



sport, arts & culture

Department:
Sport, Arts and Culture
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**MINISTER GAYTON MCKENZIE AND DEPUTY MINISTER PEACE
MABE**

100 DAYS REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF SPORT, ARTS AND CULTURE

INTRODUCTION:

The seventh democratic election has ushered in a Government of National Unity, embodying the electorate's call for cooperation, accountability, and unity. Within this framework, the Department of Sport, Arts, and Culture (DSAC), led by Minister Gayton McKenzie and Deputy Minister Peace Mabe, remains committed to creating an enabling environment where sport, arts, and culture sectors thrive, ensuring inclusivity and transformation across all disciplines. During this time, we have focused on uplifting marginalised communities, addressing gender disparities, and ensuring that the sectors of sport, arts, and culture are accessible to all. These accomplishments are a testament to the power of collaboration and the shared vision we hold for a better future for our nation.

PRESENTATION BY DEPUTY MINISTER PEACE MABE

SPORT:

One of my first assignments after assuming office was addressing stakeholders at the Cricket South Africa Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Indaba, where I articulated the government's stance on transformation. As a Ministry, we view the transformation challenges in cricket as reflective of those across many of South Africa's sporting codes – specifically the critical issue of ensuring equal access for young people. Addressing this imbalance remains at the heart of our broader strategy to create more inclusive and equitable opportunities in sports.

The Department's achievements in sport were highlighted by South Africa's successful participation in the 2024 Paris Olympics and Paralympics, where our athletes returned home with six (6) Olympic and six (6) Paralympic medals. This accomplishment is a testament to the strength and resilience of our sporting community. I played an instrumental role in supporting the athletes, delivering messages of encouragement and overseeing several key engagements during the paralympic games.

I was honoured to be invited to deliver an address at the South African Sports Confederation and Olympic Committee (SASCOC) AGM, where I engaged with key stakeholders on the importance of strengthening collaboration and driving further transformation within the sporting community. These engagements reaffirm our Ministry's commitment to ensuring that sport is a unifying force in South Africa's national development.

In promoting a healthy lifestyle, I actively participated in various events, including the Nelson Mandela Foundation Walk, 702 Walk, the Silent Walk (to raise awareness for the deaf community) and, now recently, the Big Walk, which aligns with the National Development Plan's goal of promoting physical activity and healthy living. These events not only advance public health but also foster social cohesion by bringing communities together through sport.

A key focus for the Department has been addressing gender inequality in sport, particularly ensuring equal pay and resource allocation for female athletes. The Department is in the final stages of developing a comprehensive Women in Sport Policy Framework, which addresses multiple areas of gender disparity, including participation, leadership, governance, and visibility. This policy aims to empower women and girls by breaking down barriers related to gender, race, disability and geographical location.

It is a comprehensive policy framework covering complex and interrelated issues and realities compared to other countries utilised for benchmarking such as Sweden, Ireland, Canada and Namibia.

With the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture as policy owner, the roles, responsibilities and key areas of collaboration to achieve meaningful gender transformation outcomes are captured, so as to guide a robust agenda for collective action.

I have also taken a hands-on approach to supporting Women in Boxing, an underrepresented yet highly promising sporting code. This effort reflects the Department's broader goal of uplifting the Girl-Child and young

women in sport by investing in their development and ensuring they have the tools needed to succeed.

It must be stressed that the Department will be launching renovation projects for community sporting facilities across the country, for all participants, men and women, boys and girls.

These efforts aim to provide equal access to quality sports infrastructure, beginning with Limpopo Province, where I will be overseeing the handover of upgraded facilities in Moletji and Lephalale in late October 2024.

ARTS:

In the arts sector, I have led efforts to create an enabling environment for artists, particularly those in underserved communities. The Ministry has, over the past 100 days, engaged with key industry players and stakeholders to discuss the challenges facing the creative industries and to identify opportunities for growth. One of the key outcomes of these discussions was the recognition that civic and multi-purpose community centres can be transformed into hubs for artistic expression and economic activity. By providing artists with these spaces, the Department aims to directly contribute to job creation and economic opportunities within the creative sector.

HERITAGE PROMOTION AND PRESERVATION:

South Africa is a country rich in cultural and historical significance. The inscription of two new World Heritage Sites in July 2024 was a major achievement:

- The Early Modern Human Behaviour Sites:

South Africa's 11th World Heritage Site offers invaluable insights into the development of symbolic thought, technology, and complex cognitive abilities among early humans. These sites, dating back over 162,000 years, are not only archaeological treasures but also a reminder of our shared humanity and ancestral roots.

- The Nelson Mandela Legacy Sites:

Inscribed as South Africa's 12th World Heritage Site, these locations commemorate the struggle for freedom and human rights, with a particular focus on the life and contributions of Nelson Mandela. This site is the first to be nominated from the African Liberation Heritage Programme, aligning with the African Union's Vision 2063 and reaffirming South Africa's commitment to reconciliation, peace, and human dignity.

I believe that I have further demonstrated my commitment to preserving South Africa's rich cultural heritage by delivering a keynote address at the Oral History Conference in Ulundi, KwaZulu-Natal, in October 2024.

The conference, held under the theme "Forgotten Stories and Marginalised Experiences 30 Years Later," brought together experts to explore how oral history and digital technology can be harnessed to preserve the country's diverse and often overlooked narratives. In conjunction with this event, I participated in a National Symbols and Patriotism promotion ceremony at Senzangakhona High School, reinforcing the importance of cultural pride among the youth.

PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS:

As the Ministry, we have prioritised fostering public-private partnerships to revitalise critical programmes within the Department and to create opportunities for greater participation in sport, arts, culture and heritage.

A prime example of this was my visit to the Enos Mafokate Equestrian Sport Centre in Soweto, where we've explored possible upgrades and partnerships to improve the facility. The Centre has the potential to open new doors for equestrian sports, which have historically lacked representation in South Africa's sporting landscape.

Another key initiative that I spearheaded, together with the Minister, is the revival of school sport.

We have been unwavering in our goal to ensuring that every child in school is engaged in sport, the arts, or cultural activities. This holistic approach is vital to the development of well-rounded young South Africans, who will go on to contribute to the nation's growth and unity and provide proof that the Government of National Unity is indeed working well for all citizens.

