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National Commissioner Arthur Fraser brings a salient point across on the first day of the strategic session.

Modernization of DCS is critical towards shaping the future of corrections

National Commissioner Arthur Fraser has reiterated that the modernization of DCS is pressing as part of shaping the future of corrections in South Africa, since the entire agenda of government is about transformation.

ADDRESSING THE STRATEGIC PLANNING TASK team on Wednesday, 1 August 2018, at his second weekly briefing following the recent strategic planning session that ended on 20 July 2018, Commissioner Fraser said that the journey of change that DCS has embarked on must feature a step-by-step process.

The task team, led by the Chief Deputy Commissioner Strategic Planning, Joseph Katenga, has been hard at work, and briefed Mr Fraser on a proposed action plan as well as a high-level implementation plan. The team is required to consolidate all the strategic planning session outcomes of the eleven commissions by the end of August, and ensure a clear road map immediately thereafter.

It has been twelve days since the building blocks for this process were gathered at Kopanong Hotel, and since then the task team has been shaping these into plans about how the process is going to unfold. An underpinning conviction remains that a brighter future for corrections in South Africa can be built collectively, but fluid and creative mind-sets are required.



Senior managers warming up to the discussions.

Following a week's extensive and insightful deliberations with several government departments, and over 200 DCS senior managers, at Kopanong, the National Commissioner has reiterated his view that an essential element of a

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Deputy Minister Thabang Makwetla listens attentively to the Directors-General of sister departments.

more sustainable future lies in the ability with which DCS collaborates and integrates its services with other government departments.

Should DCS be able to successfully lead others on this path, South Africa will be a better place for all. The journey has begun, although the planning leaders recognise that short and medium-term gains are needed in order to sustain momentum.

A framework that directorates can utilise to kick-start or strengthen immediate collaboration with sister departments could be one of the quick-wins which will also have long-term gains. DCS is uniquely placed to pioneer best practices, as it is a mini-society in one department. Think of exponentially growing agricultural productivity on DCS farm land when co-developing projects with the Department of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries (DAFF). Imagine the beauty of upcoming previously disadvantaged farmers working alongside parolees to build a future for our land, together with support from both DCS and DAFF.

The time has come for the agents of change among us to stand up and declare that they're not asking what the department can do for them, but what they can do for the department. Together, let us move South Africa forward!



correctional services

Department:
Correctional Services
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA