

## BRICS Business Council

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Spotlight: International Labour Conference
- BUSA News
- Looking ahead

### KEY: STRATEGIC DRIVERS

- Transformation
- Enabling laws and regulations
- International positioning
- Social security
- SME development
- Energy
- Labour market development
- Progressive pro-growth taxation
- Enabling trade regime
- Education and skills

The new BRICS Business Council is here. Following much deliberation, Business Unity South Africa (BUSA) and the Black Business Council (BBC) each nominated candidates on to the structure, whose final composition was announced by **Department of Trade & Industry Minister (Dti) Rob Davies** in early March.

BUSA congratulates its nominees: Busi Mabuza (chair), Dr Ayanda Ntsaluba and Stavros Nicolaou. BUSA also extends congratulations to the BBC's Bridgette Radebe and Elias Monage, who make up the balance of the Business Council.

The new Council had to hit the ground running soon after its appointment was announced, because it was due to oversee South Africa's hosting of the BRICS Business Council Mid-Term meeting in the first week of April (3-4), when the rotating chair was to be handed over to Brazil.

BUSA thanks Members for their ongoing support of the Council - and, in particular, Mabuza, Dr Ntsaluba and Nicolaou, who all come from diverse sectors, for agreeing to serve on this strategic forum.

The organisation expects that the new Council will seek to optimise opportunities for South African business within BRICS. Furthermore, the combination of individuals on the Council bodes well for business.



The BUSA Team

The BRICS Business Council is designed to play a facilitative role for South African business. As such, the Council has indicated that it will bolster its working committees, which BUSA looks forward to, with emphasis on the energy and the green economy, skills, agriculture and manufacturing, on which business can share opportunities and learnings within BRICS.

BUSA thanks Members who responded to the call to nominate delegates to attend the mid-term meeting, which took place in Johannesburg.

BUSA has also issued a call for nominations of suitably qualified candidates to serve on the following **BRICS Business Council Working Groups**: deregulation, manufacturing, financial services, digital economy, infrastructure, energy and green economy, skills development and regional aviation.

## International Labour Conference

The **International Labour Organisation (ILO)** is hosting the **108<sup>th</sup> Session of the International Labour Conference (ILC)** in mid-2019, when delegates are scheduled to meet in Geneva, Switzerland, to deliberate on the application of standards, violence and harassment at work, and the **Future of Work**.

Although all three streams/ committees are important, it can be argued that the Future of Work stream is the common thread that ties all three together and, as such, is of particular significance, and will thus form the basis of this report.

This flagship event on the international calendar will be attended by heads of state, the heads of apex business organisations, representatives from employer organisations, the non-governmental organisation community, labour and dignitaries from across the globe. BUSA has been reliably informed that President Cyril Ramaphosa, who co-chairs the Global Commission with Swedish Prime Minister Stefan Löfven, has confirmed that he will attend the ILC.

The ILC will take place against the backdrop of the ILO having released the **Global Commission Report on the Future of Work**, to which BUSA has made a substantial contribution and on which the organisation has developed a preliminary position. Once the mandated position is received and finalised, BUSA's participation in the ILC on the Future of Work committee will be informed by and flow from the mandated position.

Since the ILO released the **Global Commission Report on the Future of Work** at the end of January 2019, much has happened in the build-up to preparations for the ILC, and this is a brief recap thereof.

On 1 February 2019, BUSA shared both the **Global Commission Report on the Future of Work** and the **International Organisation of Employers' (IOE) Guidance on the Future of Work**.

President Ramaphosa officially launched the Global Commission Report in South Africa at an event held in Zimbali in the first week of March. BUSA had representation at the launch. In addition, the **45th Session of the African Regional Labour Administration Centre (ARLAC) Governing Council** meeting also took place in Zimbali under the theme: **"Towards Gender Equality in the Future of Work"**.