SOCIAL COHESION AND NATION BUILDING:

As part of the Department's mission to promote social cohesion and nation building, I have successfully led the CUFA Festival in the Free State this past weekend. This festival not only celebrated South Africa's cultural diversity but also contributed to job creation by stimulating local economic activity in areas such as hospitality, small business, and cultural tourism.

I have also supported several important initiatives that honour South Africa's living legends and promote its rich cultural heritage. These include the "Van Toeka Af" Project, where I paid a courtesy visit to Mama Abigail Khubeka, and the Nkalakatha Road to 25 Years Project, which aims to preserve the legacy of music legend Mandoza. Additionally, I participated in the Mpondo Heritage Festival and the Diepsloot Carnival, both of which underscored the importance of celebrating and preserving the country's cultural heritage.

INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENTS:

I have in the past 100 days represented South Africa at several high-profile international events:

- At the International Film Week in Moscow, held in August 2024, I delivered a keynote address focusing on the emergence of South Africa's Cultural and Creative Industries as catalysts for job creation, social cohesion, and innovation.
- During the 2024 Paris Olympics and Paralympics, I led the South African delegation, offering messages of support to the athletes and representing the country on an international stage.
- In Lusaka, Zambia, I was delegated by the Minister to oversee the repatriation of the mortal remains of South African freedom fighters, ensuring they were returned with dignity and respect to be honoured on home soil.

PRESENTATION BY MINISTER GAYTON McKENZIE

REPATRIATION OF HUMAN REMAINS FROM ZAMBIA AND ZIMBABWE

Let me start with one of my proudest moments as the new Minister of Sport, Arts and Culture, and that is the pivotal role the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture (DSAC) played in facilitating the repatriation of human remains from Zambia and Zimbabwe. This initiative is part of the department's ongoing commitment to honouring the legacy of South Africans who lost their lives in exile during the liberation struggle.

Through coordination with the Department of Defence and Military Veterans, international partners, and local communities, DSAC ensured that the remains of 42 fallen heroes were repatriated from Zambia and Zimbabwe, respectively, on 25 September 2024.

On 27 September 2024, President Cyril Matamela Ramaphosa presided over a homecoming ceremony at Freedom Park. During this event, the remains of the liberation fighters were symbolically reinstated as citizens of South Africa, witnessed by the nation and the international community. This event served as a powerful moment of recognition for the sacrifices made during the liberation struggle, allowing families to reconnect with their loved ones and ensuring their contributions are remembered.

The next phase of this project will focus on the repatriation of South African remains from Angola, continuing the Department's mission to bring home those who gave their lives for our country's freedom. The ongoing

repatriation process underscores DSAC's commitment to preserving the country's history and honouring the legacy of its fallen heroes.

FIBA TOURNAMENT – BASKETBALL SA

In August 2024, the Ministry became aware of a crisis in South Africa's imminent hosting of the U18 African basketball championships, known officially as the International Basketball Federation (FIBA) U18 Afrobasket.

My queries to Basketball South Africa (BSA), in response to unfavourable news reports about preparations for the tournament, made it clear that BSA had neither the funding nor had followed the correct government-sanctioned procedures in preparing for the tournament, which was due to be hosted in Pretoria at the start of September.

There were 12 participating countries, with respective teams of boys and girls.

To safeguard South Africa's international reputation as a credible host country, DSAC took over the handling of the event with less than two weeks to go, putting out an emergency tender for a service provider. Funds were repurposed from a dormant initiative and a service provider stepped in with days to spare. This ultimately saved the tournament.

I have engaged with the South African Sports Confederation and Olympic Committee (SASCOC), requesting that an investigation be initiated against the conduct of BSA's leadership, with the appropriate consequence management, if found to be warranted.

NATIONAL SCHOOL OF THE ARTS RESCUE

Following worrying media reports about imminent financial collapse, the Ministry intervened to address the financial challenges facing the National School of the Arts (NSA). I visited the institution along with Deputy Minister Peace Mabe to engage with the school's SGB, executive management and the District Department of Basic Education, since the school is state-owned.

The school, which has produced numerous talented artists, was facing bankruptcy due to exhausted funds and unpaid staff salaries. To prevent the closure, we committed to covering the school's immediate liabilities while collaborating with the Department of Basic Education to establish a sustainable business model. Additionally, the Ministry pledged to work with the school's creditors and explore long-term solutions for financial stability. DSAC has also started the process of renovating the school.

As part of the intervention, the Ministry recognised the school's crucial role in providing arts education to underprivileged students, many of whom are exempt from school fees. In the next academic year, 35 marginalised learners will receive Ministerial Financial Assistance, which will cover both their hostel and school fees. This support is expected to change the trajectory of their lives and help ensure the institution's continued success and legacy.

It was also determined that the school appears to be receiving highly inflated invoices from the City of Johannesburg due to the rates category of Education being dropped. This decision was found to be illegal by the High Court, and the City has appealed this. Numerous other schools in

the City are facing the same challenge, elevating the plight of the NSA to a broader level.

The Department has also arranged to start the legal process for the school to recover fees from numerous parents who can afford to pay fees but unfortunately choose not to.

SUPPORT FOR TEAM SOUTH AFRICA AT THE WORLD ATHLETICS U20 CHAMPIONSHIPS

The South African team delivered an outstanding all-round performance at the World Athletics U20 Championships in Peru, finishing sixth in the overall medal standings with a total of seven medals: three gold, two silver, and two bronze. This achievement was made possible, in part, due to our last-minute intervention.

Facing financial challenges that threatened the team's participation, we stepped in to secure sponsorship for Athletics South Africa, ensuring that the young athletes could compete on the world stage. This swift action helped facilitate the necessary support, allowing the team to represent South Africa with pride and bring home the remarkable medal haul.

Remarkably, the athletes received their flights to Peru with mere hours to spare. Had this intervention not occurred, among other things the world would not have had confirmation that rising star Bayanda Walaza is in fact the fastest teenager in the world.

