



arts & culture

Department:
Arts and Culture
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE REVISED WHITE PAPER ON ARTS, CULTURE

AND HERITAGE

3rd DRAFT

FEBRUARY 2017

1. Introduction

This is a summary of the Third Draft of the Revised White Paper on Arts, Culture and Heritage.

2. Background and Context

On 4 November 2015 the Minister of Arts and Culture appointed an eight-person Reference Panel for the Revision of the White Paper which was subsequently extended with an additional member to ensure that the team was broadly representative and inclusive.

A First Draft was completed in October 2016 for internal circulation, comments and inputs by DAC management. The inputs were processed and incorporated into the Second Draft in November 2016 and tabled at the National Indaba on 17 and 18 November 2016.

The inputs from the National Indaba 17-18 November 2016 and the additional submissions made in January 2017 were incorporated into the Third Draft and submitted to DAC, 28 February 2017.

3. Rationale

To consolidate the democratic dispensation established for the sector in 1996 and to reposition it to effectively accelerate transformation by integrating it into national policies and strategies for artistic, cultural, social and economic development.

4. Objectives

The objectives of the revision include:

- Basing the policy on the fundamental right to culture, artistic creativity, language, and intellectual and artistic freedom as enshrined in the Bill of Rights in the Constitution;
- Integrating the National Development Plan, the National Strategy for Nation-Building and Social Cohesion and African Knowledge Systems in policies for the sector;
- Harnessing the sector's creative, innovative, educational and social development practices with the economic capacities for transforming South Africa into an inclusive society;
- Proposing more flexible funding and financing models for the sector; and
- Reconfiguring the existing art, culture and heritage dispensation and policies underpinning it to eliminate duplication for optimal performance.

5. Process and Methodology

The revision is based on a participatory process and methodology of public consultations, written submissions and comments.

6. Vision, Mission, Principles and Core Values

The revised White Paper affirms the vision and mission of the DAC and introduces a set of principles and core values.

Vision

A dynamic, vibrant and transformed arts, culture and heritage sector, leading to nation-building, social cohesion and socioeconomic inclusion.

Mission

To create an enabling environment in which the arts, culture and heritage can flourish and play a significant role in nation-building, social and economic development by:

- Preserving, protecting and promoting the artistic, cultural, heritage and linguistic diversity and legacy of South Africa;
- Leading nation-building and societal transformation through social cohesion;
- Enhancing records management structures and systems, and promoting access to information; and
- Providing leadership to the arts, culture and heritage sector to accelerate its transformation.

Principles

This draft policy is informed by and based on a range of enabling and principles, including: Openness; Participation; Accountability; Sovereignty; Right to Art, Culture and Heritage; Freedom of Expression; Access to Information; Transformation; Decolonisation; Diversity; Sustainable Development; International Solidarity and Cooperation; Inclusion; Empowerment; Peer Reviewing; Multilingualism; Nation-building; Social Cohesion; Ubuntu; Social justice: Good Governance and Accountability.

Core Values

The policy recognises the inherent as well as the instrumental social and economic values of the sector, including, Inherent Value; Creative Value; Social Value; Economic Value; Educational Value, Recreational Value, Therapeutic Value; and Environmental Value.

In recognising these interdependent values, the draft policy is informed by an understanding that their combination enhances the range, reach and impact of art, culture and heritage.

7. New Policies for Arts, Culture and Heritage

Chapter Four, of the Revised Draft provides policy outlines for all the arts and heritage disciplines. The arts include, the Performing Arts, consisting of Theatre, Dance and Music; Visual Arts, Craft and Design; Audio-Visual and Digital Media; Cultural and Creative Industries; Language, Literature and Publishing, Public Libraries and Information Services

It also deals with Heritage which includes Museums, Heritage Resources, Monuments, Heritage Sites and Statues; Geographical Place Names; Heraldry and Symbols; Archives; and Libraries

and Information Services, Technical Skills Development and Events Management as well as Community, Arts, Culture and Heritage, Cultural and Creative Industries. Policy Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation, Art Education and Training, Arts Management and Administration, Intergovernmental Cooperation, Cultural Diplomacy and International Cooperation; the Social Status and Economic Right and Artist and Cultural Practitioners.

