

**REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON WOMEN, YOUTH, CHILDREN AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES OVERSIGHT VISIT HELD 11 NOVEMBER 2015
(DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE, SPORT AND RECREATION)**

1. INTRODUCTION

The Mpumalanga Legislature is duly vested with a mandate to maintain oversight of provincial executive authority and any organ of state and all provincial executive authority including provincial organs of state are accountable to it in compliance with section 114 of the constitution. The legislature is independent and performs its functions impartially without prejudice enshrining the rule of law.

In terms of Standing Rules and Orders of the Mpumalanga Provincial Legislature 2013, the **Select Committee on Women, Youth, Children, and People with Disabilities** (the committee), is established in terms of Rule 135 (h) and has powers to conduct oversight on transversal issues affecting designated groups. The Committee is composed of a multiparty representation and is empowered to develop mechanisms to conduct oversight over provincial departments and public institutions.

The select committee is vested with the power to monitor, investigate and enquire into and make recommendations concerning any organ of state or constitutional body regarding transversal and transformation matters to ensure a province free from gender discrimination and inequalities in promotion of the Bill Of Rights.

The committee in accordance with Rule 119 may summon any person to appear before it to give evidence on oath/ affirmation, or to produce documents and permit oral evidence. The committee may compel an institution or a person to comply with summon subject to the rules and orders or a provincial legislation.

The Legislature seeks to establish whether provincial government delivers services effectively and efficiently within the respective local municipality areas.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE OVERSIGHT ACTIVITIES

The following were the objectives for oversight visit to cooperative funded by the Department of Culture Sport and Recreation:

To assess the effective and efficient utilization of government funding and resources

To determine the impact made by the department on the improvement of quality of life to vulnerable groups in the province.

To assess the implementation of policies by the department that seeks to improve the quality of life.

3. METHOD OF WORK

The Committee invited the department of Culture, Sport Arts and Culture as per the programme of the Legislature and quarterly target of the committee to oversight visit held 11 November 2015. Furthermore the committee considered and adopted the report on the 02 December 2015

4. PRESENTATION MADE BY THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE, SPORT ARTS AND CULTURE.

The Department took members through presentation on projects funded and assisted as follows:

4.1 MASHILE GATAISHA LEATHER CRAFT

Background

The committee noted that Mashile Gataisha Leather Craft located at Bushbuckridge Municipality in a village called Mevijan is a registered co-operative with about five members. Their membership is composed of three males and two females of all ages and also employs locals to assist them on a temporary basis. The centre currently has five (5) young people in their employ.

The co-operative produces handmade leather that includes amongst others; gun holders, belts, ammunition holders, key holders and handbags. The centre supplies their products to renowned "Tiger Eyes" that have craft outlets in various countries offshore and also supply the Department of Correctional Service.

According to the strategic objective on the annual performance plan 2015/16 on programme 2 of Cultural Affairs and sub-programme Arts and Culture, the committee noted that the department aims "to support socio-economic development by establishing Sport and Culture as an economic investment". For this reason the department will support the development of arts and culture institutions; in that regards, the project received an amount of **R40 000.00** during financial year 2015/16 through the National Arts Council.

The department is also responsible for the coordination of exhibitions of arts and craft products in the province. Currently, DCSR has placed them in the Kruger Bridge art shop at Kruger National Park.

Challenges

The committee noted that the co-operative's objective is to expand in future by acquiring additional industrial machines and equipment as the ones they are currently using are old. They would also like to create more job opportunities and transfer skills to youth within the industry.

The committee welcomed the presentation and sought clarity whether there is a memorandum of understanding between the department and the co-operative, and how often do they receive funding. In responding the department indicated that there's no memorandum of understating but they assist by providing them with funds to purchase material once in a year.

The committee sought clarity on the ownership of the infrastructure and the land that the cooperative is operating from, and noted that it belongs to the cooperative and planning to expand by developing it into a factory. Further, the committee sought clarity on plans that the department has in skills transfer. It was noted that there are plans in place to partner with DEDET in assisting and offering accredited skills transfer training to young people and reworking of the business plan for compliance.

4.1.1 FINDINGS

After the deliberations, the Committee made the following findings:

- 1) There is no documentation in terms of the vision and mission in transferring skills to the youth.
- 2) There is no partnership between the department and Economic Development in support to co-operative.
- 3) There is no business plan for the co-operative.

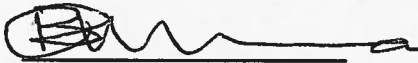
4.1.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) There must be a proper vision and mission in order to achieve the purpose of transferring skills to young people..
- 2) The department must partner with department of Economic Development and assist co-operatives for guidance.
- 3) Develop a business plan that will attract funding and sustainability.

5. CONCLUSION

The Chairperson extends his appreciation to Members of the Committee, the management of the co-operative visited, department officials and the support staff of the Legislature for their participation during this oversight visit in enhancing the oversight role of the Legislature.

The Committee tables this report to the House for adoption with its recommendations.



HON BV NKUNA (MPL)

CHAIRPERSON: SELECT COMMITTEE ON WOMEN,
YOUTH, CHILDREN, AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

02/12/2015
DATE