RETENTION OF CONTRACT EMPLOYEES AT DSAC

Cabinet has made it clear that job creation is an urgent imperative to respond to national statistics on unemployment levels. In pursuit of DSAC's response to this, soon upon taking office, I prioritised engagements on personnel matters and recruitment plans in the department.

I wanted to understand the dynamics around the role played by employees on contract in the department and the reasons why these contracts were to be terminated, starting from August 2024.

I issued a directive that all current contract appointments should be prolonged, saving 62 employees from joblessness. Their contracts were extended until the end of March 2025.

This was not without consideration for further decisions on long-term employment strategies, balanced against the medium-term shrinking cost of employment budgets and the finalisation of the structure of the department, which is currently being reviewed.

CCI BOSBERAAD

On 29-30 August, the Ministry held a Sector Bosberaad for the Cultural and Creative Industries Sector. The Bosberaad was attended by seventy-two (72) sector and sub-sector organisations, with a total of more than 200 participants in attendance. The Bosberaad was a follow-up to bilateral meetings which the Ministry had earlier set up with individual organisations and key industry players across different domains and disciplines.

The Bosberaad afforded all invited organisations the opportunity to share their programmes and recommendations on what they wanted the Department and Ministry to prioritise.

It assisted in reimagining a new sector ecosystem, where representative sector and sub-sector organisations can enjoy direct recognition and support from government. This would be configured more along the lines of how individual federations are recognised in the sport sector and affiliated directly to a confederation structure such as SASCOC.

This reconfiguration of sector representation enabled the department to come up with a new funding model, which will be rolled out in the new financial year, built on principles of inclusivity, broad-based recognition and equitable distribution of available resources for sector-organisation support – as opposed to just funding a few, selected organisations.

BROADCASTING RIGHTS

Shortly after taking office, the Ministry arranged for a meeting in Cape Town between the executive leadership of eMedia and SABC to better understand the nature of the dispute that was, in part, preventing the free-to-air broadcast of Springbok matches on the national broadcaster SABC.

While that dispute remains to be fully resolved, I was able to convince pay-TV rights holders SuperSport to agree to – at no charge – allow SABC to broadcast the Ellis Park Rugby Championship Test match against the All Blacks on 31 August 2024.

This monumental occasion became part of the country's celebration of 30 years of democracy, as it was used to commemorate the Springboks' triumph in winning their first Rugby World Cup at the same venue in 1995 under the smiling eyes of then President Nelson Mandela against the All Blacks.

DSAC used the platform to showcase the work of a variety of performers before the match and at half-time, in partnership with SA Rugby.

All South Africans were able to watch the match live and the Springboks triumphed in a thrilling come-from-behind win.

I remain committed to resolving the broadcasting dispute between the SABC and eMedia, together with SuperSport, once and for all, to ensure that all South Africans are able to see the Boks play more often than just at World Cups every four years.

SUPERSPORT PARTNERSHIP

A positive consequence of this engagement has been the start of a strong relationship with SuperSport and other partners.

My Ministry has, just as one example, now joined forces with SuperSport, Athletics SA, South African Schools Athletics and the Department of Basic Education in launching an exciting Track+Field Schools Athletics Series, starting in January next year.

The schools' athletics series is open to all high schools throughout the country. The objective will be to crown the top athletics high school in the country. Both boys and girls at Under-15, -16 and -17 levels will participate

and every point scored in the best jump, the best run and the best throw will count towards crowning nine regional champion schools and the overall Track+Field national champions. This initiative will be at the forefront of an exciting revival of track and field which is the flagship sport at the Olympic Games.

I urge those schools who have not yet entered to do so before it is too late. The regional championships start in the Northern Cape on the 25th January 2025 and will go to each province until the 22nd March with the Western Cape regional championships. The Championship Final to find the top school in the country takes place in Gauteng from the 10th to the 12th April.

There is also the DStv Schools Netball Challenge for all under 19 high schools' teams. This event, which is in its fourth year already, is aimed at inspiring the next generation of South Africa's netball stars while also contributing towards increasing inter-school competitions. I have committed to support this event and have undertaken to encourage all high schools whether urban, rural, in the townships or the suburbs to enter this competition. It is another building block in our collective efforts to build school sport.

What excites me about these programmes in school sport is that, following discussions with SABC and SuperSport Schools, the two broadcasters have agreed to a partnership that will ensure that the SABC will be able to stream school sport on SABC Plus; thus joining SuperSport Schools in showcasing school sport throughout the country. This will complement the access South Africans already have to high-quality school and youth sports through the SuperSport Schools streaming platform. The focus will be on a diverse range of school and youth sport, including football, netball,

rugby, athletics, hockey and basketball, giving a huge platform to all our aspirant champions to showcase their talent.

Through its Let's Play Centres of Excellence, SuperSport and MultiChoice have been at the forefront of transforming school sports grounds into multi-purpose facilities offering a safe space for learners to fulfill their sporting dreams. The programme is aimed at supporting government in the redressing of the imbalance in facilities and infrastructure provision between rural and urban areas whilst also driving the adoption of a healthier lifestyle through the implementation of structured sports programmes that include netball, hockey, physical education and the training of teachers.

MultiChoice has agreed to continue this programme and has undertaken to build a maintenance-free multipurpose sports facility at a school that I shall soon identify. They will also provide training for teachers who will drive sports programmes at the school.

I had also recently spent an evening with a group of young sports leaders that include the legendary Lucas Radebe and our former national netball captain, Bongi Msomi, who are doing the Supersport Industry Leaders Programme. It is an initiative of SuperSport aimed at meeting the needs of executive leaders in the sport industry and is offered in partnership with the Gordon Institute of Business Science (GIBS) of the University of Pretoria. The group has just returned from the United Kingdom where they spent time at the University of Loughborough, which is regarded as the world's leading sports management university. They had access to world class sports industry leaders and experts, broadening their horizons on global sport. I will be calling on the group to form the core of a think tank of young sports leaders to lead vigorous and relevant conversations and discussions on the sports industry. We need a cohort of young leaders to

take us into the future of sport and its rapidly changing environment and I believe we can extract immense value from new and fresh insights in sport where technology is at the forefront of excellence and growth.

MoU WITH DEPARTMENT OF BASIC EDUCATION

On 4 September 2024 I was excited to sign a ground-breaking Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with my counterpart in Cabinet, Basic Education Minister Siviwe Gwarube.