BUSA encourages Members to engage with the content and documentation shared in the build-up to the ILC, as well as the organisation's preliminary position. The organisation looks forward to Members' inputs on how best to approach business' position on the **Global Commission Report on the Future of Work**. Please note that the report is not final and is open to debate and discussion, hence the call for a mandated position and appropriate response.

In terms of BUSA's own in-house preparations for the ILC, the organisation's **Socpol** held a special meeting at which Members discussed appropriate means to develop the preliminary position. Subsequently, BUSA then issued a call for Members to nominate delegates who would attend the ILC on behalf of the organisation. A communication has been sent to Members detailing selection criteria and a shortlist.

**"The ILC will take place against the backdrop of the ILO having released the Global Commission Report on the Future of Work, to which BUSA has made a substantial contribution and on which the organisation has developed a preliminary position. Once the mandated position is received and finalised, BUSA's participation in the ILC on the Future of Work committee will be informed by and flow from the mandated position."**



## Econpol & subcommittees

On Friday 15 March 2019, BUSA held a special Econpol meeting to discuss the **National Economic Development and Labour Council (Nedlac) Technical Infrastructure Agencies Task Team**, which concerns, among others, the **South African Bureau of Standards (SABS)** and the **National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications (NRCS)**; while the first Econpol meeting of 2019 took place on Tuesday 19 March.

The special committee meeting was chaired by Laurraine Lotter, the business technical lead on the task team. Topics discussed included the task team's draft **terms of reference (ToR)**, the **SABS Corporate Plan** and the **NRCS Modernisation Project**. The other agencies which will fall within the ambit of the technical task team's work are the **South African National Accreditation System** and the **National Metrology Institute of South Africa**, and the entities are collectively referred to as technical infrastructure agencies.

The need to constitute the task team, which comprises business, labour and the government, was identified by Nedlac's **Trade & Industry Chamber (TIC)** because of the agencies' collective importance to the economy. The **ToR** include identifying ways in which to accomplish better co-ordination among the entities and mitigating against the arbitrary suspension of services by agencies. Please consult the note sent on Friday 8 March 2019 for further details.

In terms of the first Econpol meeting of the year, BUSA advises Members that the draft minutes of the meeting were distributed on Tuesday 26 March 2019. The next committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 18 June 2019.

The draft minutes provide a succinct snapshot of matters discussed at the meeting. In short and in no particular order, the topics discussed at the meeting include Eskom's load-shedding crisis, its effect on business, Member appeals for BUSA's intervention in the power predicament and committee resolutions taken on the issue, subcommittee (**Energy, Environment, Tax, and Trade, Transport & Logistics**) reports, Nedlac chambers' reports, Nedlac's leadership instability, BUSA's presentation to Nedlac on the 2019 National Budget and an overview of the Jobs Summit Macroeconomic Task Team for mandating purposes.

On Wednesday 20 March 2019, BUSA hosted an engagement and feedback session with officials from the **International Finance Corporation (IFC)**, which focused on the results of the international financier's scan of South Africa's economic sectors, with a view to identify which sectors had the most potential to drive growth. The scan was conducted at a macro level, to provide an overview of the country's economy; at a provincial level, to identify which sectors performed best provincially; and at a micro level, to zoom in on regional drivers of economic growth.

This is a joint initiative driven by the **World Bank Group (WBG)**, which also houses the **IFC**, in partnership with the **British High Commission** in Pretoria and the **Swiss Confederation**. The core imperative informing the sector scan is to scale up South Africa's share of foreign direct investment (FDI) by designing a fit-for-purpose investment-promotion strategy to enable the country to attain the investment target set by President Ramaphosa. The South African line departments and entities involved in the initiative are: the **Dti** and the **National Treasury**, the **Competition Commission** and **Invest SA**.

BUSA has distributed the documents detailing outcomes and barriers to FDI.

BUSA thanks Members who attended and engaged at the feedback session. For context, BUSA hosted a joint private sector engagement with the **WBG** and the **IFC** last year to find out ways in which to bolster the sector scan process.

