

February 2018

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COMMISSIONERS' ACTIVITIES

South African Human Rights Commission Chairperson, Adv Bongani Majola met with German Ambassador to South Africa, Dr Martin Schafer to discuss possible collaborations between the two institutions.



Commissioner André Gaum addressing members of the public who came to protest at Hoërskool Overvaal following a decision by the school not to take in additional pupils based on language policy.



SAHRC IN THE MEDIA

SAHRC expects draft action plan from H&M on diversity, racism

The commission says it's deeply disappointed by a recent advertisement by the global retailer.

The South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC) says it expects to receive a draft plan of action from retailer H&M on how to deal with diversity and racism.

The commission says it's deeply disappointed by a recent advertisement by the global retailer, which featured a black boy in a hoodie with the words "Coolest Monkey in the Jungle".

The ad sparked public outcry, forcing the retailer to remove it and to issue an apology. The organisation says it met with representatives from the retailer on Friday.

SAHRC CEO Tseliso Thipanyane says: "I've heard issues of unfair discrimination and racism with or without complaints. Upon seeing the hoodie and seeing the reaction by South Africans, the commission felt that it was racist and offensive."

H&M has since announced it will embark on anti-racism programmes both locally and around the world.

H&M says it's usually high standards of checks and balances have failed the company. (Source: EWN) [Read more](#)

SAHRC monitoring water crisis in Cape Town

Cape Town - The South African Human Rights Commission has been monitoring the water crisis unfolding in the City of Cape Town, having received complaints from various individuals and organisations regarding the issue.

SAHRC spokesperson, Gail Smith, said the complaints expressed the concerns, which all Capetonians share.



The screenshot shows a news article from News24. At the top left is the News24 logo with the tagline 'Breaking News. First' and a timestamp 'LAST UPDATED: 2018-02-13, 09:44'. To the right is a weather update: 'Weather Update: Scorching temperatures in west, scattered rainfall expected across SA. Most cities in the Western Cape will experience temperatures above 30°C.' Below this is a navigation bar with categories: News, Voices, Business, Sport, Water Crisis, #GuptaLeaks, Lifestyle, and Video. The main headline is 'SAHRC monitoring water crisis in Cape Town' with a sub-headline '2018-01-27 13:12' and the author 'Derrick Spies, Correspondent'. There are social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, Google+, and Email. The article text reads: 'Cape Town - The South African Human Rights Commission has been monitoring the water crisis unfolding in the City of Cape Town, having received complaints from various individuals and organisations regarding the issue. SAHRC spokesperson, Gail Smith, said the complaints expressed the concerns, which all Capetonians share.' A photo shows a person filling a large plastic water bottle from a tap. A quote at the bottom of the article reads: 'The commission wishes to reassure the people of

"The commission wishes to reassure the people of Cape Town that it has, of its own initiative, commenced monitoring the situation and is engaged in a process of reviewing the plans and state of readiness of the City to implement such plans, the state of readiness of other relevant state institutions to provide support, and clarifying what that support will consist of," Smith said. (Source: News24) [Read more](#)

SA Human Rights Commission: Discussion About Language And Education Necessary In South Africa

As conflict continues at Hoërskool Overvaal, the SA HRC reminds all stakeholders that rights must be exercised in accordance with the Constitution.

The South African Human Rights Commission's Andre Gaum told HuffPost on Thursday that there should be more dialogue about language policy at schools.

"We are not intervening or interfering as far as the court case and the merits of the matter are concerned, although we do feel the broader discussion about language and education and the right of language of choice is necessary in South Africa," he said. (Source: Huffington Post) [Read more](#)

Teacher union and DA call for SAHRC probe of Hoërskool Overvaal hate speech



SAHRCCommission @SAHRCCommission · Jan 17

Our representatives interviewing protesters as part of monitoring exercise.



Shocking allegations against surgery that “separates patients by race”

A medical surgery in Mokopane, Limpopo, has come under fire from the South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC) for alleged racism breaching a number of medical ethics codes....

