THE NATIONAL GOVERNING COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION ON 22-23 SEPTEMBER 2022**

**HELD AT**

**ANEW HOTEL CENTURION - CITY OF TSHWANE – SOUTH AFRICA**

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**Protocol:**

**Chairperson of the National Governing Council, Mr Thulani Tshefuta;**

**Members of the National Governing Council;**

**Prof Eddy Maloka, CEO of the APRM Continental Secretariat;**

**Staff Members from the Continental Secretariat;**



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**His Excellency, Mr Mathew Gowaseb, Member of the APR Panel of Eminent Persons responsible for South Africa;**

**Excellencies from Invited Countries;**

**Members from Partner Organisations;**

**Members from the Technical Research institutions;**

**Ladies and Gentlemen.**

The endorsement by the South African Cabinet of the Country's Self-Assessment Report (CSAR) on the 8<sup>th</sup> of



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December 2021 signalled South Africa’s renewal of its commitment to the ideals of the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM), thus opening itself to the process of peer learning and sharing with its counterparts.

This is in line with the purpose of the APRM as outlined in Article 3 (1) of the APRM Statute (2020) which states that: “The APRM shall serve as an African-owned and African-led platform for self-assessment, peer-learning, and experience-sharing in democracy and good governance, in full respect for democratic principles, human rights, rule of law, and the acceleration of political, social and economic integration in Africa”



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A cursory reading of South Africa's 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation Country Review Report (CRR) clearly shows a substantive convergence between the CSAR and CRR reports, which indicates that the observations and findings of the Country Review Mission (CRM) largely align with what the CSAR had highlighted.

The recommendations of the APR Panel of Eminent Persons thus largely falls within the ambit of what South Africa's Medium Term Strategic Framework is already entrusted with. South Africa consequently welcomed the CRR.



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South Africa thus remains committed to its journey of continual improvement by building on the baseline set out in the CSAR of 2006 and the Base Review Report of 2007, and to align implementation of the recommendations within its key planning and development frameworks. This will help in building complementarity with other laws and policies implemented by the government when reporting in terms of other planning and development frameworks and thus reflect the interrelatedness of South Africa's progress reports in response to continental and international obligations.



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It is in light of the above that the Cabinet, on 22 June 2022, endorsed South Africa's National Plan of Action (NPoA) 2022-25 which accordingly falls within the ambit of the deliverables in the Medium Term Strategic Framework, albeit with the requisite alignments.

Consequently, the NPoA will be implemented in accordance with the due processes which are guided, among others, by the country's constitutional values of accountability, the rule of law and the supremacy of the Constitution.

As the APRM National Focal Point, I wish to extend my appreciation to the members of the National Governing



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Council and all other role players who made it possible for South Africa to reach these milestones.

Chapter 14 of the 25 Year South African Government Review (1994 – 2019) is titled: “Building a Better Africa and the World” and it specifically alludes to South Africa’s adoption of the ‘African Agenda’ with a dual focus on strengthening institutional frameworks that support the renewal process and developing this policy agenda through the instruments such as the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) and the APRM.



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South Africa thus remains committed to the ideals of the APRM and wishes to express its gratitude to the APRM community at large, particularly:

- the Country Review Mission which was led by Bishop Sengulane, as the then member of the APR Panel of Eminent Persons - for the professional manner in which they conducted South Africa's 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation Country Review;
- the APRM Continental Secretariat, led by Prof Eddy Maloka, for their technical support and coordination with the National APRM Structures through the deployment of the Country Coordinator for South Africa – Mr Dalmar Jama.





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- I also wish to welcome His Excellency, Mr Mathew Gowaseb, who is a new member of the APR Panel of Eminent Persons responsible for South Africa, and look forward to working with him.
- In addition, I wish to thank the Country Representatives present for taking their time to share their experiences on the APRM in their Countries.

Finally, I look forward to the deliberations of the Strategic Planning Session which I'm certain will take South Africa to another level.



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As His Excellency, President Matamela Ramaphosa, said at the conclusion of South Africa's Chairship of the APR Forum of Heads of State and Government on 4 February 2022:

“In conclusion, I wish to reaffirm South African's commitment to the APRM and its mission which contributes to improving governance of our beautiful continent and its people”.

**I thank you**