In brief, the **IFC** revealed during the feedback session that one of the inhibitors to **FDI** identified during the sector scan process was South Africa's visa regime, which accounted for companies setting up shop in Mauritius instead of South Africa.



### Econpol & subcommittees

#### Energy

It has been a busy month for the subcommittee, with several items on the agenda, including: Eskom, a Nedlac Special Exco to deliberate on the power utility resuming load shedding, a special subcommittee sitting to discuss the updated **Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) 2018**, and BUSA's submission to Parliament on the **Carbon Tax Bill**. Furthermore - and perhaps one of the most important items - the **National Energy Regulator of South Africa's (Nersa)** decision on electricity tariffs.

First up, the Nedlac Special Exco meeting on Eskom was held on Tuesday 5 March 2019, when business, labour, the government and community put their heads together on how best to tackle the Eskom power crisis. The government attendees included **Public Enterprises Minister Pravin Gordhan**, **Energy Minister Jeff Radebe**, **Labour Minister Mildred Oliphant**, **National Treasury** director-general Dondo Mogajane, as well as Eskom board chair Jabu Mabuza, CEO Phakamani Hadebe and CFO Calib Cassim.

Minister Gordhan gave a presentation in which he identified the causes of Eskom's latest round of load shedding and the remedies thereto, as well as an update on challenges being experienced with Eskom's new power stations build programme - Medupi and Kusile remain years behind schedule.

Please note that, on Friday 1 March 2019, BUSA circulated a final draft document on engagements with Eskom, detailing the organisation's views on a range of issues pertaining to the power utility, including the lack of information about the outcome of the Presidential Task Team on Eskom's work, as well as the Interministerial Committee on Eskom. This document, as well as a supplementary submission, formed the basis of BUSA's response to the Special Nedlac Exco convened to discuss Eskom. BUSA shared both documents on Monday 11 March 2019.

During the Special Nedlac Exco meeting, Minister Radebe informed those in attendance that the revised IRP 2018 would be circulated among social partners for further inputs. That has since been done, and BUSA subsequently circulated the document among Members on Friday 8 March 2019 for discussion at a special sitting of the subcommittee on Thursday 14 March 2019.

In terms of the revised and updated IRP 2018, the special subcommittee meeting held on Thursday 14 March 2019 discussed, among other topics: the Nedlac process, the energy mix, environmental considerations, decommissioning (Eskom's ageing coal-fired power stations fleet), municipalities and related matters (with emphasis on the municipal debt repayment crisis) and energy demand.

BUSA encourages Members to consult the documents pack on the issue for further context and more content on the topic. The organisation has shared a draft approach and notes on the updated IRP 2018.

In terms of the approach, the Nedlac task team has agreed to allocate six months to deliberate on the revised energy blueprint document. As it stands, the updated document misses the mark both in terms of tone and content. Furthermore, it appears as though it will serve to contribute towards policy uncertainty, which defeats the purpose of the process.

When it comes to the note on the updated IRP 2018, business' inputs on the first iteration of the document have not been reflected or incorporated. In addition, the overall conclusion drawn upon careful reading of the revised document is that it is a "mixed bag of contradictions".

BUSA thanks Members for making the time to attend the special subcommittee meeting on this important matter and looks forward to continued support on the issue. The organisation's finalised its input process on the revised IRP 2018 on Wednesday 27 March 2019.



## Econpol & subcommittees

### Energy continued ...

Please note that the subcommittee is scheduled to convene a meeting on Thursday 11 April 2019 to discuss the regulatory challenges being experienced with embedded generation.

On Tuesday 12 March 2019, BUSA presented its submission on the **Carbon Tax Bill** to the **Select Committee on Finance** at the **National Council of Provinces (NCOP)**. BUSA thanks Members for having contributed inputs that formed the basis of the presentation, which has been shared and is available on the Member-only section of the organisation's website. Included in this document, was BUSA's perspective on the **Excise & Customs Bill**, which was also presented at the **NCOP**.

