



**DEPARTMENT: AGRICULTURE**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

***TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE  
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION  
AND TRAINING FORUM (NAETF)***

***SUBJECT:DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE (ToR) FOR NATIONAL  
AGRICULTURAL  
EDUCATION AND TRAINING FORUM (NAETF)***

**1. BACKGROUND**

The National Education and Training Strategy for Agriculture and Rural Development in South Africa (AET Strategy) was developed to ensure the provision and maintenance of an economically sustainable agriculture. The key recommendation of the Strategy is the establishment of a National Agricultural Education and Training Forum (NAETF) which will ensure the realization of a united and prosperous agricultural sector through quality and relevant AET provisioning at all educational levels. The NAETF will meet on a regular basis to discuss cross cutting issues related to agricultural education and training.

The AET strategy was launched by the Minister for Agriculture and Land Affairs on 30 September 2005. The launch marked the start of the implementation phase of the strategy. It is therefore the intention of this document to take the implementation of the strategy forward and start the process of nomination for forum members as indicated in the implementation plan of the strategy.

**2. CONTEXT**

The NAETF will be established within the framework of the National AET strategy. The mandate of the NAETF is informed by the AET Strategy, National Human Resource Development Strategy, National Skills Development Strategy as well as the Skills Development Act, No. 79 of 1998.

**3. SCOPE**

The scope of the NAETF is to coordinate all the programmes and tasks designed to fulfill the vision of accessible, responsive and quality agricultural education and training in South Africa. It will look at the interest of the agriculture sector, ensure public accountability, policy formulation and maintenance, coordination and strategic guidance on all AET related issues as outlined in the implementation plan of the AET

Strategy. The NAETF will be the Consultative Advisory Body on issues relating to AET in the whole sector and it will represent AET.

#### **4. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

- 4.1 The function of the NAETF will be to design programmes:
  - 4.1.1 Which will ensure that policy and curriculum development on AET at all levels is well coordinated and harmonised. This will include reviewing the AET curricula at all levels including non-formal education and the extension services which will result in increasing skills in the relevant and critical areas in agriculture.
  - 4.1.2 That will facilitate portability of agricultural qualifications from one AET institution to the other and programmes which will ensure that AET learning articulates with hierarchies of AET qualifications from one qualification to the other. This will also entail participating in the establishment of Unit Standards for AET in all levels.
  - 4.1.3 To ensure that AET curriculum is aligned to the needs of the agriculture sector and that the curriculum incorporates key modules that will produce a highly skilled and globally competitive agriculturalist.
  - 4.1.4 That will attract young people to study agriculture as a career.
  - 4.1.5 That will remove barriers to accessing agricultural studies and participation in agriculture.
  - 4.1.6 To ensure adequate resourcing of AET at all levels of the education system.
  - 4.1.7 To facilitate accreditation of AET providers.
- 4.2 To draw a plan of action for individual strategic objectives of the AET strategy and facilitate implementation of the plans.
- 4.3 The Forum will also provide strategic guidance on policy development initiatives regarding AET in the South Africa including positioning colleges of agriculture as centres of excellence.
- 4.4 The Forum should report to the Minister for Agriculture and Land Affairs on an annual basis on the implementation of the programmes outlined in the AET strategy.

## 5. **COMPOSITION**

- 5.1 Two representatives from DoA appointed by the Minister.
- 5.2 A representative from DoE appointed by the Minister of Education in consultation with the Minister for Agriculture
- 5.3 A representative from AgriSETA.
- 5.4 A representative from FOODBEV
- 5.5 One representative from Higher Education South Africa (HESA).
- 5.6 A representative from Association of Principals of Colleges of Agriculture (APAC).
- 5.7 A representative from South African Agricultural Teachers Association (SAATA).
- 5.8 One representative from Agricultural Research Council (ARC).
- 5.9 One representative from National African Farmers Union (NAFU).
- 5.10 One representative from AgriSA.
- 5.11 One representative from National Agricultural Research Forum (NARF).
- 5.12 One representative from Onderstepoort Biological Products (OBP).
- 5.13 Two representatives for Provincial Departments of Agriculture appointed on a two year rotational basis by the Minister of Agriculture in consultation with National Intergovernment Forum for Agriculture and Land (NIFAL).
- 5.14 A representative from Transvaal Agricultural Union (TAU)
- 5.15 One representative from Umsobomvu Youth Fund (UYF)

## 6. **ALLOWANCES FOR NON GOVERNMENTAL MEMBERS OF THE NAET FORUM**

- 6.1. The Department of Agriculture will pay for travelling costs of non governmental members of the forum.
- 6.2 Subsistence and transport allowances for members of the forum not working for the public sector will be the same as that of government

officials as prescribed by Department of Public Service and Administration (DPSA)

## **7. MEETINGS**

- 7.1 The NAETF will meet on a quarterly basis with a chairperson convening these meetings.
- 7.2 DoA will provide secretariat services.
- 7.3 Apologies must be in writing and sent to the secretariat at least two days before the meeting.
- 7.4 Agenda items must reach the secretariat at least seven working days before the meeting.
- 7.5 Final agenda will be sent out five working days prior to the meeting.
- 7.6 Draft minutes will be distributed at least seven days after the meeting.
- 7.7 Fifty percent plus one of the membership will form the quorum.

## **8. PRINCIPLES AND VALUES**

Members of the NAETF should commit themselves to be guided by the following:

- 8.1 Shared agriculture sector vision and mission.
- 8.2 Shared quality knowledge and information, policy analysis and decision making.
- 8.3 Shared vision of the AET strategy.
- 8.4 Common agriculture sector policies and strategies.

## **9. TERM OF OFFICE FOR NAET FORUM MEMBERS**

The Term of Office for NAET Forum members will be three years after which the membership will be reviewed.