SAHRC provincial manager Victor Mavhidula told News24 that the commission had visited the surgery and found that patients were segregated upon entry, and treated differently based on race.

Mavhidula said he walked into the surgery, closely followed by a white female colleague, and both were attended to by different people.

He said when he arrived, he was attended to by a receptionist on the left – a black woman, while his white colleague who walked in seconds later was attended to by a white woman on the right. “When I asked about this, I was told that it was because the woman had an appointment with the doctor,” he said, adding that the staff was unaware that they had come together to test the veracity of the allegations. Both had not made appointments. (Source: News24) [Read more](#)

Call to speed up eradication of bucket toilets

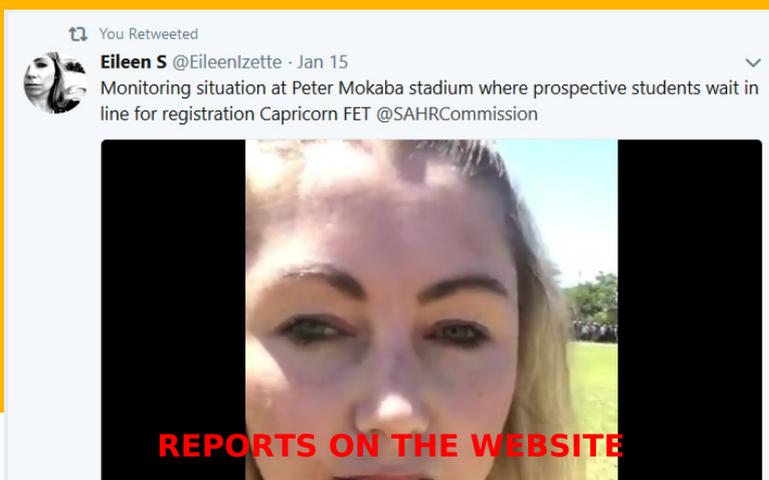
FOLLOWING a report released by the Human Right Commission late last year that indicated that Free State province has the highest number of bucket toilets remaining in the country, local residents have now urged the provincial government to speed the process to eradicate the bucket system.

This had now become a serious health hazard especially due to the heatwave. The South African Humans Rights Commission (SAHRC) revealed through their report released in September last year that a large percentage of households in the province had no sanitation facilities.

The commission said although the bucket system had declined rapidly in the last couple of months the backlog was still high. The report showed that the number of buckets had significantly dropped from 17.2% in 2002 to 5.5% in 2017. (Source: The New Age) [Read more](#)

MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS

SAHRC ON TWITTER @SAHRCCommission



SAHRC releases report on trends in human rights violations in South Africa

The South African Human Rights Commission today, 9 January 2018, released its Annual Trends Analysis Report (ATAR) outlining statistics and data on human rights violations received by the Commission during 2015-2016. Compiled from cases received from all 9 of the Commission's provincial offices, the report highlights that inequality remains one of the single biggest obstacles to the attainment of human rights, as envisaged by the Constitution.

The top five most violated human rights in South Africa are:

- Equality (749 complaints)
- Unfair labour practices (440 complaints)
- Ongoing lack of access to health care, water, food, and social security (428 complaints)
- Violations of the right to just administrative action (379 complaints)
- Violations of rights in relations to arrest and detention (409 complaints). [Read more](#)

Click on the image below to access the report

**Annual Trends'
Analysis Report**
2015/2016
Financial Year



Kenneth Machevele (HO) - 02nd

Mpho Tsoku (HO) - 04th

Shirley Gouws (NC) - 11th

CEO Tseliso Thipanyane (HO) - 12th

Commissioner Mohamed Ameermia (HO) - 14th

Gabisile Khoza (MP) - 16th

Mankese Thema (LMP) - 17th

Ntombenhle Ngwane (HO) - 18th

Lesego Raphalalane (WC) & Tiyani Mawila (LMP) - 22nd

Naledi Morojele (FS) - 24th

Thenjiwe Dlamini (HO) - 25th

TALK TO US...



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