On Thursday 7 March 2019, **Nersa** announced its decision of Eskom's **multi-year price determination 4 (MYPD4)** and the power utility's **regulatory clearing account 3 (RCA3)** applications. Although the regulator granted Eskom above-inflation electricity price increases for financial years 2019/2020 and 2020/2021, the power utility did not get the full quantum it had asked for.

BUSA released a statement soon after **Nersa** announced its determination on both the **MYPD4** and **RCA3**, with the organisation noting that the electricity price increases would have a negative effect on the economy. Added to this, BUSA warned that the development would likely accelerate the erosion of Eskom's already dwindling customer base.

Continuing with the power theme, BUSA has sent out a note inviting interested Members to participate in a study assessing the effect of Electricity Prices. The study has been commissioned by **Nersa** and will be conducted by Genesis Analytics.

## Environment

During the course of the month, the business conducted by the subcommittee included, among others: finalising the logistics of BUSA's engagement with the **Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) deputy director-general (DDG)**, developments regarding the **Climate Change Bill**, and an organisational position on alignment between the **Carbon Budget** and the **Carbon Tax** and the launch of the **South African Climate Transition Report**.

The subcommittee had a scheduled engagement with the **DEA DDG** on Thursday 4 April 2019 to discuss, among other topics: the **Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory and Biennial Update Report**, the **Municipal GHG Reporting Requirements**, **Carbon Budget** and **Pollution Plans**, **GHG Reporting** and **Pollution Plans** and the postponement of the **National Air Quality Act** framework.

BUSA thanks Members for making the time to attend the meeting, as well as for having contributed to the briefing note circulated on Tuesday 26 March 2019. The note provides a detailed analysis of BUSA's concerns and compliments pertaining to regulations and policies before the **DEA**. BUSA encourages Members to consult the note for further context and content.

In terms of the **Climate Change Bill**, BUSA circulated a position statement about the Bill on Friday 3 March 2019 in preparation for a Nedlac engagement about the proposed legislation. BUSA remains steadfast in its position that there should be alignment between the **Carbon Budgets** and **Carbon Tax**. The Nedlac engagements on the **Climate Change Bill** will provide an opportunity to reinforce alignment. This is not withstanding the fact that the National Assembly has adopted the **Carbon Tax Bill**.



## Econpol & subcommittees

### Environment continued ...

The **South African Climate Transition Report** was launched on Tuesday 26 March 2019 in Johannesburg. This initiative is driven by the **Development Bank of Southern Africa**, the **Climate Policy Initiative** and **Agence Française de Développement**. Please consult the note shared with Members for further information.

The subcommittee had a scheduled meeting on Thursday 28 March 2019. An invite to the next scheduled subcommittee meeting has been sent to Members. The minutes of the February subcommittee meeting have been shared with Members, while the next subcommittee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 17 April.

On 6-7 March 2019, the **DEA** hosted a workshop on South Africa's **Long-Term Emission Development Strategy** in Centurion. The objective was to gather inputs and feedback, with a view to devise an implementation plan.

BUSA shared a note with Members from the Mpumalanga **Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land & Environmental Affairs** inviting stakeholders to make inputs to the province's Climate Change Mitigation Strategy. In this regard, the department held two workshops in the province on 25-26 March 2019 in Mbombela and Middleburg respectively.

On Wednesday 20 March 2019, the **Department of Water & Sanitation** held a workshop in Gauteng to provide feedback on the **Water & Sanitation Phakisa**. A detailed note providing context, presentations and further information was sent to Members on Sunday 31 March 2019.

On Wednesday 27 March 2019, **National Treasury** hosted a **Carbon Offsets** workshop in Midrand. The workshop dealt with, among other matters and topics, the definitions, required documents, offset registry and eligibility, as contained in the **Carbon Tax Bill**.

