

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

For immediate release

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### **SALGA welcomes leaders of the sixth Parliament and Administration**

*“The people who I am appointing today must realise that the expectations of the South African people have never been greater and that they will shoulder a great responsibility.” -  
President Cyril Matamela Ramaphosa*

SALGA would like to extend its congratulations and welcome to the newly appointed leaders of the sixth Parliament and Administration. Following successful National and Provincial elections, SALGA is proud to associate with leaders who have been drawn from the local government sector to serve the people of South Africa.

As President Ramaphosa and Premiers have appointed their executive teams, South African Local Government leaders have risen to the fore with their appointment in critical positions in the new administration.

The 6th democratically Cabinet, as appointed by President Cyril Ramaphosa, responds to the SALGA Women’s Commission’s (SWC) call for 50/50 representation of men and women in all structures of the new Administration. It represents continuity and brings about a wealth of experience for the Local Government sector.

The Association would particularly like to applaud the appointments of former SALGA NEC Members, Dr Regina Mhaule; Boitumelo Moloi; Lindiwe Ntshalintshali; Sindiswa Gomba, Nomakosazana Meth, who have been deployed to various portfolios.

Former SALGA NEC Member, Hon Mhaule has been appointed as Deputy Minister of Basic Education, former SALGA Deputy Presidents, Hon Moloi and Ntshalintshali have been appointed as the Deputy Minister of Employment and Labour and MEC of Arts, Sport, Culture and Recreation in Mpumalanga; Hon Gomba who was the SWC’s Chairperson has been appointed as MEC of Health in the Eastern Cape together with Hon Meth, MEC for Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development.

SALGA CEO, Xolile George says “Having leaders in the National and Provincial spheres of government who understand the complexities and imperatives of local government as a sphere is always an added advantage and has a direct benefit for the grassroots communities and goes a long way in accelerating service delivery”.

Additional appointments include:

Former SALGA Chairperson, Honourable Amos Masondo as Chairperson of NCOP. During his term as the mayor of Johannesburg and Chairperson of SALGA, Masondo was instrumental in the building and development of the Johannesburg Metropolitan Municipality. In his new role, Hon Masondo is with ensuring that local government concerns are represented at the highest level and strides are made to serve the sector closest to the people.

SALGA & UCLG President Parks Tau has been appointed as the CoGTA Deputy Minister. As a result of his dedication and commitment towards influencing the international agenda, President Tau has placed local government on the global map. His new responsibility will allow him to continue with his contribution to transforming local government.

SALGA’s Kwazulu-Natal Chairperson, Cllr Mluleki Ndobe, was appointed as Deputy Speaker of the KZN provincial legislature.

Other SALGA National Executive Committee and Provincial Executive Committee members who have been appointed to the national and provincial legislatures include Hon Robert Mashego, Hon Florence Radzilani and Hon Nombulelo Hermans.

In the Free State, former Executive Mayor of Moqhaka and SWC Chairperson, Tsidi Koloji has been appointed MEC CoGTA along with SALGA Chair for the Collective Bargaining Working Group, Thandoxolo Kalipa, who has moved to National Parliament. Former Chairperson of SALGA Mpumalanga, Speedy Mashilo will form part of the Provincial Executive Committee.

In the North West, SALGA Provincial Executive Members appointed to the Provincial Legislature include Aaron Motswana (Chairperson of Water and Sanitation Working Group) along with Chairperson and Deputy Chair of the Environment and Climate change Working Group Onicca Medupe and Bitsa Lenkopane. Asnath Molekwa, former Chairperson of Economic Development and Planning Working Group has moved to National Parliament.

Mirriam Thenjiwe, Women's Commissioner of the Pixely kaSeme District in the Northern Cape will be serving as a Member of Parliament, with Former PEC member, Limakatso Koloï deployed as a Member of the Provincial Legislature.

Former Gauteng Chairperson of the Community Development and Social Cohesion Working Group, Anna Gela, will be serving in the Provincial Legislature with Chairperson of Governance & IGR Working Group, Mapiti Matsena appointed Provincial Legislature

Morokane Mosupyoe who was a GP PEC Member, Water, Sanitation & Waste Management Working Group Chairperson for GP and a PR Cllr at City of Tshwane has moved to provincial legislature as an MPL

President Ramaphosa said, "Prevailing to communities that are reeling under the weight of violence, and the scourge of violence that is spreading throughout the country, that at Cabinet level, we had come up with a strategy - a strategy that is going to put the criminals behind bars".

In a prelude to the South African youth month, President Ramaphosa raised a flag of hope for succession by including a significant number of youth to various portfolios.

"This is part of a generational transition in which we are creating a pipeline of leaders to take our country further into the future" "Our people cannot eat hope, our people want more than Hope", said President Ramaphosa.

As an association of municipalities, SALGA remains committed to facilitating meaningful intergovernmental relations. The state of local government, more than ever before, requires a concerted collective effort to address many of the challenges that continue to impede service delivery.

SALGA wishes to congratulate all new members of the 6th Parliament and Administration all Political Parties, in particular, those who have been drawn from the local government sector on their deployments. May your contagious spirit of 'Thuma Mina' infiltrate through all spheres of government as we usher in a dawn of hope of building a better tomorrow.

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