



MEDIA ADVISORY

Deputy Minister Mahlobo to lead the 7th South Africa-Cuba High Level Panel on water and sanitation services

28 November 2023

The Deputy Minister of Water and Sanitation, Mr David Mahlobo will lead the 7th South Africa-Cuba High Level Panel Meeting in efforts to strengthen the long-standing cooperation on water and sanitation fields between the two states.

The engagement to be co-chaired by Deputy Minister Mahlobo and Cuba's Institute of National Hydraulic Resources Vice President, Bladimir Matos Moya, will be held on Wednesday, 29 November 2023 in Pretoria.

The 7th South Africa-Cuba High Level Panel Meeting is set to review the existing cooperation agreement between the two states in the areas of geo-hydrology and engineering services, particularly in the support in rural and other disadvantaged areas where such services are inadequate. A new agreement to commence from 2025 – 2030 is expected to be signed between the two states.

South Africa and Cuba signed an agreement in February 2020, wherein 25 engineers from Cuba were dispatched to South Africa to assist in infrastructure maintenance and operation skills throughout the water value chain from source to tap, with the majority being seconded at water/river clusters and at municipalities to provide training. They have been assisting with building capacity to South Africa's candidate engineers and artisans in all the identified municipalities.

Members of the media are invited to attend as follows:

Date : 29 November 2023 Venue : Sheraton Hotel Time : 10:30

For media confirmations please contact Andile Tshona on 073 566 3345 or tshonaa@dws.gov.za.

Issued by the Department of Water & Sanitation

For more information, contact Wisane Mavasa, Spokesperson for the Department of Water and Sanitation on 060 561 8935 / <u>mavasaw@dws.gov.za</u>

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