## Tax

The subcommittee meeting scheduled to take place in February was postponed pending the appointment of a permanent **South African Revenue Service (SARS)** commissioner. On Wednesday 27 March 2019, President Ramaphosa appointed Edward Kieswetter as the new **SARS** commissioner following the recommendations of a panel of experts led by former finance minister Trevor Manuel.

BUSA has resolved to strengthen relations with **SARS**. As such, Members of the subcommittee and the organisation's leadership are to meet with the current acting commissioner, Mark Kingon, in pursuit of that aim. Kieswetter's appointment is effective from 1 May 2019.

## Trade, Transport & Logistics

The subcommittees sat on Wednesday 3 April 2019. Comprehensive document packs for each of the subcommittees have been shared with Members, please refer to them for further information and context.

In terms of the **Trade & International Co-operation subcommittee**, BUSA would like to bring Members' attention to the following: the report, and accompanying presentations, on the **National Committee on Trade Facilitation (NCTF)** and the private sector's trade facilitation workshop, is out.

Please consult the report on the nature of the **NCTF's** meeting with the private sector in terms of outcomes and a way forward in future.

## Econpol & subcommittees

### Trade, Transport & Logistics continued ...

In addition, other documents shared include: the Nedlac **Technical Sectoral Liaison Committee (Teselico)** report, the founding meeting of the **Southern African Development Community (SADC) Business Council**, the **Industrial Development Forum** report, workshop on e-commerce, the draft **SADC Protocol on Industry**, **BUSA's Customs Report** and the organisation's **Framework for Trade & International Co-operation**.

Agenda items for the **Transport & Logistics subcommittee** included: the Nedlac Public Transport Task Teams, the cost of ports and transport, the **Administrative Adjudication of Road Traffic Offences (AARTO) Bill**, the draft **Maritime Strategy 2030**, the **Department of Transport's Comprehensive Maritime Policy for South Africa** and the **Minerals Council's** report titled "From Pit to Port: the Link between the Mining Industry & the Maritime Transport Sector". The **AARTO Bill** is awaiting President Ramaphosa's signature.

Please note that the draft minutes of the subcommittees' meetings have already been distributed to Members, as well as meeting invites for the next scheduled meetings.

### Calls for input/ comment

- **Carbon Tax Bill and Customs & Excise Amendment Bill:** the deadline was Wednesday 6 March 2019, and the call was made through Econpol and the Energy subcommittee. Parliament's **Select Committee on Finance** issued the call for public comment.
- Submission to **Dti on Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment** facilitation status for Telkom: Members had until Thursday 7 March 2019 to make inputs.
- The **African Development Bank** is conducting a survey whose aim is to look at ways in which to harness the development of technology to take advantage of the Fourth Industrial Revolution. BUSA has shared the survey link with Members and invites those interested in the initiative to participate.
- Members had until Friday 22 March 2019 to make contributions to BUSA's comment on the revised **IRP 2018**. BUSA distributed the updated version of the energy blueprint on Friday 8 March 2019. BUSA shared a final draft input on the **IRP 2018** Tuesday 26 March 2019 and closed the comment process on Wednesday 27 March 2019.
- BUSA has requested that Members participate in the 2019/20 edition of the **World Economic Forum (WEF) Global Competitiveness Report Survey**. Members had until Thursday 28 March 2019 to submit completed surveys to BUSA, while BUSA had to provide all inputs to WEF on Monday 1 April.
- BUSA issued a call for inputs on a mandated organisational position on the **Preservation & Development of Agricultural Land Bill**. The deadline is Friday 12 April 2019.

### Calls for nominations

- The BRICS Business Council is establishing working groups. Please see opening item of newsletter on how the different working groups are streamed. BUSA has invited Members to nominate suitably qualified candidates on to the working groups. The deadline was Thursday 28 March 2019.
- BUSA has asked Members to nominate candidates who will serve on the Nedlac Task Team on the **Conduct of Financial Institutions Bill**. BUSA Members have until Thursday 18 April 2019 to submit names for consideration.

