

Communiqué 2

Working Group on the Non-Profit Organisation Amendment Bill, 2021

3 November 2021

The Working Group on the Nonprofit Organisation Amendment Bill (WG-NOAB) submitted a letter requesting an extension to the deadline for comments on the NPO Amendment Bill, along with preliminary comments on the Bill to the Acting Director-General, Mr. Mchunu, on 31 October 2021.

Nazeema Mohamed of Inyathelo received a call at 13h00 on 3 November 2021 from Mr Luyanda Ngonyama and Ms. Mpho Mngxitama, representatives of the Department of Social Development (DSD), who acknowledged receipt of the submission of the working group. In their discussion with her they noted:

1. The Working Group's submission was one of several submissions requesting an extension to the call for comments on the NPO Amendment Bill.
2. The issues raised by the sector are legitimate and require further attention.
3. The Department of Social Development had not provided adequate information on the proposed amendments.
4. The Bill was envisaged as being part one of a two-part process aimed at amending the Nonprofit Act.
5. The Bill that required comment by 31 October 2021 was largely administrative in nature and was drafted to improve the efficiency of the system. It sought to change less than 15% of the NPO Act.
6. The second Bill, that will follow, will be more substantive in terms of amendments and will be accompanied by a policy document.

7. The Department of Social Development plans a thorough consultation process on the second Bill.
8. Extensions on the dates for comments on Bills are not granted by the Department. Approval of extensions is granted by Cabinet. DSD is therefore not able to grant an extension.
9. The Department of Social Development is required to work with Cabinet's timeframes for amendments to the Act.
- 10. The Department will host a discussion on the Bill and the amendments proposed to it on 10 November 2021 from 10:00-12:00.**