



National Student Financial Aid Scheme

MEDIA STATEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: SATURDAY, 23 SEPTEMBER 2023

SUBJECT: NSFAS HOSTS ITS INAUGURAL BOARD LEKGOTLA

The NSFAS Board Lekgotla which has been scheduled for 22-24 September 2023 is currently underway at Muldersdrift in Johannesburg where NSFAS stakeholders including student unions, the South African Student Union (SAUS) and South African Technical Vocation Education and Training Student Association (SATVETSA) leadership, NEHAWU, Department of Higher Education and Training, University South Africa (USAF) and the South African Public College Organisation (SAPCO).

The aim of the lekgotla is to provide a platform for sector stakeholders to develop a plan in response to the challenges affecting the scheme. Equally important, the Lekgotla is discussing mechanisms to respond to the directives by Minister of Higher Education, Science and innovation, Dr Blade Nzimande during the media briefing held on 19 September 2023.

During his opening of the Lekgotla, the NSFAS Board Chairperson Mr Ernest Khosa expressed his gratitude to all stakeholders who made time, during the long weekend, to attend the session and positively contribute to the organisation's planning session. He further gave an overview of the scheme's strengths and weaknesses and indicated that he is hopeful that the weekend-long engagements will assist in identifying other areas of improvements and solutions to the challenges confronting the scheme.

"The implementation of new policies such as direct payment, unqualifying students and student accommodation by the scheme has created some issues within the sector and I hope this session will help in resolving these issues and move forward as a collective", said Mr Khosa.

Issued by:

The National Student Financial Aid Scheme

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