The partnership aims to progressively transform access to both sports and cultural programmes in schools, ensuring that every child, regardless of their background, has the opportunity to thrive in sport and the arts.

This MoU marked a milestone in the Government of National Unity's (GNU's) vision to deliver equality of access for all young people, particularly those in rural, township, and underprivileged areas.

The key to transforming South African sport is to ensure that as many schools as possible – from the townships to rural areas and other less fortunate communities – gain access to similar kinds of facilities, coaching and equipment.

The MoU establishes a collaborative framework between the Department of Basic Education and the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture to implement extracurricular programmes, including school sports programmes, throughout the country.

Importantly, the MoU envisions an approach where facilities are built in such a manner that numerous schools will be able to benefit from them and share them.

The agreement will encourage partners from every sector of South African society – from government to private businesses, commissions, foundations, trusts and NGOs, as well as civil society more broadly – to get involved and play a vital role in not just levelling the playing fields for young South Africans, but to ensure that those playing fields exist at all.

SUPPORT IN CAPE TOWN FOR THE MITCHELL'S PLAIN MUSIC ACADEMY AND ISIVIVANA CENTRE IN KHAYELITSHA

As part of my ongoing commitment to empowering communities through arts and culture, we have made significant strides in supporting key community initiatives.

During the FAME Film Festival, I was approached by three young women who brought to my attention the important work being done at the Isivivana Centre in Khayelitsha. This community hub serves as a safe and creative space for children from disadvantaged backgrounds, offering alternatives to the lure of crime and the social challenges that plague the area. The centre includes a cinema, library and various community engagement activities. Inspired by the centre's impact, I made it a priority to visit and see first-hand the positive influence it has had on the local youth.

Recognising the importance of the centre, the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture, through the Ministerial Financial Assistance Programme, has invested in upgrading the facility. This includes the installation of a new

sound system, an upgraded cinema screen and the purchase of computers to support the educational and recreational activities offered to the children.

In a similar vein, I also intervened to save the Mitchell's Plain Music Academy, which was facing closure due to financial difficulties. Working alongside the Betway Cares Foundation, we helped secure a donation of musical instruments. The Department matched Betway's R1 million contribution with an additional R1 million, ensuring that the academy can continue offering music training to underprivileged youth in the area.

These interventions demonstrate our dedication to fostering safe, creative spaces for young people in disadvantaged communities, offering them opportunities for personal development and a way to escape the cycle of crime.

SOUTH AFRICA'S PARTICIPATION IN THE INTERNATIONAL BOOK FAIR OF VENEZUELA (FILVEN 2024)

South Africa participated as the Guest of Honour at the 20th International Book Fair of Venezuela (FILVEN 2024) in July 2024 in Caracas, Venezuela. This participation was an important cultural exchange that helped strengthen the relations between South Africa and Venezuela and opened opportunities for South African authors and publishers in the international book and press markets.

The Department of Sport, Arts, and Culture (DSAC) carefully assembled a capacitated and representative delegation of sector practitioners, authors and literary experts to represent the country. The delegation

consisted of 18 prominent and emerging authors, with 15 funded by the Venezuelan host and three by DSAC, which was partly achieved by reducing the number of officials who attended.

South Africa's theme at the fair, 30 Footprints of Democracy, was selected to reflect the country's literary strides over 30 years of democracy, celebrating the contributions of South African writers and their impact on democracy and freedom of expression.

The Department will now work towards hosting a South African International Book Fair of its own, using it as a platform to honour national literary icons and foster dialogue on critical literary themes.

This strategic engagement will continue to enhance South Africa's cultural footprint globally, while providing emerging writers and cultural practitioners with opportunities to grow and showcase their work internationally.

CANADA-SOUTH AFRICA FILM CO-PRODUCTION AGREEMENT

Soon after taking office, I prioritised the signing of a co-production agreement with Canada for funding to flow into films, animations, new media and TV shows with the country of Canada.

During the 2024 Fame Week Africa (1-7 September) at the Cape Town International Convention Centre, I signed the co-production treaty with Canada's High Commissioner to South Africa, Chris Cooter.

The new, modernised film agreement between the two countries was an update on an earlier one from 5 November 1997, with the new agreement moving with changes in the industry.

The old agreement saw \$82.7 million in co-productions between South Africa and Canada and the new agreement is expected to usher in even greater things, with the High Commissioner, and many other experts, expecting thousands of jobs to flow into South Africa through it.

BOXING SA

Boxing South Africa was mired in deep legal wrangling when I took office, with a boxing promoters' organisation suing the entity to have its board removed and decisions reversed.

Ultimately, I opted to withdraw the Department's opposition to the legal case and to appoint a new board through a new, transparent and consultative process. That is currently under way.

The respected former CEO of Boxing South Africa, Tsholofelo Lejaka, was seconded from the Department to be the organisation's Acting CEO, and his work has helped to stabilise the organisation.

Despite there being no board, Boxing South Africa has continued to sanction fights and tournaments, with the most recent international success being Phumelela Cafu beating Kosei Tanaka in the in Tokyo to become the new WBO junior-bantamweight champion.

The most pressing order of business for me will be the urgent review and update of the boxing regulations, to bring them up to global standards.

This will go a long way towards eliminating disputes over payments to Boxing SA.

FORMALISATION OF SPINNING WITH CELL C AND KAPPA

Even before being sworn in as a Minister, I vowed to make the sport of car spinning one of the biggest and fastest-growing in the country.

To this end, the spinning fraternity has become more organised under an emerging federation while the sport works towards recognition under Motorsport South Africa.

New sponsors have been coming on board, with Cell C and Kappa among the first.

I have also personally donated towards a national tournament called Wie's Die Hond Se Baas, a series of spinning tournaments held throughout the country to determine some of the country's top performers with an eye to taking them abroad.

DSTV DELICIOUS FESTIVAL

In celebration of 30 years of South African democracy, the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture partnered with the DSTV Delicious International Food & Music Festival to highlight the country's creative legacy while fostering new talent. The partnership was instrumental in bringing special tribute to South Africa's music legends, as well as supporting a diverse range of artistic expressions at the festival.

