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NW PROVINCIAL TREASURY SATISFIED WITH PROGRESS ON BAS.

The provincial Basic Accounting System (BAS) Support team visited all the 11 departments during the month of June 2010 to identify the implementation challenges and progress to date in the running of BAS system in the respective Departments.

The team was satisfied with progress made to date since the implementation of the system on 01 April. Although there are still challenges regarding, amongst others payment backlogs to creditors and registration thereof, there has been heartening progress registered in that regard. Additional people were appointed at the provincial supply chain management unit to fast track the backlogs.

“As the Provincial Treasury we are satisfied with the progress registered since the migration from WALKER to BAS. Departments have been requested to identify all the invoices that have not being paid so far and make special effort to process payment immediately. Any goods and services procured now onwards need to be paid within the timeframe specified by Public Finance Management Act,” said Mabe.

“When we implemented the new accounting system it was perceived to be difficult to work on, until the users realized that the training offered afforded them an opportunity to work on BAS with ease. It must be noted that the whole country has been using BAS and we are the last cow to come into the kraal. The training will continue until we are satisfied as a province that almost all the users are able to work on BAS. It must also be noted that all 12 departments’ budgets were successfully loaded on BAS as expected,” she added.

Mabe further called on departments to desist from using BAS as an excuse for outstanding payments dating as far back as 2008, saying some service providers had not been paid long before the implementation of the system.

“There are officials who for reasons known to them would make suppliers wait long before processing their payments. This is totally unacceptable and would like to remind such officials to desist from this attitude of compromising service delivery to our people. ”

Departments have approached treasury to extend the training to regional offices. The training of users at regional office will put them on *par* with their colleagues at their various head-offices.

Mabe reiterated that the implementation of BAS as the new financial accounting in the Province system must be facilitated in relation to the implementation of government priorities as a point of departure for government`s program of action in addressing the needs of the people. She said the uniform system will improve provincial treasury’s role of monitoring and evaluation of the spending of government funds at the provincial level.

Service providers who have not updated their details on the system are encouraged to visit the nearest CCP/ Supply Chain management unit to update their details. Failure to do so would result in their registration being put “on hold” and the system would reject them. This will delay

the processing of their payments. As Provincial Treasury we are committed to assisting departments to be in a better position to pay within 30 days for services rendered.

For more information please contact the Communication and Media Liaison directorate on 018 388 4254/ 3239

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