

Government Gazette Staatskoerant

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA
REPUBLIEK VAN SUID-AFRIKA

Vol. 520

Pretoria, 24 October 2008
Oktober

No. 31533

CONTENTS • INHOUD

<i>No.</i>		<i>Page No.</i>	<i>Gazette No.</i>
GENERAL NOTICE			
Education, Department of			
<i>General Notice</i>			
1296	Terms of Reference: Invitation for comments in writing.....	2	31533

GENERAL NOTICE

NOTICE 1296 OF 2008**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

I, Grace Naledi Mandisa Pandor, MP, Minister of Education, after consultation with the Council of Education Ministers, have established a Ministerial Committee to advise me on the mechanisms through which *independent* evaluation and development of schools can be undertaken.

All interested persons and organisations are invited to comment in writing on the Terms of Reference as set out in the schedule.

The comments must be directed to the Director-General, Private Bag X895, Pretoria, 0001 for attention: Mr. T.E. Rabotapi, fax 012 312 6049, tel. no. 012 312 5987 or email Rabotapi.T@doe.gov.za.

Kindly provide the name, address, telephone and fax number and email address of the person or organisation submitting the comments.

The comments should reach the Department by 14 November 2008.

The Terms of Reference may also be obtained on www.education.gov.za.



**G.N.M. PANDOR, MP
MINISTER OF EDUCATION
DATE: 9-10-2008**

SCHEDULE

TERMS OF REFERENCE

MANDATE AND BACKGROUND

1. The Government has been mandated to establish a national education evaluation and development unit for purposes of monitoring, evaluation and support.
2. In pursuance of this mandate, the Minister wishes to explore the establishment of an external unit, outside of the Department of Education, but accountable to the Minister, that would be responsible for the independent evaluation and development of schools (including teachers). The unit is therefore expected to serve as an “arms length” authority.
3. The unit is expected to monitor, evaluate and report on all public schools over a cycle of years against national norms and standards.
4. The unit will utilise its own programmes and methods of monitoring, evaluation and reporting, but will ensure coherence and synergy of its own tools and processes with existing instruments and processes such as the Integrated Quality Management System, Systemic Evaluation and Whole School Evaluation.

SCOPE OF WORK

5. In order to ensure that the government is able to undertake its mandate of the establishment of a National Education and Evaluation Unit, the Ministerial Committee is expected to:
 - 5.1. Review all existing policies, mechanisms, structures, processes and tools within the South African Education system that evaluate and develop schools and teachers.
 - 5.2. Review the international literature on similar school evaluation and development units in other countries.
 - 5.3. Make recommendations on the structure, composition, location, functions, governance, name, cost and financing of a unit external to the Department of Education but accountable to the Minister, which will have the overall task of school evaluation and development.
 - 5.4. Advise on the future relationship between the proposed unit and the current policies and mechanisms aimed at improvement of quality of learning and teaching and school (including teacher and learner) evaluation and development.

5.5. Report to the Minister of Education on the Committee's findings and recommendations.

5.6. Propose to the Minister a refinement of these terms of reference, if necessary.