The Tribute Show honoured iconic South African musicians such as Hugh Masekela, Miriam Makeba, and Brenda Fassie, among others, whose music continues to resonate with audiences worldwide. In addition to paying homage to these legends, the festival created opportunities for new and emerging talent to shine.

Nine crafters from different provinces were selected by the department to showcase their work at the festival, providing them with a prestigious platform to engage with a broader audience and increase the visibility of their craft. This initiative was in line with the department's mission to support the creative economy by empowering local artists and creators.

A major highlight of the festival was the inclusion of MaYoghurt, a maskandi artist from KwaZulu-Natal, who made history as the first artist from this genre to perform at the DSTV Delicious Festival. His performance not only celebrated the diversity of South African music but also introduced maskandi to a wider and more diverse audience.

The festival also featured the youngest-ever performer on the DSTV Delicious stage, six-year-old Lilly from Reiger Park. Her presence underscored the department's commitment to nurturing young talent and giving future stars the opportunity to be part of major cultural events.

Through this partnership, the Department of Sport, Arts, and Culture successfully promoted South Africa's rich cultural heritage, commemorated its musical legends, and fostered opportunities for both established and emerging talents to thrive.

PLANS AROUND FUTURE PROJECTS

WORLD RALLY-RAID CHAMPIONSHIP

I was very proud at the start of October to announce that Motorsport South Africa had secured the addition of a new World Rally-Raid Championship (W2RC) event to the world championship of rally racing, which will take place in South Africa next year.

The W2RC is a rally raid series co-sanctioned by the FIA and FIM and promoted by the Amaury Sport Organisation. The championship's seasons culminate with world championship titles in both automobile and motorcycle categories.

South Africa has made an increasingly important contribution over the years to the global sport of rallying, with more than half the cars that compete in the Dakar Rally now built in South Africa and drivers such as Giniel de Villiers making a massive mark behind the wheel too, having won the Dakar in 2009.

Now, for the first time since 1992, South Africa will host an international rally on a scale that will match the legendary Dakar Rally. South Africa becomes a new rally host and will feature third on the W2RC racing calendar next year. The South African event replaces the former Desafío Ruta 40 rally that took place in June in Argentina.

Between 18 and 24 May 2025, the world's greatest rally car drivers and motorcycle riders will descend on Sun City for the South African Safari Rally. Over five exciting days of racing – including a brutal marathon stage

– the incredible vehicles will do low flying through uniquely African scenery that will showcase sweeping savannahs, rough back roads and challenging mountain passes.

The scenic diversity of the South African Safari Rally will see it stand out from the more common desert terrain that fans have become used to in W2RC rallies, and I am confident that it will become a global favourite and a must-attend event for fans from all over the world.

The event will boost tourism for South Africa, boost women in racing, generate income to grow the sport in South Africa, help to create jobs in rural areas and put the country back on the map for global motorsport.

PLANS TO DIGITISE MILLIONS OF ARCHIVE RECORDS

The Department's archive buildings have effectively reached capacity, necessitating the need to digitise millions of paper records using scanning solutions. Similarly, tapes, dictabelts, films, photographs and other records are all in the care of the Department and need to be converted into not only digital formats but should be indexable and searchable.

I have instructed that the Department explore all options to convert and back up documents that have no historical value so that the moratorium on the destruction of state records after 1994 (documents such as leave forms, unsuccessful tender bids, job applications, and so on) can be lifted to make room for more critical physical records.

UFC

Following Dricus du Plessis' success in the octagon, we have been engaging with the Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC) to bring the mega-sport to South Africa for the first time.

I will be travelling to Abu Dhabi later this month for a personal meeting with the executives of UFC, including Dana White, to plan the next steps in bringing the event, along with the new emerging combat sport of Powerslap, to Africa and South Africa for the first time.

F1

I have been clear about my intention to stage Formula One in South Africa again for the first time in more than 30 years. In this regard, I have already met the FIA President while in Azerbaijan, as well as the owners of the Formula One Group, with a follow-up meeting with a Local Organising Committee from South Africa scheduled for the start of December in Doha, Qatar.

PROJECT 300

Shortly after returning to South Africa from the opening of the Paris Olympic Games, I outlined my vision for one of my most important strategic visions for the country, which was dubbed Project 300.

This flows from my commitment to increase the number of athletes going to the next Olympic Games in Los Angeles to 300. This would be double the number that competed this year.

In order to achieve this number, talent will need to be found and nurtured from all corners of South Africa. A school such as Vorentoe High School in Johannesburg has shown what can be achieved when talented young athletes are spotted and nurtured in a relatively modest training programme, with Bayanda Walaza having had his start there before moving to Curro Hazeldean. I still intend to engage with Vorentoe and other talent-spotting schools to support their efforts.

Sporting codes such as water polo have also been neglected, with the opportunity to expose men and women's teams to more international competition and a return to the Olympics in 2028.

As part of realising this vision, funding is essential. We have already secured the support of numerous major corporates to come on board as current or new sponsors to realise the vision. Engagements in this regard have included the National Lottery.

The inclusion of cricket as an Olympic sport will also bolster Team SA's size and South Africa's medal prospects.

A sobering thought is that despite South Africa's recent successes in the pool, not a single swimmer was at an Olympics for the first time. It is important that the country reopen its talent feeder, since young athletes may not medal at their first Olympics, but can succeed at future ones.

South Africa's canoeing programme used to be world class, leading to medals, but this programme has also been unacceptably diminished in recent years.

Many sporting codes are not given enough exposure – pole vaulting, for example, can be introduced at schools with relative ease.

With a systematic approach, it will indeed be possible for 300 South Africans to qualify and be competitive in Los Angeles.

MUSIC POLICY DOCUMENT AND STRATEGY DOCUMENT

The Department will soon release a new music policy and strategy document for public comment. This new policy intends to address the severe gaps that exist in the music industry in South Africa, particularly when it comes to revenue generation and payments to artists. As much as 85% of the revenues generated from South Africa's music flow to four big multinational companies, an imbalance that the new policy hopes to start shifting.

Proposals have been made for new funding solutions for musicians, the development of new musicians, the promotion of South African genres and styles, and a gamut of other policy proposals.

