

DATE: 14 July 2022

**PRESS RELEASE:
JOINT STATEMENT ON
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

between

The National School of Government
(a state training institution established as a national government department in terms of section 4(1) of the Public Sector Act, 1994)

and

The Council of the Built Environment (CBE)
(Established in terms of the Council for the Built Environment Act No 43 of 2000)

regarding

Achieving synergy between NSG and CBE in respect of their respective functions.

NSG and CBE sign MoC to address professionalisation of the built environment in the public sector



CBE CEO Msizi Myeza (left) and Principal of NSG Professor Busani Ngcaweni (right) sign the Memorandum of Collaboration to address professionalisation of the built environment in the public sector

The National School of Government (NSG) and the Council for the Built Environment (CBE) signed a joint Memorandum of Collaboration (MoC) on 14 July 2022 in Pretoria committing to work together on the professionalisation of the built environment in the public sector. The MoC will also assist the government in its agenda of addressing of skills pipeline in the built environment.

The MoC provides a framework for collaboration and working relationship between the two parties, in giving effect the National Development Plan 2030 and the object of the CBE Act. Both CBE and NSG committed themselves to establishing and maintaining collaborative efforts aimed at enhancing the image of the Built Environment and professionalisation of the public service through promotion of good standards; advocating for professionally registered persons; and protecting the interest of the public.

The National School of Government has been working on the framework for professionalisation of the public sector which recognises the significance of partnerships with professional bodies to professionalise certain categories of employees within the public sector. “Partnerships like the one with CBE, are key to the NSG as it takes forward its mandate of contributing to building an ethical, capable and developmental state” said Professor Busani Ngcaweni the Principal of the National School of Government.

The collaboration amongst others seeks to entrench a dynamic system of professionalisation in the public sector; strengthen and enable the legal and policy instruments to professionalise categories of built environment occupations in the Public Sector as per the proposed National Framework Towards Professionalisation of the Public Sector; enhance and create partnerships and relationships with the six Councils for the Built Environment Professions (CBEP); align the development of the built environment professionals in the Public Sector in support of the National Development Plan(NAP) 2030 and National Infrastructure Plan(NIP) 2050; share knowledge between the parties on critical information with focus on training, education and skills development of built environment candidates and professionals; facilitate increased access by government employees to occupationally directed programmes in the built environment sector; built environment candidates and professionals; develop targeted built environment programmes to address skills deficiencies in the public sector; encourage and advocate for better use of built environment workplaces for skills development; and increase public sector construction-related capacity for improved service delivery and support the building of a developmental state through skills development.

Professor Busani Ngcaweni, in formalising the partnership, advocated some quick wins for professionalisation in the public sector. These were to mobilise (via campaigns, webinars etc) those with Built Environment (BE) qualifications at state institutions towards attaining and retaining their professional registration status, the value of unlocking the economy through professionalisation, and developing ‘learning spaces’ in-built environment departments which will limit outsourcing and utilising qualified professionals internally.

CBE CEO Mr Msizi Myeza said “As a signatory to this collaboration, the CBE undertakes to identify built environment related skills gaps within the public sector including municipalities; create and implement projects aimed at addressing some of the built environment skills gaps; identify and

facilitate placement into built environment-related projects provincially and nationally to be used as workplaces for candidates ; prioritise preference to youth, women and people with disabilities in the built environment in accessing education and training opportunities in the state, and collaborate with the NSG in applying for National Treasury, National Skills Fund(NSF) and Sector Education and Training Authority (SETA) funding to support the built environment professionals in the Public sector”.

Furthermore, Mr Msizi Myeza, added a macro perspective to the collaboration: “Recent black swan events such as the Covid pandemic and recent flooding in KwaZulu-Natal and the Eastern Cape drive home the point that no one can go at it alone, making collaborations such as these are more of a necessity. For Government’s development agenda to become a reality, organs of state such as the CBE and NSG must use vehicles such as this collaboration as enabling platforms for professionalisation to address priority programmes such as the Economic Recovery and Reconstruction Programme (ERRP) and NIP 2050 to deliver sustainable projects.”

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About CBE:

The Council for the Built Environment (CBE) is a statutory body established under the Council for the Built Environment Act (No. 43 of 2000) (the CBE Act). It is an overarching body that coordinates the six Councils for the Built Environment Professions (Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Engineering, Property Valuers, Project and Construction Management, and Quantity Surveying) for the purpose of instilling good conduct within the professions, transforming the professions and advising the South African Government on Built Environment related issues. The CBE is a Schedule 3A Public Entity, and one of four entities which report to the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure. For more information visit www.cbe.org.za.

About NSG:

The National School of Government (NSG) is a state training institution established as a national government department in terms of section 4(1) of the Public Sector Act, 1994. The NSG is tasked with building public sector capacity to implement Government's developmental agenda.

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