



A RE AGENG FORUM

**ANNUAL REPORT
2005 - 2006**



1. FOREWORD BY THE PREMIER

2. CHAIRPERSON'S OVERVIEW

During the year 2005 A re Ageng Dialogue Forum further consolidated its role as an important structural tool in creating a dialogue space for the various sectors in the North West Province towards realisation of the targets of the Provincial Growth and Development Strategy.

A re Ageng has always and still is enjoying the active and cordial support of the office of the Premier. Are Ageng must fortify this relationship and start building similar relationships with other government departments and institutions in order to further maximise its output and effectiveness.

Our participation during the provincial African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) as co-ordinators of the consultation workshops for youth, women, disable and business fraternity, which was a huge success, afforded us the opportunity to realise that South Africans are knowledgeable about various government programmes and the constitution. Our analysis of this knowledge indicates that work still needs to be done to ensure access and the correct interpretation of government programmes and policies.

The members of the Forum declared their resounding support to the Forum. Members had indicated that in the spirit of participatory democracy there was a need to have a dialogue structure such as this one to inform policy makers about issues from a bottom up approach. The session emerged with a plan of action for the next financial year. Some of the issues to be investigated and debated at cluster level include social security, energy matters and second economy interventions initiated by government.

A re Ageng has increased its capacity with the appointment of an Office Manager and a part-time researcher together with a communications officer. These appointments already impacted positively on the operations of the forum with clusters expressing their approval of the quality and the up-to-date nature of information supplied to them.

We are proud to continue to report our involvement in the PGDS and monitor the implementation of IDPs, indigent policies, PGDS, and ASGISA and ensure that service delivery is enhanced through continuous engagement and dialogue.

The Deputy President, Ms. Mlambo-Ngcuka in her address on the 17th of March 2006 at the Mmabatho Convention Centre highlighted the importance of the Sector Charters, the right of people to know about them and how they are and will be affected by these Charters. As A re Ageng we are proud to inform the province that we have engaged with this process for some time now and will convene an Indaba that look at the

following charters, Mining, Financial Services, and Tourism. The main objectives of the Indaba will be to raise awareness of the charters and to showcase some of the success stories that have emerged due to the existence of the Sector Charters. We remain confident that we will have success stories to report to our Deputy President when she comes for her return visit in August.

Whilst A re Ageng, like many other institutions in our newly emerged democracy, also faces some challenges during the next year, we are positive that with the help of our partners we will be able to overcome these, and will be able to contribute to the vision of a prosperous South Africa in which all citizens share.

MS. CYNTHIA CHISHIMBA
CHAIRPERSON

DATE

3. Profile

A re Ageng is a provincial social dialogue structure that focuses on socio-economic growth and development issues of the North West Province.

The Forum was launched in May 1998.

The Forum is equally represented by 6 members from each constituency namely:

- Organised Labour
- Organised Civil Society
- Organised Business
- Government,

and two sector members in the North West Province : -

- A sector that represents National, Provincial and Local Government and Government Supported Institutions at National and Provincial Level that perform duties in the Province.
- A sector that represents formal and informal business in agriculture, mining, manufacturing, tourism, trade, commerce, construction, services sector and other sectors in the Province.
- A sector that represents organised labour in agriculture, mining, manufacturing, trade, commerce, construction, services sectors and other sectors in the Province.
- A sector that represents other community based and non-governmental structures of civil society in the Province.

- Sectoral representation as resolved in the Provincial Growth and Development Strategy.

- A sector representing district municipalities.

Vision

A growing economy that creates employment, eradicates poverty and protects the environment.

Mission

To facilitate, integrate and co-ordinate all role players and advise and monitor on progress towards sustainable socio-economic development in the North West Province.

Strategic Objectives

1. To co-ordinate the multi-sectoral development and create a platform whereby stakeholders can actively participate in the development of policy that promotes sustainable socio-economic development in the North West Province.

2. Through the multi-sectoral platform, to monitor and facilitate alignment of development targets as outlined in the PGDS.

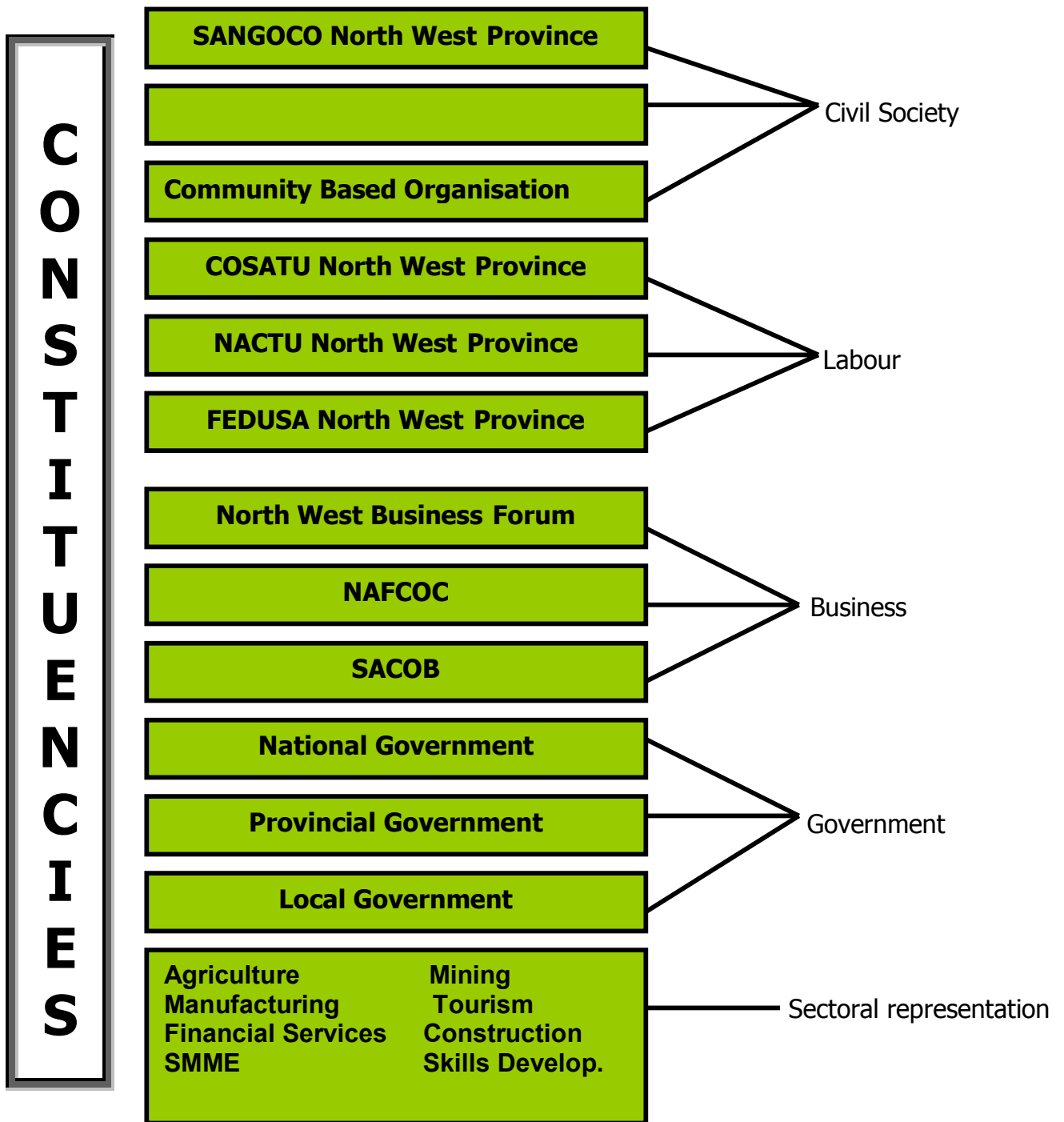
3. To strengthen and maintain a strong institutional design of the Forum.

4. To advise on policy issues and implementation strategies.

5. Identify and assess PGDS flagship projects and prospective funders as part of strengthening social partnerships.

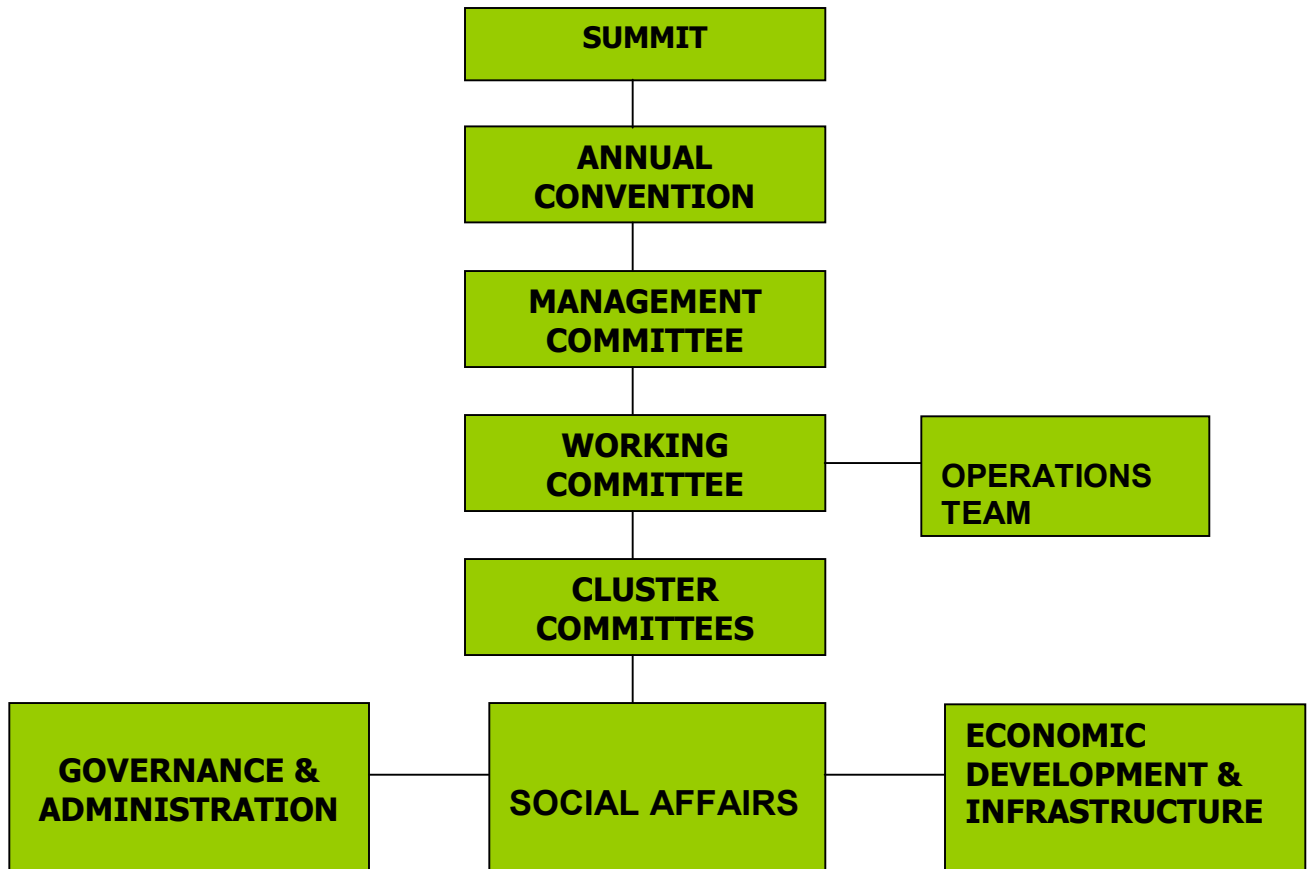
- Submitting regular reports to the Premier and the EDI cluster of the North West Executive Council for consideration and comment.

Composition of the Forum

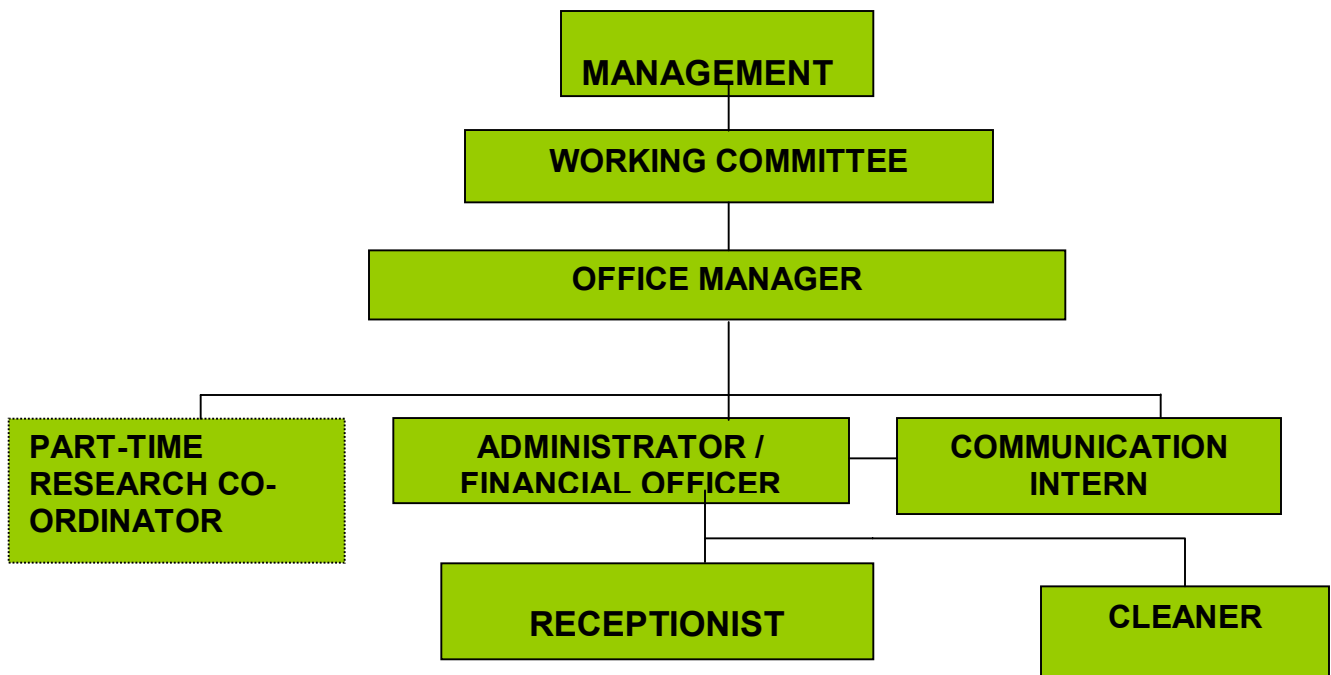


Organisational Structure

The FORUM consists of the following organs: -



OPERATIONS TEAM



4. Governance Report

4.1 Provincial Summit

The Provincial Summit is the highest decision making body and convenes once every three-years to ratify the resolutions of the Annual Convention and make decisions to be implemented for a three year period.

The Chairperson of the Forum chairs the Summit. There was no summit scheduled for the period of 2005-2006.

4.2 Annual Convention

The Annual Convention sits annually to approve the annual report and other constitutional matters. The Annual Convention charges management to oversee the day to day running of the organisation. It ratifies the work of the Management Committee and assess whether the three-year plan are being implemented.

The Annual convention was held on 08 September 2005 and all constituencies were well represented.

The following were ratified:

- The Annual report together with financial statements
- Constitution together with the amendments.
- Elections of Office bearers.

4.3 Management Committee

The Management Committee is comprised of the Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Secretary, Deputy Secretary, Treasurer as well as two additional members. Each constituency will appoint a member including SALGA.

The Management Committee meets quarterly to ratify the work done by the Working Committee that oversees day-to-day matters of the Forum.

The Management Committee meeting adjudicates the Cluster Committee work.

The report of the Management would comprise of the activities of the Cluster and administration of Forum.

The Management Committee convened three times during the year and two special management meetings. Some of the major resolutions taken during these meetings for the period under review were:

- Ratification of amendment of financial policy, Human Resources Strategy and policy, HIV and AIDS Policy and Procurement policy.
- Ratification of the report of the regional visits
- Ratification of input paper developed by SANGOCO and A Re Ageng for submission to the Social Development Indaba process.
- Ratification of the recruitment process for the Office Manager's position.
- Appointment of a service provider to conceptualize, design and implement the A Re Ageng Sectoral Charter Indaba Summit.
- Acquisition of Office Space.

4.4 Working Committee

The Working Committee meets monthly to adjudicate the work of the staff. The Working Committee is comprised of the Deputy Chairperson, Treasurer and Secretary.

The Function of the Working Committee is to ensure the execution of the Management and Forum.

The Working Committee met monthly and was able to implement all the resolutions that were passed by the management during the year.

A Joint Working Committee was established which constitutes members of the Working Committee and the service provider. The role of the joint working committee was to monitor and approve the Sector Charters Indaba.

4.5 Cluster Committee

The Cluster Committees are convened by the research coordinator. Members of the cluster committee investigate and reports on issues that are assigned to them and meet on a quarterly basis to share information and to decide on joint action. The clusters also invite experts from outside the forum to address members on particular issues.

There are three cluster committees namely:

- Economic Development and Infrastructure
- Governance and Administration
- Social Affairs

Cluster meetings for period under review	
Date	Agenda points
13 June 2005	This cluster meeting was strategic planning session facilitated by Black Dragon Consultants
11 July 2005	Presentations: Overview of Mining in North West province Provincial Sustainable Development Indicators
12 October 2005	Presentations: African Peer Review Mechanism Millennium Development Goals Economic, Social and Cultural Council of the African Union African Peer Review Mechanism Development Update
23 February 2006	Presentations: ASGISA Development Update Tourism Sector Strategy

The first sitting of the clusters was convened on 13 June 2005. The purpose of the meeting was to facilitate knowledge sharing and dialogue amongst the Cluster members towards specific social and economic targets for the North West and to develop high level operational plans as per strategic objective.

The second cluster sitting was convened on 11 July 2005 at which each cluster put forward a range of activities to pursue in ensuring that the organization achieves what it has set out to do for the year. In line with A re Ageng's objective with regard to information sharing presentations were

received on the mining sector in the North West Province and the Sustainable Development indicators that the Province is developing in partnership with the province of Manitoba (Canada).

The cluster meeting on the 12th of October assessed Civil Society Programmes and how they could be aligned to the Forum's objectives. This meeting was soon after the launch of the provincial African Peer Review Mechanism, and members were informed of the objectives and the role that A re Ageng was going to play in this process. At this cluster a synopsis of global, national and provincial developments were presented. The objective of this development update is to inform and to determine possible courses of action for A re Ageng.

At the Cluster meeting of the 23rd of February 2006, members received an input on the newly unveiled Accelerated Growth and Shared Initiative of South Africa (ASGI-SA).

The following areas were chosen as priorities by the clusters:

Economic Cluster

1. Based on the energy crisis, highlighted by the power outages in the Western Cape, the cluster recommends holding a seminar where various speakers are invited to address members on different aspects of the energy issue. Speakers from various stakeholders should be invited to talk on a number of issues. The following suggestions were made:
 - a. ESKOM -generation, expansion and distribution
 - b. Department of Minerals and Energy (DME) - Integrated Energy Plan (IEP) and its implementation
 - c. An authority on Biofuels
 - d. An authority on alternative energy sources.

2. Monitoring and disseminating information on the trade agreements signed by South African government. The cluster recommended that a database of these trade agreements should be developed.
3. Due to the importance of agriculture A re Ageng needs to strengthen its voice with regard to this sector. In particular attention needs to be paid to government support to this sector.
4. Other focal areas will be the monitoring of farm evictions; bird flu and our readiness, land redistribution and the proposed policy on foreign ownership of land, and the national freight logistics strategy.
5. In addition the cluster is waiting for the publication of the Sustainable Development Indicators to identify specific indicators that will be monitored by the cluster.

Governance and Administration Cluster

Key areas of engagement for this sector will be the Provincial Growth and Developments Strategy and ASGI-SA.

Research and development of a socio-economic report with emphasis on major trends and concrete recommendations to be submitted to relevant departments.

The cluster also proposed that a database of social dialogue fora be developed and that exchange programmes be facilitated in order to enhance the capacity of the forum.

Social Cluster

The following priority areas were identified by the cluster: Social Security Agency, second economy interventions, primary health care systems and education and skills development.

5. Organisational Report

OBJECTIVE	ACTIVITY	ACHIEVEMENT
<p>1.A fully monitored Provincial Government Development Strategy Implementation Process</p> <p>Monitoring tool Progress report Reports of meetings</p>	<p>To develop monitoring tools on PGDS</p> <p>Compile progress report</p> <p>Consultation dialogue of PGDS process and activities</p> <p>Consultation / presentation of reports to EDI, Premier and stakeholders.</p>	<p>Participation at the PGDS Forum.</p> <p>Submission of inputs to PGDS working groups</p> <p>Quarterly progress report to Directorate of Policy and Planning, Office of the Premier.</p> <p>On 10 August 2005 the Premier invited the Forum to present a quarterly report on the activities of the Forum.</p> <p>Feedback mechanism enhanced in terms of EDI and stakeholders. In June 2005 the Working Committee made a presentation to the EDI-Extech on the Forum's strategic plan and forth-coming projects.</p> <p>The Forum made an input into the price determination of the National Energy Regulator of South Africa.</p>
<p>2. Stakeholders continuously engaged and strategic partnerships</p>	<p>Capacity building workshops with constituencies on public policy development process and review.</p>	<p>The Forum had been able to raise awareness about its programmes and dissemination of information through the cluster dialogues.</p> <p>Had submitted input into the NEP</p>

<p>Information continuously disseminated to all stakeholders.</p>		<p>North West Business Forum meeting: 18 May 2005</p> <p>The purpose of the meeting was to engage the business constituency on matters relating to the Forum and to get endorsement on the planned Sector Charters Indaba.</p> <p>Meeting with COSATU on 24 May 2005</p> <p>This was one of the meetings whereby the forum was seeking recommitment of the constituencies and as well as endorsement on the planned Sector Charters Indaba.</p> <p>Constituencies Support</p> <p>As part of the support of the constituencies the forum provided transportation for civil society members to attend Moses Kotane Memorial Service which was hosted by COSATU at Mogwase Stadium in Rustenburg as well as catering for the meeting between Civil Society and the Secretary General Cde Zwelinzima Vavi.</p> <p>Involvement of the Forum's in the African Peer Review Mechanism</p> <p>On 23 September 2005, the forum was commissioned to a meeting to discuss the African Peer Review Mechanism, where the Forum was</p>
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		<p>mandated to conduct regional workshops together with the municipalities, a process that ran between 10 – 20 October 2005.</p> <p>The following workshops were held: Women (attendance – 130) Klerksdorp</p> <p>Youth (attendance – 225) Mafikeng</p> <p>The elderly (attendance – 250) Bophirima</p> <p>The disabled (attendance – 256) Mafikeng</p> <p>Business (attendance– 32) Bojanala</p> <p>Successes</p> <p>The following were factors contributed to the success of these regional workshops:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The high levels of participation and enthusiasm from participants.• A re Ageng provided an excellent opportunity for the Forum to be recognized.• Three of members of the Forum participated in the Governing Council and three in the APRM Secretariat.• A re Ageng staff successfully organized the
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		<p>workshops.</p> <p>The launch of the NW Treatment Action Campaign</p> <p>On 27 September 2005 A re Ageng was invited to the first meeting of the establishment of a provincial Treatment Action Campaign (TAC) structure in the Province. This came as a result of engagement at national level between COSATU and TAC. It was noted that once the groundwork has been done the structure will be launched and that the provincial government will be approached for funding.</p> <p>Sixteen days of Activism for non-violence against women and children</p> <p>On 25 – 26 November 2005 the national campaign on sixteen days of Activism for non-violence against the vulnerable groups was launched. Locally SANGOCO and COSATU organized a successful march and exhibition at the Crossing Shopping Centre. The march took place on Saturday 26 November from Mega City to the Crossing Shopping Centre. A re Ageng took part in the two day activities.</p>
<p>3. Constituencies able to collaborate in terms of policy review and monitoring socio-economic development</p>	<p>Conduct Charter Summits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mining - Financial - Tourism - Agriculture 	<p>This was not achieved because of insufficient funding raised, however research phase completed to provide the basis for discussions at the Indaba scheduled for the</p>

		following financial year.
4. To enhance internal and external communication	Establish effective communication with government and stakeholders.	<p>Able to streamline communications with constituencies.</p> <p>New Sector members and names have been received from Nactu and Fedusa to the Forum.</p> <p>The Forum had also received names from the Municipalities to partake in the cluster dialogues.</p> <p>Reporting lines to the Hon. Premier, Economic Development Infrastructure (EDI) and Policy and Planning, together with SALGA had been streamlined.</p>
5. Building institutional capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appointment of office staff • Develop policies and procedures and • Office Space • Office equipment • Financial systems 	<p>The Forum appointed an Office Manager who resumed duty on 1 June 2005. Immediate responsibilities included developing systems as outlined in the strategic plan and rolling out the implementation of the strategic plan. Also developing human resource needs framework.</p> <p>Three staff members were engaged in the following positions: Administration and co-ordination of cluster and research, management and forum meetings and marketing of the Forum.</p> <p>The Forum acquired offices at Old Mutual Building. 1st floor Office No. 26 from May 2005.</p> <p>Office systems</p> <p>The Forum's policies were</p>