The new policy recognises that interest in and revenues towards South African music is growing at a very promising rate (more than 20% from one year to the next), but greater sectoral coordination is needed at all stages of the process, from recording and production through to distribution and live performances. The policy intends to address all these aspects and more.

CRAFT POLICY

The Ministry and Department have been engaging with the crafts industry towards the establishment of a representative, non-government, all-craft genre, sector-wide, recognised, membership-based entity with a national footprint for the craft sector.

Currently, a penultimate draft of a five-year strategy exists for craft development, and which I will be approving in coming months.

SUPPORT FOR THE SOUTH AFRICAN HIP HOP MUSEUM

Under the theme of modernising museums and cultural spaces to meet international standards, I recently visited the South African Hip Hop Museum, founded by Osmic Menoe, a trailblazer in the local hip hop scene.

The museum, which chronicles the rich history and cultural impact of hip hop in South Africa, is a pioneering project aimed at preserving and promoting this influential genre.

I was highly impressed by the museum's efforts and I have committed to assisting in its completion. Furthermore, to ensure the legacy and growth of hip hop in the country, I have pledged to support one hip hop event per month for the next twelve months.

These events will provide a platform for emerging artists to showcase their talent and offer job opportunities for creatives and event organisers within the sector.

These initiatives not only align with the Department's objective of preserving and celebrating South Africa's diverse cultural heritage but also demonstrate our commitment to making museums more interactive and inclusive for all, while simultaneously supporting this important modern genre.

NELSON MANDELA MEMORABILIA

A new museum dedicated to Nelson Mandela, with personal artifacts that have never been shared with the public and which have long been in private hands, is also set to be opened in the year ahead in anticipation of the G20 Summit at the end of 2025. These negotiations, including with private collectors who own these artifacts, have been continuing in earnest, and very positively.

HEROES ACRE

During the successful repatriation event at Freedom Park in September, President Cyril Ramaphosa announced that he was tasking me with the project of overseeing the creation of a Heroes' Acre memorial site in South Africa.

In keeping with international examples, such an architectural site memorialises a nation's heroes, keeping open the option to actually bury or rebury them within it.

We have already identified potential sites that would be perfect for such a project, with one in particular standing out. The Department has already been tasked with developing options from which to develop such a site.

The Department will also be benchmarking this project with examples from the rest of the world.

MODERNISING MUSEUMS TO MEET INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS AND CREATING NEW MUSEUMS AND EXHIBITIONS

The Department of Sport, Arts and Culture oversees about 30 national museums across an enormous range of interests, from human history to natural history and more, each one covering unique aspects of time and geography in South Africa. They possess remarkable artifacts and fascinating stories of where we come from as a nation. This is especially true of the liberation museums, which are truly unique to South Africa.

It must be admitted that many of these museums have not kept pace with international trends in keeping such national treasures relevant. I embarked on a road show during my 100 days that partly informed the decision to cancel the amalgamation of various of these entities, while also driving home the need to modernise these facilities so that the youth will once again be drawn to them and international tourists will flock to them, as occurs elsewhere around the world.

This will support the mandate of social cohesion and the promotion of South Africa's unique heritage.

As part of this, museums and liberation sites will in future host new temporary and permanent exhibitions that will incorporate technologies such as augmented reality, virtual reality, audiovisual presentations, immersive experiences and updated static exhibitions. If compelling enough, audiences will respond.

In a similar vein, I have taken a personal interest in resolving the past few years' challenges at the troubled Liliesleaf Museum in Johannesburg, with the process of bringing it under full government ownership now at a far more advanced stage. Liliesleaf's trustees have agreed to their trust's dissolution as the final step in concluding this, with the full potential of Liliesleaf in Rivonia then set to be unlocked.

I am also, in partnership with Dean Macpherson from Public Works and Infrastructure, prioritising the task of finally completing the Sarah Baartman Centre of Remembrance in Hankey, Eastern Cape. It has been mired in controversy for years – involving overspending, missed deadlines and community objection to procurement decisions.

BRINGING TECH INTO LIBRARIES

Libraries are not just the buildings that contain collections of information. They can also be digital collections. I am currently exploring options for how tablets can be introduced in government libraries that community members will be able to borrow.

These tablets will be populated with books, learning materials and zero-rated access to particular websites that will allow for research. These

tablets will not be used for games but rather for furthering literacy, and can be borrowed similarly to the process of borrowing books.

PRISON SPORT

Officials from my office attended a prison twinning project by Kaizer Chiefs and the FIFA Foundation at the Johannesburg Correction Centre at the start of September.

That project focuses on the larger rehabilitation programme of female inmates at the so-called Sun City prison, a facility not far from the headquarters of Kaizer Chiefs.

Present at the launch was Banyana Banyana coach Desiree Ellis, who encouraged the female prisoners to seek positives from their incarceration and work to turn their lives around.

The innovative programme is aimed at contributing to the wellbeing and rehabilitation of female offenders through football coaching lessons. Through this partnership, female inmates access training, mentorship and opportunities with the aim of fostering physical, emotional, and social growth. This initiative is based on the premise of football's universal ability to create hope, discipline and transformation.

The Twinning Project, first successfully implemented in the UK and subsequently launched on four continents, brings together professional football clubs and penal institutions, to assist with the rehabilitation and reintegration of prisoners upon their release.

As a result of this programme, I will be committing the Department to becoming more involved in bringing sporting programmes to prisons, an initiative I intend to pursue with the Minister of Correctional Services.

PLANS TO STAGE A MEGA MUSIC FESTIVAL CALLED AFRIKA ROAR

I have directed that South Africa will need to invest in the creation of a new mega music festival called Africa Roar, preferably to take place in the Eastern Cape.

With the demise of OppiKoppi and other festival platforms in South Africa, the culture of festivals has been greatly diminished, all while globally famous festivals such as Coachella, Tomorrowland, Glastonbury, Roskilde and Lollapalooza have been going from strength to strength.

Afrika Roar will see revellers enjoying nonstop music over three to four days and some of the world's greatest performers coming to South Africa to perform with South African artists.

