**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC SECTOR ECONOMIST FORUM 1ST STEERING COMMITTEE AT MEETING AT MMABATHO PALMS, MAFIKENG, NORTH WEST-30 MAY 2014**

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| 1. Welcome and Introduction by Ms. Kgalalelo Setou from North West Department of Finance |
| 1. Apologies  * Eastern Cape sent apologies through Mr. Paul Court; and * Northern Cape was not represented * Western Cape DED/Treasury * National Departments (not invited).   The Chairperson indicated that both the provinces are important members of the Forum and an effort must be made to bring them back to the fold. |
| 1. **Attendance register was circulated and the following members were present:**  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Name** | **Surname** | **Province** | **Contact Details** | | Marumo | Mosenogi | NW Treasury | 018 388 4373 | | Monwabisi | Danstile | NW Treasury | 018 388 4956 | | Thulani | Guliwe | GP DED | 011 355 8039 | | Jacob | Twala | KZN Treasury | 033 897 4605 | | Jaco | Mostert | LP DED | 071 493 3467 | | Mbuyiselo | Sani | FS Treasury | 082 554 1108 | | Tau | Kgare | GP DED | 011 355 8016 | | Kgatedi | Kobe | GP Treasury | 011 227 9008 | | Trea | Makube | GP Treasury | 011 227 9041 | | Mapule | Mofokeng | GP Treasury | 011 227 9194 | | Nthabiseng | Moitse | NW Treasury | 018 388 5396 | | Lebogang | Magwaca | NW Treasury | 018 388 5395 | | Itumeleng | Moses | FS Treasury | 082 453 1906 | | Kgalalelo | Setou | NW Treasury | 018 388 4852 | | Paul | Court | City of Cape Town | 021 417 4001/ 074 604 2999 | | Modile | Boshielo | LP Treasury | 082 803 4205 | | Leonard | Van Vuuren | MP Treasury | 013 766 4409 | |
| 1. **Progress Report**    1. Expansion of partnership and networks  * The committee should extend an invitation to all economists in the public sector (Economic Research Southern Africa (ERSA), SALGA and Regional Municipalities (Local and District Municipalities) to join the PSEF (not the steering committee) * The invitation should be sent to the relevant department/organization in the public sector. Dr. Jaco Mostert from Limpopo had agreed to assist with the invitation to the Reserve Bank Deputy Head of Research as well ensuring that the members of PSEF are in the mailing list of ERSA, so that they can have access to the research papers and events.   1. **Review of the TOR** * Terms of Reference will be circulated, so that if there are proposed amendments by members it can be done before the next steering committee.   1. **Finalization of Thematic areas**     The meeting resolved that the identified focus area will be the thematic areas for the 6th Annual Congress in Cape Town**.** Members are encouraged to explore and liaise with other research houses for research articles geared to the following thematic areas identified below to boost website with research articles:   * The Informal Sector; * Unemployment, Inequality and Poverty; * The economies of Infrastructure Development; * Incentives for Private Investment; * Economies of Municipalities (structure of regional economies found in municipalities); * Economic Impact Assessment; and * Millennium Development Goal Strategies.   1. **Progress with acquisition of communication platform** * Through KZN Department of Finance, Global Insights had agreed to sponsor the PSEF website; * The proposed website address is: [www.psef.org.za](http://www.psef.org.za) * The PSEF will have its own administrator and Ms. Sunet Visagie from Northern Cape has been proposed as an administrator alongside Dr. Clive Coetzee from KZN. Mr. Itumeleng Moses will assist in bringing Ms. Visagie on board * The Global Insight will be acknowledged through free marketing and publicity on the website * The organization should have its own banners. The Chairperson “Mr. Matodzi Rathumbu” and “Mr. Itumeleng Moses” agreed to finance one banner as the other banner will be sponsored. Discussions are being held with Gauteng Department of Economic Development’s Communication Directorate to sponsor the banner. * The structure of the website will be as follows: |
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| 1. **North West PERO and SERO presentation**   Constructive feedback was given to the NW on their first publications of SERO and PERO in terms of the approach, selection of some indicators as opposed to other publicly available indicators for instance in ANA, EMIS, etc. It was also realised that some of the research outcomes were somewhat inconsistent with national general trends. The meeting resolved that NW should consider feedback towards improving areas highlighted during the presentation of their publications. |
| 1. **Next steering Committee and Annual Congress**  * The next Steering Committee will be in mid-July 2014 to be hosted by Limpopo Province; * The Free State province will host the last Steering Committee meeting of 2014, which will be hosted around mid-September; and * The City of Cape Town in collaboration with Western Cape Treasury will host the Annual Congress meeting at the end of November 2014. * It was cautioned that the venue should be located somewhat off the inner busy City area to minimize any potential disturbances. |
| 1. **Way Forward and closure**  * The chairperson commended Western Cape for incorporating the City of Cape Town metro, which in the long run could encourage participation by other metros and districs in the PSEF activities. * NW thanked the members of PSEF for attending the PSEF steercom hosted in their province. |