



REPORT

Meeting: ECD Work Stream Task Team
Date: 16 February 2018
Time: 10H30
Venue: ELRC Building
261 West Ave
Centurion

1. Opening

- 1.1. Dr Logan Govender opened the meeting and welcomed all members in attendance.
- 1.2. Dr Logan indicated that this was the third meeting of the work stream so far.
- 1.3. Dr Logan indicated that an invitation was extended to Chairperson of ETDP-SETA Mr Jonavan Rustin and the DHET Ms Motaung who was not available but Ms Adendorff stands on his behalf.

2. Attendance and Apologies

- 2.1. Attendance as per the register and apologies were received from:

Mr Coetzee – DBE: Mr S Mabaso stand on his behalf,
SADTU Mr Mompoti Galorale
General Secretary ELRC.

3. Confirmation of the agenda

- 3.1. Agenda was confirmed without any changes.

4. Minutes of the previous meetings.

4.1. 21 November 2017

4.1.1. Minutes were adopted without any corrections.

4.2. 25 January 2018

4.2.1. Minutes were adopted without any corrections

5. Matters raised by the facilitator for noting by members from the minutes of 25th January 2018

5.1. 4.1.2.2 *“That in considering the qualifications that the Grade R practitioners were to obtain, consideration should be given to an abridged course for an educator who has been in addition to the post”.*

5.2. 4.1.3.2 *“That it would be necessary to determine whether there are existing advanced certificate in teaching or advance diploma in teaching offered by Universities to facilitate such reskilling. If none, then there would be a need to engage with specific Universities to develop such a course”.*

5.3. 4.1.4.2 *“That the Deans Forum could be engaged to establish an agreed upon programme to reskill any educator to teach in Grade R”.*

5.4. 4.1.5.1. *“That a broad recommendation would be made to the Education Indaba in terms of the reskilling of educators, e.g. Engage with Universities on a three month course.”*

5.5. 4.2.2.2 *“Proposed that a representative from DHET make inputs on the Early Childhood Development Policy as there was a task team working on the rollout of the policy”.*

5.6. 4.3.8.1 *“That the focus should be on those Grade R practitioners that were currently serving in the system”.*

5.7. 4.3.8.2 *“Agreed that it was necessary to get confirmation from the DBE on the final list and requested the Employer to pursue that”.*

5.8. 4.5.4 *“Follow-up on determining the number of minimum years”.*

5.9. 4.5.5 *“DBE to provide progress on the revised implementation plan”.*

6. Business Matters

6.1. Draft commissions project plan linked to DBE’s Grade R Plan

6.1.1. Ms Villanueva made a short presentation on the item as follows:

- That there must be start date and end date.
- That potential impact on commissions mandate should be looked at.
- That it is important to have stakeholder’s engagements and take note of them.

- That the work Stream need to guard against lack of links between interdependent and predecessors.
- 6.1.2. Dr Govender asked as to what context does Ms Villanueva use the word “Predecessors”?
- 6.1.3. The response was that “*One cannot complete line item 6 if line item 5 is not completed, there should be sequence*”.
- 6.1.4. Ms Munday indicated the following:
- 6.1.4.1. That the reason why the DBE plan was provided to the meeting was to show that there was something happening at DBE and not to interrogate the plan.
 - 6.1.4.2. That the purpose was to look at tasks that are relevant to the ELRC Workstream and use them.
- 6.1.5. Dr Logan indicated that the Workstream needed to be clear on which tasks to work on and that the DBE plan has ten areas as per the slides shown.
- 6.1.6. Dr Logan proposed that the following be looked at by work stream:
- 6.1.6.1. Legislation – DBE has the responsibility on legislation but the Workstream needed to monitor the issue of legislation and get feedback from DBE.
 - 6.1.6.2. Provisioning of Educator Posts - PPN and ECD workstreams need to interface on the issue of post provisioning of educator posts. Invitation to the PPN Chairperson to attend the ECD Workstream meetings and visa versa is important going forward.
 - 6.1.6.3. Recruitment of qualified teachers for Grade R – there is a need to strengthen the use of Fundzha Lushaka bursaries and the Workstream to receive progress reports.
 - 6.1.6.4. Training of Unqualified practitioners –the ECD Workstream to handle this item. There should be open engagements with Deans, ETDP-SETA to clarify the issue of funding for upgrading. The Workstream needs to have all the list of practitioners who need to upgrade and to check if the DBE or ETDP-SETA can fund the upgrading of those practitioners.
 - 6.1.6.5. Monitoring delivery of Curriculum and Assessment practice for Grade R – to check if resources are allocated to Grade R classes.
 - 6.1.6.6. Infrastructure – the DBE to provide the workstream with an update on provision of

infrastructure for Grade R. There are still some Grade R classes operating at the ECD centres.

- 6.1.7. CTU-ATU indicated that there are a lot of NGO's that trains Grade R practitioners with good course material but the Workstream needs to look at the Universities only.
- 6.1.8. Dr Logan indicated the following:
 - 6.1.8.1. That there was a great challenge with ETDP-SETA in accrediting programmes from NGO's.
 - 6.1.8.2. That it is important to identify the NGO's that could assist with training for Grade R practitioners.
- 6.1.9. Ms Adendorff from DHET indicated that developing qualifications is the DHET mandate but only a diploma in Grade R at level 6.
- 6.1.10. Dr Logan in summing up what Mr Jonavan Rusten said indicated the following:
 - 6.1.10.1. That there is a need for the Workstream to get an update on the status report on qualifications from the DHET.
 - 6.1.10.2. That the Workstreams look at possible training provision by NGO's sectors.
 - 6.1.10.3. That with regards to the Bella bill, the issue of age-cohort to be monitored for covering.
- 6.1.11. Ms Adendorff from DHET indicated the following:
 - 6.1.11.1. That the policy that was gazetted in March 2017 on ECD the category from birth to 4 years is not included in Grade R.
 - 6.1.11.2. That it was necessary to have a National dialogue in April 2018 for articulation.
 - 6.1.11.3. That it was necessary to have Teacher Learning development sector reform to improve teacher qualifications for Early Childhood Care and the DHET would be willing to make a presentation on the issue.

7. Document from the Employer but not for circulation

- 7.1. The document was presented by Mr Mabaso and highlighted the following where decisions were taken for the next meeting:
 - 7.1.1. That the Employer has information on age profile for financial year 2016/17 and still awaiting updates for financial year 2017/18 which would be at the end of March 2018.
 - 7.1.2. The DBE has a list of those who are enrolled and those who cannot be enrolled but the DBE has requested

provinces to analyse the practitioners who would have registration for BEd Degree (admissions).

7.1.3. On reskilling – options of advance certificate /diploma for one year, but Task team advanced for three months or six months qualifications.

7.2. Dr Logan proposed that an engagement be set up with DHET to have a three months or six months qualifications for reskilling.

7.3. Ms Adendorff from DHET indicated that there would be no answer to the issue for now but there needs to be a meeting with Dr Green on the issue.

8. Way Forward

8.1. The issue of Grade R Infrastructure is removed from the agenda of ECD Work Stream.

8.2. PPN establishment to stand to the next meeting.

8.3. Legislation – the issue of age cohort be taken in line with Bella and BDE to follow up on it and provide report in the next meeting.

8.4. Mr Logan to meet with Dr Green from DHET.

9. Date of next meeting

9.1. Date of the next meeting – proposed date – 15th March 2018

10. Closure

The meeting closed at 12H40 with a word of thanks from Mr Logan Govender.

Drafted by ELRC Secretariat.