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GENERAL NOTICE

NOTICE 111 OF 2012**DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING****ADULT BASIC EDUCATION AND TRAINING ACT, 2000 (ACT 52 OF 2000)****INDEFINITE POSTPONEMENT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL
NORMS AND STANDARDS FOR FUNDING ADULT LEARNING CENTRES (NSF-
ALCs)**

I, Bonginkosi Emmanuel Nzimande, Minister of Higher Education and Training, after consultation with the Council of Education Ministers and in terms of sections 22 and 29 of the Adult Basic Education and Training Act, 2000 (Act No. 52 of 2000), hereby postpone implementation of the National Norms and Standards for Funding of Public Adult Learning Centres (NSF-ALCs) published in General Notice No. 1769 of 2007 in Government Gazette No. 30576 of 14 December 2007, as set out in the Schedule.



DR BE NZIMANDÉ, MP

MINISTER OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING

DATE: 16/01/12

SCHEDULE

A General Notice of the change of the implementation date of the NSF-ALCs from 01 January 2010 to 01 January 2011 was published in Government Gazette No. 33215 of 24 May 2010. Due to the split of the Department of Education (DoE) and the subsequent establishment of the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET), a number of legislative and other requirements have to be addressed which include an amendment to ABET Act and possible amendment of the funding norms.

This notice postpones implementation of the funding norms for ALCs indefinitely, for the following reasons:

1. Implementation of the funding norms require, amongst others, the following to be in place:
 - a) Costed AET programmes to determine a funding formula. A funding formula is required in order to determine the centre allocations in implementing the funding norms. These allocations which include educator salaries have to be transferred to the bank accounts of the Adult Learning Centres (ALCs).
 - b) Fully constituted and functional Centre Governing Bodies (CGBs) as per the ABET Act 52 of 2000.
 - c) Capacitation of ALCs in financial management to ensure proper management of their allocations.
 - d) Certification of ALCs by Provincial Education Departments (PEDs) on the capability of managing and accounting for public funds in line with the ABET Act. Certification of ALCs is a pre-requisite for the full implementation of the funding norms as it is in preparation for transfers of allocated funds to ALCs by PEDs.
 - e) Centre Evaluation Teams (CETs) established by PEDs to evaluate centres for quality rating to determine the enrolment target of the ALCs for each year.

Though the above have not been fully achieved, the DHET together with PEDs and other relevant stakeholders are putting up measures to ensure that these requirements are fulfilled as early as possible.

2. The Adult Education and Training (AET) sector is currently undergoing a process of restructuring and the Green Paper process is also being finalized. Other processes that are currently underway in the department include the post-school education system. The finalization of these processes is most likely to affect the funding model proposed in the NSF-ALCs in one way or the other.

According to the Readiness Assessment Survey conducted by the department during 2010, the indication is that PEDs were not going to be ready to implement the funding norms in January 2011. It is therefore necessary to first ensure stability in the AET sector. The process of preparing for implementation of the funding norms and stabilising the sector is envisaged to take not more than **three years** from 01 January 2011.

PEDs may proceed with piloting and preparations for the full scale implementation of the NSF-ALCs on the new date that will be determined and published by the Minister in a Government Gazette after consultation with the Council for Education Ministers (CEM).

All interested persons and organisations are therefore notified that **the full implementation of the funding norms as per the date of 1 January 2011 is postponed indefinitely until a date to be determined by the Minister after consultation with CEM. PEDs may however continue with the piloting and preparation processes for full implementation of the funding norms.**