		<p>approved by Management namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial policy with inputs from Government Internal Audit Office and Policy and Planning, Office of the Premier. • Human Resources Strategy and policy • HIV and AIDS policy • Procurement Strategy <p>Office equipment</p> <p>New furniture was acquired for the new offices. A teleconferencing facility had been installed in the office. An additional computer and printer had been brought.</p>
6. Professional Services	To identify and appoint service providers to facilitate and conduct research for the forum and to fast track the proposed Indaba.	<p>Black Dragon Services were engaged to organize the BBBEE Sectors Charters Indaba.</p> <p>Mr. Seymour Williams from Mafikeng Municipality services were engaged to assist with the human resources analysis needs. Work plans were developed and skills analyses were attached to the individual plans.</p>
7. Workshops	To enhance and strengthen relations with strategic partners.	<p>The Forum participated in several conferences in an effort to market and strengthens relations with relevant stakeholders. The conferences and workshops and meetings attended:</p> <p>1. The North West</p>

		<p>Communication Lekgotla: 20 – 22 April 2005</p> <p>The North West Communications Lekgotla was organized to enable delegates to understand communication strategy and be able to align their own organizational strategies.</p> <p>2. IDC Black Economic Empowerment Conference in Mafikeng – 28 April 2005</p> <p>The Forum participated in the IDC BEE Conference which was held at Mmabatho Convention Centre. The purpose of the conference was to create a platform for the IDC through its different strategic business units and departments to share on funding opportunities for SMMEs.</p> <p>3. Southern District Municipality Growth and Development Summit.</p> <p>The Klerksdorp District Municipality convened their growth and development summit on the 22 April 2005. The forum participated in the event.</p> <p>4. Participation in the Monetary and Policy Forum :26 May 2005</p> <p>The objective of the Monetary Policy is to enhance the transparency of the banks’</p>
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		<p>monetary policy decision-making process and the accountability of the central bank of to the public.</p> <p>5. Social Development Indaba process.</p> <p>The Department of Social Development is planning to host a social development Indaba. A re Ageng and SANGOCO have developed a discussion document which will form part of the base document. A re Ageng serves on the Task Team.</p> <p>6. Provincial Growth and Development Coordinating Forum meetings.</p> <p>The Forum participated in the meetings that was convened by the coordinator of the PGDS and facilitated a process for inputs from constituencies which were incorporated in the final document.</p> <p>7. Provincial Consultative Conference on APRM: 24 Nov 2005 at Rustenburg Civic Centre.</p> <p>The purpose of this conference was to produce a draft report as an input to the national consultative conference.</p> <p>8. Executive Council Lekgotla – 31 Jan – 01 Feb 2006</p> <p>9. Opening of Legislative – 10 February 2006</p>
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		<p>10. Breakfast and interaction with the Premier of NW Province - 11 February 2006</p> <p>The purpose was the interaction with the Premier on issues relating to the state on the state of the provincial address, views and concerns investors have in the province.</p> <p>11. Special sitting of legislature – Hon. Deputy President address – 17 March 2006.</p>
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6. Treasurer’s report

Highlights

A re Ageng wish to express our gratitude for the continued support that is being provided by the Office of the Premier and the Internal Audit Department.

The office appointed bookkeepers and secured the services of Gobodo Chartered Accountants to assist with financial management.

Challenges

The 2004 / 2005 financial year remained a huge challenge in terms of funding and meeting the Forum’s forecasted budget. At the Annual Convention it was resolved that in order for the Forum to effectively deliver on the dialogue processes, the Clusters need to meet on bi-monthly basis. The biggest challenge with this was that it costs an average of R24 000.00 to successfully convene one cluster dialogue meeting, and with the current

budget constraints we are unable to successfully implement this resolution.

For the next financial year the forum will seek sponsors to fund the external clusters dialogues.

Constituencies Contribution

All Constituencies contributed by making the time and expertise of members freely available. The Forum further expresses its gratitude to Sangoco North West for the venue and ongoing assistance given to the Forum.