### For information

- In case you missed it: the **Dti** made presentations to Nedlac's **TIC** on Wednesday 27 March 2019 about the **Companies Amendment Bill** and **Special Economic Zones**. BUSA has shared both presentations with Members. Please consult original Econpol note for context and further details.
- BUSA circulated the draft Econpol minutes on Tuesday 26 March 2019.
- Minister Gordhan's presentation on the Eskom crisis at the Special Nedlac Exco held on Tuesday 5 March 2019 has been shared with Members.
- **Nersa** has commissioned Genesis Analytics to conduct a study on the impact of Electricity Prices. Members who wanted to participate had until Friday 29 March 2019 to indicate interest to BUSA. Alternatively, Members are welcome to engage directly with Genesis.
- Entries are open for the Green Logistics Enviro Awards and close in the first week of May.
- BUSA has shared information about the Green Logistics Indicator. BUSA encourages Members to consult the note sent out on Sunday 31 March 2019 for further information.
- The **Department of Transport** is scheduled to meet freight associations, truck operators and logistics companies on Wednesday 17 April 2019 in Durban. Members who want to attend can contact the department's **Fortunate Mokoena** via e-mail on [MokoenaF@dot.gov.za](mailto:MokoenaF@dot.gov.za) or call her on (012) 309 3381.

## Socpol & SubCET



On Wednesday 27 March 2019, Socpol and SubCET met to discuss several matters, including: the state of social policy, an update on progress made on Jobs Summit provisions falling within Socpol and the election of a Socpol deputy chair.

At the SubCET meeting, Members were appraised about: the **National Skills Development Plan (NSDP)**, an update about the **Sector Education & Training Authority (SETA)** grant matter, the **National Skills Authority** and the **Human Sciences Research Council**.

BUSA encourages Members to consult the document packs sent out for both meetings for further details on other agenda items. Furthermore, both document packs contain context and explainers which cannot be fully captured on this medium, as it is intended as a snapshot.

The state of social policy has just been introduced and is intended to keep a watching brief on developing risks. As such, Members have asked that the metals industry be spotlighted at the next Socpol meeting, according to the draft minutes circulated on Thursday 4 April 2019.

In terms of the Jobs Summit update, BUSA has made an undertaking to share the Jobs Summit reporting framework once it is developed. In addition, the framework will be incorporated into Socpol sittings. In another development concerning the Jobs Summit, BUSA introduced Cheryl James to Socpol. James has been appointed regional co-ordinator within the Skills Initiatives for Africa Programme, the first such hire. In addition, James is the new BUSA, GIZ and Nepad representative. James will dedicate the bulk of her time working in the BUSA office with the team and to the process of developing a tracking framework on the Jobs Summit proposals.

The committee chair noted that Socpol did not have a deputy chair. Following this, it was decided that BUSA would issue a call to nominate a suitable candidate.

The **National Business Initiative** is putting the final touches to a report on the **Youth Employment Service Practice Note**, following the information session conducted at the BUSA offices in February 2019. In terms of matters pertaining to small business, the **SME Working Group** is scheduled to meet on Wednesday 17 April 2019. In addition, the **BUSA-CCMA Web Tool** for small business is live and phase 2 is already in the works. BUSA appeals to Members to use the tool and promote it on their respective platforms.

There have been several important developments in respect of the implementation of the **National Minimum Wage Act** and engagements around this among the social partners at Nedlac. The **Department of Labour** has unfortunately fallen short in respect of this, and thus consideration has been made to touch base with the department's director-general. Please consult the Socpol draft minutes for more information.

Although President Ramaphosa placed emphasis on social partners coming together to work on a **Comprehensive Social Security (CSS)** framework in his **State of the Nation Address**, this has not translated into meaningful action at Nedlac. In fact, Nedlac recently informed social partners that the institution did not have funds to conduct a study on aspects of **CSS** agreed to by the social partners. This will be brought to the attention of the overall business convener.