INTERNATIONAL BOOK FAIR IN HAVANA

In 2025, South Africa will have the distinction of being the guest of honour at Havana's International Book Fair of Havana in Cuba. This is an achievement not just for my department but for South Africa and the Government of National Unity as this is considered Cuba's premier cultural event. It enjoys the highest attendance of any gathering in Cuba: the 20th International Book Fair drew more than 2.3 million people to their capital city.

Along with the public, the book fair is attended by Cuban and international authors, publishers, and political officials. More than 100 publishing houses present catalogues of books.

Each book fair is dedicated to a genre, issue, or author, and also a guest of honour. This is an event from which South Africa can learn a lot as we continue with our plans to make the country more of a reading nation.

CONCLUSION

As we reflect on the progress made in these first 100 days, it is clear that the work of the Department of Sport, Arts, and Culture is only beginning. Together with Deputy Minister Peace Mabe, we have set a course for meaningful change—one that prioritises transformation, opportunity, and unity. Our success in these early days underscores the tremendous potential of our people, and we remain steadfast in our mission to create a South Africa where sport, arts, and culture are not only celebrated but also serve as vehicles for social cohesion and economic development. This journey is far from over, and I look forward to building on these foundations as we continue to shape our nation's future.

MINISTER MCKENZIE'S MEETINGS AND ENGAGEMENTS FOR THE FIRST 100 DAYS

**THIS EXCLUDES CABINET MEETINGS, PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE MEETINGS,
PLENARIES IN PARLIAMENT, AND PERSONAL MEETINGS.**

JULY

- 1 MEETING WITH CHIEF DIRECTORATE: COMMUNICATION & MARKETING**
- 2 DSAC: OFFICIALS WELCOME PROGRAMME**
- 3 MEETING WITH DSAC STAFF**
- 4 SPRINGBOKS VS IRELAND RUGBY GAME**
- 5 PARALYMPIC TEAM ANNOUNCEMENT**
- 6 MINISTER'S MEETING WITH SASCOC**
- 7 TOUR OF MADIBA'S PERSONAL ARCHIVE**
- 8 MINISTERIAL MEETING WITH BSA**
- 9 MINISTERIAL MEETING WITH ASA**
- 10 MINISTERIAL MEETING WITH CSA**
- 11 MINISTERIAL MEETING WITH NSA**
- 12 MINISTERIAL MEETING WITH SAFA**
- 13 MINISTERIAL MEETING – AMALGAMATION**
- 14 MINISTERIAL MEETING – JACK DEVNARAIN**
- 15 MINISTERIAL MEETING WITH CCIFSA**
- 16 MINISTERIAL MEETING WITH SAUCCIF**
- 17 MINISTERIAL MEETING WITH TUMSA**
- 18 MINISTERIAL MEETING WITH SAACYF**
- 19 MINISTERIAL MEETING WITH THE AFRIKAANS TAAL MUSEUM**
- 20 MINISTERIAL MEETING WITH NAC**

- 21 **MINISTERIAL MEETING WITH NFVF**
- 22 **FUNERAL SERVICE OF MR TSHABALALA**
- 23 **MINISTERIAL MEET & GREET WITH UK COMMISSIONER**
- 24 **48 HOUR BALLET & DANCE EXPO – EXPO 2024**
- 25 **NELSON MANDELA DAY WALK AND RUN 2024**
- 26 **THE 2024 LUTHULI WALK (11,5km) and FUN RUN (7,7km)**
- 27 **SPECIAL MEMORIAL CHURCH SERVICE & WREATH LAYING AT THE GRAVE OF CHIEF ALBERT LUTHULI**
- 28 **2-DAY UNESCO CONFERENCE (PARIS FRANCE)**
- 29 **REGIONAL MEETING OF THE AFRICAN SPORT MINISTERS (PARIS FRANCE)**
- 30 **COMMONWEALTH SPORTS MINISTERS MEETING (11CSMM) (PARIS FRANCE)**
- 31 **SA FIRST MATCH**
- 32 **OPENING OF EKHAYA IN PARIS**
- 33 **OLYMPICS OPENING**
- 34 **MINISTERIAL MEETING WITH SAMIC**
- 35 **MINISTERIAL MEETING WITH SASFED**
- 36 **MINISTERIAL MEETING WITH SACICC**
- 37 **MINISTERIAL MEETING WITH CCIGA**
- 38 **MEETING WITH DSAC ENTITIES CHAIRPERSONS AND CEOs**
- 39 **MEETING WITH UNIONS**
- 40 **BRANCH: CS**
- 41 **BRANCH: RDSP**
- 42 **BRANCH: ACPD**

- 43 **BRANCH: HPP**
- 44 **NELSON MANDELA MEMORIAL LECTURE**

AUGUST

- 45 **WOMEN'S MONTH PRESS BRIEFING**
- 46 **MEETING WITH SABC REGIONAL OPERATIONS MANAGER**
- 47 **BALLET: DANCE SPECTRUM SYMBIOSIS**
- 48 **SCHOOL OF THE ARTS**
- 49 **(UNESCO)WORLD HERITAGE SITE CELEBRATION FOR THE
EMERGENCE OF MORDERN HUMAN BEHAVIOUR**
- 50 **BAXTER THEATRE**
- 51 **MINMEC**
- 52 **MULTICHOICE OFFICES**
- 53 **LILIESLEAF MUSEUM VISIT**
- 54 **MEETING: NFVF**
- 55 **MEETING WITH RUSSIAN AMBASSADOR**
- 56 **SEMINAR: INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES NEWS MEDIA**
- 57 **NATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY**
- 58 **HINDU CULTURAL FESTIVAL (JACK)**
- 59 **BASADI MUSIC AWARDS**
- 60 **MEETING: TURKISH AMBASSADOR**
- 61 **RECEIVING OLYMPIC TEAM ON RETURN HOME**
- 62 **NETBALL SA AND SPAR ANNOUCEMENT**
- 63 **MIN MEETING PROGRAM 3: ACDP**