The central thrust, based on the objectives of the policy review, is to address the limitations of the 1996 White Paper by addressing:

- The lack of coherence in the design of the overall system resulting in overlaps between and gaps in the different agencies and institutions;
- Slow transformations in the sector;
- Inefficient and cumbersome administrative procedures;
- The lack of coordination between national, provincial and local arts, culture and heritage policies and the need for greater interdepartmental cooperation;
- Lack of coherent policy on cultural diplomacy and international cooperation;
- Inadequate formal education and training opportunities for art, culture and heritage
- The development and application of new digital and other technologies;
- The uneven distribution of infrastructure, facilities, material and resource outside the main metropolitan areas;
- The persistence of the perception of arts, culture and heritage as marginal luxuries and disregard for their economic potential and contributions;
- Insufficient attention to the role of the private sector in funding and developing the sector;
- The one-dimensional funding and financing system based primarily on grants; and
- Inadequate monitoring and evaluation of institutions, programmes and events.

8. A New Institutional Policy Framework

Part 8 of the Draft Revised White Paper outlines a new integrated three-part national structure outlined below:

NATIONAL ARTS, FILM AND AUDIO VISUAL COUNCIL

The new proposed council consolidates the two existing governance structures into a single council with expertise in the arts, audio-visual and digital media to eliminate the proliferation of governance bodies enhance efficiency and enable coordination and cooperation. The two entities will retain separate premises as well as separate administrative and project personnel. Council meetings will rotate between the offices of the two entities.

NATIONAL HERITAGE COUNCIL

Museums, Monuments, Heritage Resource and Sites, Geographical Place Names, Heraldry, Archives, Libraries and Information Services

It is proposed that national heritage institutions in the Free State, KwaZulu-Natal and Eastern Cape be consolidated and that all national museum councils be abolished, and that national museums be governed by the National Heritage Council.

SOUTH AFRICAN BOOK AND PUBLISHING DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Constituted by one representative each from publishing, printing, book trade, authors, editors, translators and Basic Education, Higher Education, Small Business Development

NEW NAME OF THE DEPARTMENT

It is proposed that the name of the department be changed to: Department of Arts, Culture and Heritage

NATIONAL ACADEMANY OF TECHNICAL SKILLS AND EVENTS MANAGEMENT

To provide education, training and development of technical skills and event management, including sound, light, power, audio-visual, recording, production, directing, stage, site and other critical technicians and managers for the cultural and creative industries.

9. New Funding Modalities

A range of funding modalities, including, Grant Funding, A Creative and Cultural Industries Fund, Debt Finance and Equity Finance, are proposed. These are supplemented by:

- **A catalyst fund:** in partnership with the private sector to facilitate investment via public and private loans or seed funding;
- **A regional fund:** for trade in the African region;
- **An investment fund:** in partnership with the private sector to enable equity investments.
- **Accelerators:** Expert advice, mentoring, practical and technical support to groups of new ventures.
- **Incubators:** Provide co-working spaces so that cultural and creative entrepreneurs to develop concepts into commercial projects.

Joint funding

Collaboration with the relevant departments when funding is channelled through other government departments and to ensure the development objectives as set out by the DAC are still met.

Incentives for Business Support

The need to address one of the barriers to greater private sector funding in Section 18A and the Ninth Schedule in Section 30 of the Income Tax Act of 1962, which permits tax deductions for corporate funding for public benefit organisations, in social welfare, health care, conservation, environmental and animal care as well as land and housing but excludes arts, culture and heritage calls for motivated submission to amend this.

10. Legislative Revisions

Subject to revisions of the Draft Revised White Paper based on further consultations with the arts, culture and heritage sector, the Department of Arts and Culture, the Parliamentary Portfolio and the Committee for Arts and Culture, existing legislation affected by the new policy proposals will be identified for amendment and revision.

11. Conclusion

As South Africa moves further into the third decade of democracy, it will be faced with new challenges in an ever-changing world. To meet these challenges, all sectors of society, including the arts, culture and heritage sectors will be called on to contribute to creating a better life for all South Africans in a united and cohesive society based on human right and equality.