BUSA agrees on the need for **CSS**, however, the organisation has been consistent on its insistence that this ought to be informed by research, which factors affordability and implementation.

Socpol & SubCET    

Please note the updates on the **Compensation for Occupational Injuries & Diseases Act New Assessment Model** and the **Presidential Health Summit**.

**SubCET**

The new **NSDP** is here. BUSA is planning to conduct a workshop on this. In addition, BUSA has shared its draft Nedlac input on the plan and the proposed new SETA landscape with Members, in which the organisation highlights commendable aspects, concerns and suggestions on areas of improvement. Most concerning is that the current version of the Plan misses some of the lessons learned in the **NSDP III**.

The **National Skills Authority** hosted a skills conference in Boksburg on 14-15 March 2019. James attended the conference and wrote a report on her observations about the event, which has been shared with Members and formed part of the SubCET document pack.

Motsamai Motlhamme represented BUSA at the recent SADC Meeting of Ministers of Employment and Labour and Social Partners. Motlhamme’s report has been shared with Members.

Nedlac’s **Development Chamber** has signed off on the final report by the **Institute for Future Research** on its study on the Future of Work in the South African context. BUSA has shared a link to the study results.

**International Women’s Day:** BUSA CEO Tanya Cohen represented the organisation at an ILO-IOE International Women’s Day event in Geneva, Switzerland, on Friday 8 March 2019. Cohen took part in a panel discussion and gave a South African perspective on women in the workplace.

The panel included LinkedIn co-founder Allen Blue, Oscar-nominated actress and activist Yalitza Aparicio, renowned journalist Femi Oke and officials from the ILO and IOE families.



ICYMI: BUSA CEO Tanya Cohen with Oscar-nominated actress and activist Yalitza Aparicio at the ILO-IOE-hosted International Women’s Day event in Geneva, Switzerland. Pictures: SUPPLIED

Socpol & SubCET



### Calls for input/ comment

- BUSA asked Members to make contributions towards the organisation's draft submission on the **Global Commission's Report on the Future of Work**. The deadline was Thursday 7 March 2019. Members are informed that BUSA has finalised its position and submitted it to the IOE. BUSA wishes to thank Members for their contributions, which enabled the organisation to put forward a concise and incisive position.

### Calls for nominations

- BUSA issued a call for the nomination of delegates to attend the **ARLAC** workshop on youth employment creation on Wednesday 6 March 2019. The event took place on 11-15 March 2019 in Harare, Zimbabwe.
- On Tuesday 19 March 2019, the organisation asked Members to nominate suitable delegates to attend the **108<sup>th</sup> Session of the ILC** taking place in mid-2019 in Geneva, Switzerland. BUSA has received the names, following which the organisation asked Members to endorse the nominated candidates by 4 April 2019.
- BUSA has asked Members to nominate suitable candidates to serve on the **Section 77 Standing Committee**. Members have until Monday 15 April 2019 to submit names.

### For information

- The **National Skills Development Plan** has been promulgated. BUSA shared this information in a note sent out to the SubCET mailing list dated Thursday 7 March 2019.
- The **Learnership Regulations** and the new **SETA Workplace-based Learning Programme Agreement Regulations** came into effect on Monday 1 April 2019, following the repeal of the 2007 regulations. BUSA shared this information on Monday 11 March 2019.
- On Wednesday 13 March 2019, BUSA issued a circular for noting about the **Labour Relations Amendments and Regulations**.

## Special report

### **BUSANA Board: 2019 Strategy & 2018 Strategy Review**

Following the Board's Strategy Review meeting held in February, the review of the organisation's 2018 Strategy has been concluded. Furthermore, the 2019 Strategy has been adopted after inputs from the Board.

Please note that Maria Ramos is no longer part of the BUSANA Board after she stepped down as Absa CEO at the end of February. This has opened up a vacancy on the Board and Members who fall within the Corporate Category have been invited to nominate candidates to fill the vacancy.

