



COUNCIL
FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE
SOUTH AFRICAN
CONSTITUTION

Media Statement

27 October 2016

Justice Committee recommends SAHRC Commissioners

The Portfolio Committee on Justice and Correctional Services met on Thursday 27 October 2016, to deliberate on the candidates to fill the 7 vacancies in the South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC). The Committee had previously interviewed 18 candidates on 13 and 14 October 2016.

The committee agreed to recommend the following candidates for appointment to the SAHRC:

1. Professor Bongani Majola
2. Advocate Bokankatla Malatji
3. Mr Jonas Sibanyoni
4. Mr Andrew Nissen
5. Ms Devikarani Jana
6. Ms Matlodi Makwetla
7. Advocate Andre Gaum

Professor Majola and Ms Jana were recommended as the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson respectively of the SAHRC.

The Committee outlined the following criteria in coming to their decision:

Race, gender, disability, experience with communities, legal skills, a human rights background, the performance of current Commissioners and candidates' performance in the interview phase.

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They initially shortlisted 11 candidates and after deliberations agreed on the list of 7 nominees.

The Committee will meet in due course to adopt a formal report that will be sent to the National Assembly for their consideration. If their appointments are confirmed they will join Commissioner Ameerma at the SAHRC.

Two of the three previous Commissioners who sought a second term, Advocate Lawrence Mushwana and Ms Lindiwe Mokate were not recommended by the Committee.

CASAC made a detailed submission to the Committee on all 81 nominees, and has sought to play a role to ensure that the voice of civil society is heard as the Committee conducted its work.

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