

**Meeting of the Advisory Board of SANLI
To be held on Monday, 4 June 2001
At 10h00 on the 9th Floor in Room 935
Sol Plaatje House, 123 Schoeman Street, Pretoria**

Agenda

1. Opening and Welcome
2. Address by Minister of Education, Professor Kader Asmal
3. Signing of Attendance Register
4. Apologies
5. Adoption of the Agenda
6. Minutes
7. Matters arising from the Minutes
8. Executive Committee's Report
9. Executive Director's Report
1. Date of Next Meeting: November 2001
2. Closure

Documents for the Board Meeting

- Draft Agenda
- Minutes
- Executive Committee's Report
 - Section 21 Company Documents
 - Current Status of SANLI
 - The Logo of SANLI
 - EU Technical Support
 - Staff Complement
 - Executive Director's Report

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT TO THE SANLI BOARD HELD ON 4 JUNE 2001

The Executive Committee met six times in the last six months. It commenced its work in December immediately after our last Board Meeting. There were quite a number of pressing issues to be addressed. They resolved to meet monthly until such time that the Agency had been properly set up and that a clear strategic plan and delivery are in place. Also to ensure that monitoring of the progress of work is taking place and necessary interventions are made timeously. There were a number of pressing issues that needed attention, namely:

- a) The Legal Status of SANLI
- b) The Constitution of the Board
- c) Fundraising and Financial Accountability
- d) The coming to an end of the European Union (EU) Technical Support

It soon became clear that until the legal status of SANLI has been clarified all other issues could not be addressed adequately. The imminent departure of EU Technical Support had some implications for SANLI's delivery. Among other things the following are some of the issues the Executive Committee dealt with in the last six months.

Legal Status of SANLI

An inordinate amount of time was spent by the Executive Committee working through the process of obtaining a legal status for SANLI. Through EU Technical Support services of Adams & Adams were engaged. Various options were looked at and advice was received that Section 21 Company is the option to take. At our December meeting, Mr Papageorge from Adams & Adams came to address the Committee. Subsequent to this meeting the following documents were prepared for SANLI and inputs from the members of the Executive were included.

- The Certificate of Association,
- Memorandum of Association
- Articles of Association

A follow up meeting with Adams & Adams with a sub-committee to look at the structure of SANLI was held.

Several meetings were held with the Department of Education in order to clarify the situation. The Department expressed concerns regarding the establishment of SANLI as a Section 21 Company. The issues around accountability were uppermost in the discussions. By way of resolving the legal status of SANLI, it was decided that the Agency becomes a Directorate within the Department, as the project belongs to the Minister. That the question of accountability would not arise as the Director General is the accounting officer for the Department. In March, the Executive Committee agreed that the Lawyer working on the legal status of SANLI be stopped and that he should provide SANLI with the documents of all the work done up to that point.

At the April meeting a final report was given and it was decided that all relevant correspondence, notes and the diagram showing the structure of the organisation be attached to the document for the Board and that a copy should be made available to the Minister.

Logo

Adams & Adams also looked at SANLI's Logo, the "L" in the circle, as there could be a breach of copyright. After investigations, he assured the Committee that everything was in order.

Constitution of the Board

It was envisaged that if SANLI becomes a Section 21 Company, the Draft Constitution that we have would probably be superseded by certain regulations governing such a Company. No work was done on the two documents as we have them. It may be that they could be revisited or abandoned when the Board becomes a Ministerial Committee.

Fundraising and accountability

This issue has exercised the minds of the Executive Committee as a lot of fundraising still needs to be done by SANLI. Again the lack of clarity on the status of SANLI and financial accountability created a difficulty for the Committee. The Fundraising Task Team will be convened soon to strategise for funding now that our status is clear. A local fundraising drive is crucial for our work as we only have four years to break the back of illiteracy in the country.

European Union Technical Support

The Committee was informed that the European Union technical support is coming to an end in June. This means that all the services that SANLI was able to provide through Hedco Ireland will come to a standstill after the 6th of June 2001. The Department had to take a decision on the nature and form of an organisation that SANLI should be.

Masifunde Sonke

Lack of funding has made it difficult for SANLI to run the reading campaign properly. A number of events were planned but did not take place. The Committee through the Chairperson and the Executive Director took up the matter with the Minister. The Minister has separated Masifunde Sonke from SANLI to become a different structure.

Conclusion

In this brief report we have provided some of the aspects of the work we have done and issues that were of great concern to the progress of the work of SANLI.