BUSANA has received four names: Njombo Lucky Lekula (PPC), Ayanda Mngadi (Manufacturing Circle), Maurice Radebe (Sasol) and Akhona Qengqe (FASA). Voting has commenced and closes on Tuesday 16 April 2019.

### **BUSANA AGM**

The BUSANA AGM is scheduled for Tuesday 23 July 2019. Please note the change in date and the Save the Date notice sent out on Wednesday 3 April 2019. The original date clashed with important events on the economic calendar, including WEF Africa.

### **Nedlac**

There have been two Nedlac Special Exco meetings in as many months to discuss the governance issues confronting the institution. BUSANA is of the view that Nedlac is an important and strategic forum where social partners engage each other. Its optimal functioning is, therefore, critical.

The institution has been rocked by leadership instability and lapses in its supply chain processes. Consequently, its executive director has been placed on suspension, as well as other senior officials, including the CFO. An acting CFO was appointed; however, this was short-lived as she has resigned, and another acting CFO will be hired.

### **Parliament**

The fifth democratic Parliament of South Africa rose in March 2019. A sixth Parliament will be appointed and sit soon after the general election of 8 May 2019. Please note that there are several Bills which were passed as the **National Assembly** and the **NCOP** wrapped up their business.

BUSANA has shared the relevant information with Members through its respective policy desks.

When the sixth Parliament sits, BUSANA will keep a watching brief on how the policy of land expropriation without compensation is pursued. The organisation regards this as one of the most important policy processes and will endeavor to ensure that Members are apprised every step of the way.

- 1 April: Deadline to complete 2019/20 WEF Survey
- 1-3 April: IOE International Business & Human Rights Conference
- 2 April: Services SETA Workplace Skills Planning & Annual Training Report
- 3 April: Stakeholder interactive session on Brexit and its effects on South Africa
- 3 April: Trade, Transport & Logistics subcommittees meetings
- 4 April: Nedlac Public Transport Task Team meeting
- 3-4 April: BRICS Business Council Mid-Term meeting
- 4 April: Deadline to nominate delegates to attend ILO100 Global Tour Celebrations
- 4 April: Deadline to endorse candidates nominated to attend ILC
- 4 April: BUSA meeting with DEA DDG
- 8 April: Deadline to nominate Socpol deputy chair
- 8 April: Deadline to nominate SubCET deputy chair
- 10 April: Deadline to nominate candidates to serve on BRICS Business Council working groups
- 11 April: Energy subcommittee meeting to discuss challenges with embedded generation
- 11 April: Small Business Institute Indaba
- 11 April: South Africa hosts live stream of ILO100 in partnership with Nelson Mandela Foundation
- 11 April: ILO100 Employer Group presentation, Geneva
- 11 April: Joint DEA-National Association for Clean Air workshop on emission reduction options
- 12 April: Deadline to nominate delegates to attend AOTS Program
- 12 April: Deadline for inputs to final GHG Report
- 12 April: Deadline for inputs on BUSA position on Preservation & Development of Agri Land Bill
- 15 April: Deadline to nominate candidates to serve on Section 77 Standing Committee
- 15 April: Deadline to submit comment on National Environmental Management Waste Act
- 16 April: Voting for Maria Ramos replacement on Board closes
- 17 April: Environment subcommittee meeting
- 17 April: BUSA SME Working Group meeting (**to be confirmed**)
- 17 April: Department of Transport meeting with Freight Associations in Durban
- 18 April: Deadline to nominate candidates to serve on Nedlac Task Team on COFI Bill
- 23 April: Luncheon with Investment Envoy Phumzile Langeni
- 30 April: Nedlac Exco meeting

■ The End!

## CONTACTS

For queries, contact Nomaza Spelman on  
[Nomaza.Spelman@busa.org.za](mailto:Nomaza.Spelman@busa.org.za) / 011 784 8000