



NATIONAL FORUM ON THE LEGAL PROFESSION

Spooral Park Building
Ground Floor
2007 Lenchen Avenue South
Centurion

Law Societies Negotiation Team - National Forum

17 June 2016

Re: Terms of reference in respect to Negotiations between the National Forum and the statutory law societies.

Section 97(2)(a) provides that the National Forum must negotiate with and reach an agreement with the statutory law societies in respect of the transfer of their assets, rights, liabilities, obligations and staff to the Legal Practice Council or Provincial Councils. The said negotiations should reach an agreement within a period of 24 months of the commencement of chapter 10 of the Legal Practice Act, 2014 (Act No 28 of 2014). Chapter 10 of LPA commenced on the 01st day of February 2014 as such the agreement contemplated in section 97(2)(a) should be reached on or before the 31st day January 2017, however the Minister may extend this period in terms of subsection 97(5) if he or she deems it necessary. The Administration and Human Resource Committee of the National Forum has planned to commence with the negotiations during August of 2016.

The National Forum has prepared the terms of reference for the purposes of negotiations, attached hereto marked as "Annexure A". The National Forum shall in due course convene a meeting of all appointed representatives of all the law societies wherein there terms of reference shall be explained in order for the

negotiators to get proper mandate from their constituencies before the section 97(2) negotiations commence.

The National Forum, Admin and HR Committee, Chaired by the Chairperson, Mr Lutendo Sigogo, has set an initial proposed date of Friday, 29 July 2016 for the negotiations preparatory meeting. The meeting will be held at Southern Sun Hotel, OR Tambo.

Kind regards



Ms Charity Mhlungu

Executive Officer - National Forum

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