There are many challenging issues the Committee has dealt with in the past months. It was able to give guidance and appropriate support to the operational work of SANLI. Because of the amount of work to be done, the Committee resolved to meet monthly so as to keep abreast of the needs of the organisation and to make necessary interventions.

Presented by: Charity N Majiza
Executive Chairperson

Introduction by Majiza:

Asmal speech:

- Activity on the ground
- Shirts long & Minister of Labour learn literacy.
- Not interested in debate on distinction ABET and literacy.
- Has read the Six month progress report.
- We have to work with the provinces.
- Importance of diplomas & certificates at technicians (and universities).
- University community programmes are "fitra'a".
- Reconstruction of technical colleges.
 - They also need to look at literacy.
 - Programmes & courses must relate to regions & districts.
 - 3 or 4 large institutions - (avoid amalgamation)
- Manager to chair SANLI Board.
- Candidate separate board separate from Dept - have to go to Cabinet.
- To become a Ministerial Committee (along lines of C21 (Chiselm) committee)
- ~~Majiza~~ ^{Majiza} as Deputy chair & responsible for advocacy & social mobilization.
- SANLI will function as a Directorate but no typical directorial duties. will be Director ~~Chief Directorate~~ Curriculum & Assessment.
- Terms of reference: advice; input; review of programmes; monitoring; receive

- to ensure success.
- Masifundesone - removed from SANCI ad
- Mascho as national coordinator.
- Committee must think of visualize things to do.

Questions: Mandla - what happened to the sec 21 company?
How will SANCI link to AET
directorate?

Reply: Link AET + SANCI to be
strengthened.
SANCI carry to work of DoF.

Ella - Cuban teachers involved?

Reply - none - only teacher training coming.

Asmal: litany must always be in motto slogan.

Cameras: Report - Institutional confusion
budget versus funds.

Reply: want give unfunded mandates to provinces.

Formal agenda:

Intro: Mangena : would like to visit sites.
SANLI ministerial com. members shld also visit sites.

Apologies:

Agenda:

Discipline source:

Miranda: MTN money R300 m to Masi fundi source
R200 m to SANLI

John : Post-literacy importance of reading.

Bentah : Com. asked to be removed from SANLI
Plan to convert Masi fundi source into Ministerial committee
DoE wants to keep it in DoE,
Establish a reading development trust.

Constitution of Board:

Williams : history of the Section 21 initiative: vetted by DoE.

Lehoko : DG to sign off.

Advised not to setup in relation to ASSET Act (late toolan
Ministerial committee,

Samuel : Tom April wrote memo suggesting constituting SANLI
as ministerial committee. Signed by Minister.

Hofman : Operational → Directorate under Thon Ransburg.
Problems of getting funding.

Need exemption from govt statutory controls.

Mandla : Nothing has happened as far as learners concerned.
Duplication ABET & SANLI?

Khetsi : Literacy ≠ ABET / NQF / studies / qualifications

Jane : What is our (civil societies representatives) value?

John A: Make it clear in Govt Gazette.

John S
Jane H
ditto:

Executive Committee Report

Majiza - can we retain executive.

Cameroon - Need to be told of visits, etc.

6 month report (Powerpoint presentation)

(5)

Strategy

- Two phased implementation
 - provincial selected regions
 - presidential nodal points
- Deep rural areas & peri-urban areas
- Provincial multi-stakeholder involvement
- Teaching & learning support through service providers.
- Material selection and development is provincially based.

Northwest Cape: 10% ABET budget to literacy campaigns.

GCIS, Shona & Wagner?

3 urban literacy materials development experts - 2 KZN
- 1 Gauteng.

Minimum 10% budget.

Provincial mgmt units.

Baseline studies in project areas.

Challenge of volunteerism.

Project-Monitoring & Evaluation: too small scale to justify EU funding needs?

Response by Mandla Mthembu

- What happened to the SAIDE plan. There is still no plan, yet activities are happening.
- Using "ABET" materials for pre-ABET learners.
- Inexperience of the new staff.
- MZN NGO issues not taken seriously. Generally literacy NGOs feel left out. Not really seen as partners.

Response by Hofmeyr.

- Include statement on non-fault.
- No revised plan.
- Independent schools. Use of high school students as volunteers.
- Family literacy developments.
- Board members & civil society at launches.

Reply by Mafela.

Materials were assessed.

We need to circulate project plan (still draft plan) developed by task team.

Original plan not implementable (time frames) and not enough money to make it work.