- 64 **MIN MEETING PROGRAM 4: HPP**
- 65 **FUNERAL: CONNIE CHIUME**
- 66 **MOTIVATIONAL TALK: CURRO HIGH SCHOOL HAZELDEAN**
- 67 **MEETING WITH MOTORSPORT SA**
- 68 **SUPERSPORT MEETING**
- 69 **KEYNOTE ADDRESS AT MEMORIAL OF ZANELE MBOKAZI**
- 70 **FIDELITY ADT LIONS VS DHL**
- 71 **ABIGAIL KUBEKA TRIBUTE**
- 72 **ARENA HOLDINGS MEETING**
- 73 **MEETING WITH DISCOVERY: VITALITY**
- 74 **PORTFOLIO MEETING**
- 75 **DINNER: YOUTH ATHLETES**
- 76 **DEPUTY PRESIDENT: SOCIAL COHESION**
- 77 **NATIONAL LOTTERIES COMMISSION (NLC) ANNUAL STRATEGIC
PLANNING SESSION**
- 78 **PRESIDENTIAL IMBIZO TO CITY OF EKURHLUENI**
- 79 **SUPERSPORT BOXING MATCH**
- 80 **SPINNING COMPETITION**
- 81 **MEETING: STAND FOUNDATION**
- 82 **MEETING: MITCHELLS PLAIN MUSIC ACADEMY**
- 83 **MEETING: INDUSTRY LEADERS**
- 84 **MINISTER OF TOURISM: ROBBEN ISLAND MEETING**
- 85 **PODCAST: GARETH CLIFF**
- 86 **CREATIVE INDUSTRY LEKGOTLA**
- 87 **HALL OF FAME MEDALISTS**

- 88 CRAWFORD FUNWALK
- 89 INTERPROVNCIAL BOXING ACADEMY TOURNAMENT (TBC)
- 90 RUGBY MATCH: RSA V NZ

SEPTEMBER

- 91 KZN-IKO MATSUSHIMA KYOKUSHINKAIKAN KARATE OPEN
CHAMPIONSHIP
- 92 SA MOVIE PREMIERE: THE FIX
- 93 SIGNING OF THE SA-CANADA FILM AGREEMENT
- 94 INDUSTRY-BASED PODCAST (FAME WEEK)
- 95 MIRACLE DRIVE WITH DAVE
- 96 HERITAGE MONTH LAUNCH
- 97 ANNUAL CRICKET SA AWARDS 2024
- 98 MEMORIAL AND FUNERAL SERVICE OF THABISO ENID SIKWANE
- 99 MEETING EU AMBASSADOR
- 100 THE NATIONAL HOUSE OF TRADITIONAL AND KHOI-SAN LEADERS
- 101 SA VS UGANDA
- 102 SPRINGBOKS V NEW ZEALAND
- 103 CHESLIN KOLBE FOUNDATION LAUNCH
- 104 NEDBANK CUP MULTIPURPOSE SPORTS COURT LAUNCH
- 105 BRICS AND CULTURAL FORUM CONFERENCE (10 – 14 SEPT)
- 106 30 YEARS OF DEMOCRACY
- 107 AZERBAIJAN BAKU CITY F1 MEETING
- 108 NIKE SHAPA SPORTS MEETING

- 109 **DSTV DELICIOUS FESTIVAL – MEDIA BRIEFING**
- 111 **TBCSA: TOURISM LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE**
- 112 **HESSEQUA HARMONIE - GALA CONCERT**
- 113 **DSTV DELICIOUS FESTIVAL**
- 114 **NATIONAL GOLD PANNING CHAMPIONS**
- 115 **REPATRIATION AND RESTITUTION OF HUMAN REMAINS FROM
ZAMBIA AND ZIMBABWE**
- 116 **JOY OF JAZZ**
- 117 **SAJBD 120TH ANNIVERSARY GALA DINNER**
- 118 **CONSTITUENCY PERIOD**
- 119 **KEYNOTE ADDRESS: INTERNATIONAL TRANSLATION DAY THEME
“TRANSLATION, AN ART WORTH PROTECTING”**

OCTOBER

- 120 **LILIESLEAF MUSEUM: MEETING WITH TRUSTEES**
- 121 **FOLLOW-UP MEETING MOTORSPORT SA**
- 122 **SOULFUL SOUNDS – CUFA FESTIVAL**
- 123 **MEETING BRUIN CHILD MEDIA**
- 124 **MEETING: PLAY 4 SPORT**
- 125 **MEETING WITH BOARD DIRECTORS: SOUTH AFRICA INSTITUTE FOR
DRUG FREE SPORT**
- 126 **WOORDFEES STELLENBOSCH MUSEUM**
- 127 **SOULFUL SOUNDS: CUFA FESTIVAL**

- 128 **REDBULL SHOWRUN: MEETING WITH BRITISH FORMULA ONE
RACING LEGEND DAVID COULTHARD**
- 129 **MINISTERIAL VISIT TO SA HIP HOP MUSEUM**
- 130 **JOBURG BALLET'S CHARLIE & THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY**
- 131 **WIE'S DIE HOND SE BAAS SPINNING EVENT**
- 132 **MTN 8 FINAL**
- 133 **DSAC BIG WALK**
- 134 **AWEH MASEKIND CREATIVE FESTIVAL**
- 135 **BREAKFAST MEETING DNI**
- 136 **MEETING with SAB COPORATE AFFAIRS**
- 137 **SOCCER ACADEMY UPDATE**
- 138 **MEETING WITH CRICKET SOUTH AFRICA**
- 139 **SOLLY MOHOLO HOME VISIT**
- 140 **GRAVEL BURN CYCLING EVENT**
- 141 **NEHAWU AND PSA MEETING**
- 142 **ICE HOCKEY SUPER LEAGUE**
- 143 **KARATE COMMITTEE**
- 144 **SAFA VAR CONFERENCE**
- 145 **SPORTS & RECREATION ACHIEVERS AWARDS EC**
- 146 **BAFANA BAFANA V CONGO SOCCER MATCH**
- 147 **DINNER: LAUNCH OF THE SPINNING FRATERNITY**
- 148 **DSAC DEPT STRATEGIC SESSIONS**
- 149 **MITCHELL'S PLAIN MUSIC ACADEMY HANDOVER DINNER**
- 150 **DSAC DEPT STRATEGIC SESSIONS**
- 151 **BUSINESS AND ARTS SOUTH AFRICA: MEETING WITH BOARD**

