

# BUSA NEWS BULLETIN



From far right: J Mabuza, T Cohen & M Kingston at the Media Round Table

## BUSA Launches Business Approach to Black Economic Transformation

Following the finalization of the Approach by the Economic Transformation Think Tank, and the BUSA Policy Committees, it was endorsed by the BUSA Board and membership.

The paper was externally launched at a Media Roundtable on 27 June 2017. BUSA President, Vice President and CEO gave background and detail to the Approach before interacting with the media representatives. BUSA President highlighted that the Approach was about 'business speaking to itself' on the need to transformation, taking the lead being 'imaginative' about creating new businesses and wealth.

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Media representatives at the Round

# BUSA membership & stakeholder engagement

## 106th International Labour Conference

The International Labour Organisation held its 106<sup>th</sup> International Labour Conference in Geneva. BUSA was represented by:

- Mthunzi Mdwaba – Governing Body Member
- Tanya Cohen – Committee on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work (recurrent discussion)
- Bev Jack – Committee on Employment and Decent Work in Peace and Resilience
- Sifiso Lukhele - Committee on the Application of Standards
- Motsamai Motlhamme - Committee on Labour Migration (General discussion)

The International Labour Conference (ILC) is the ILO's highest decision-making body, meeting annually bringing together the tripartite delegations from 187 Member States. The ILC comprises of plenary and of technical committees that set conclusions, standards or monitor standards on Governing Body identified social justice and employment related issues.

The BUSA delegation represented South African business and took leadership roles in the four main committees to the ILC, and related activities and events. A full report from the BUSA team has been distributed to Socpol and is available on request.



BUSA delegation at the 106<sup>th</sup> ILC



T Cohen presenting at the ILC

# MEMBER UPDATES

**Notice of the BUSA AGM** – Notice of the AGM scheduled to take place on 20 July 2017 from 13h00-15h00 has been distributed to members this week. Member representatives are requested to please diarise the date and RSVP to Nomaza Spelman, alternative complete the required proxy form.

**BUSA and BBC in Nedlac** - There was a constructive meeting held on 26 June 2017 between the leadership of the two organisations, where it was agreed that a cohesive business voice was needed, particularly in the current context. Both organisations agreed that BBC should not be represented through BUSA at Nedlac, as BBC should participate on their own accord. The status of BBC's standing in Nedlac, however, remains unresolved.

**ANC Policy Conference** – The BUSA was represented at the ANC Presidential Dinner on 29 June 2017, along with many BUSA members.

**BUSA CCMA Web-site for SMEs gets the Green Light** - The BUSA SME action plan identified, among a number of other actions, that credible, accessible information to SMEs on labour relations matters would be very helpful for SMEs. To this end, BUSA identified an effective tool that could provide an online, accessible, free of charge service targeted at SMEs, but openly accessible. BUSA has secured funding through the Employment Promotion Project for the development of a web-site tool that will provide practical guidance to SMEs on labour requirements and processes e.g. contracts of employment, how to submit UIF claims, how to deal with disciplinary enquiries and the like. The material development and implementation will be done in partnership with the CCMA, and is due for completion by February 2018. A first focus group for SMEs and BUSA member organisations of SMEs to participate in identifying the issues to be covered on the web-site is scheduled for 10 July 2017 10h00-13h00 at BUSA's offices. RSVPs should be made to Nomaza Spelman in this regard. Members are requested to get actively involved in identifying their needs in this regard.

**National Minimum Wage and Labour Relations Stability Processes** – The draft NMW Bills have been tabled with Nedlac for negotiation, and the task team has been revived to consider the Bill with reference to the February agreement. The Labour Relations Stability texts are completed and are with the State Law Advisors.

**Nedlac Summit 2017 – Corruption and Good Governance** - The Nedlac Summit is scheduled for 8 September 2017 and the identified topic will focus on corruption and good governance. Please save the date. Invitations to in this regard will go out to members in due course.

**Eskom Deviation Request** - On 24 May 2017, BUSA submitted comments to NERSA on ESKOM's application to deviate from certain requirements of the MYPD methodology and MIRT. BUSA intends to present its views to the Public Hearings on 7 July 2017.

**11th WTO Ministerial Conference:** will be taking place from 11-14 December 2017 in Buenos Aires, Argentina. BUSA, through Nedlac, has been asked to nominate a representative to represent South African business as part of the South African delegation. BUSA will be represented at the event by Dr John Purchase, CEO of AGBIZ and Convenor for Business in the Nedlac Trade & Industry Chamber.

## CONSTITUENCY CAPACITY BUILDING AND ADVOCACY WORKSHOPS



BUSA membership & stakeholder engagement

BUSA secured funding from the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) for Constituency Capacity Building and Advocacy (CCBA). Through this funding, BUSA is holding a series of workshops to engage with business on the National Skills Development Plan (NSDP). The current NSDP has been extended to 2020.

The workshops explore what the NSDP has proposed, how business has responded to date, and the differences between Version 1 and Version 2 of the NSDP. After the first release of the document for public consultation, 122 organisations submitted inputs to DHET and a number of changes were made to the plan. BUSA was one of the key respondents. The process is ongoing and BUSA is conducting workshops to bring participants up to date but to also to discuss with a view to getting inputs from BUSA members.

The NSDP provides oversight for the whole system. Interesting input is being received from the workshops. For example, the emphasis in the proposed NSDP is on the public system but businesses prefer that the private provision also be retained. Many companies do not use public TVETs as there are challenges with the curricula, management and staff at these colleges.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- 4 July** - NAMA and NTBS Task Team
- 5 July** – Inaugural COIDA Bill Task Team meeting
- 6 July** - Trade and Industry Chamber
- 10 July** - BUSA SME Focus Group Meeting
- 12 July** - Perishable Products Export Control Bill Task Team
- 13 July** – Teselico
- 14 July** - NSDP and SETA Landscape Task Team Meeting
- 18 July** – BUSA CCBA Durban Workshop
- 20 July** – BUSA AGM

# Important Notices

## **SPECIAL THANKS ARE EXTENDED TO**

- Participants in the BUSA Economic Think Tank, and the members of the Policy Committee Working Group, BUSA Board and participating members for their contribution to the Business Approach to Black Economic Transformation for Inclusive Growth.
- Ms Bev Jack who will be stepping down from her role as Deputy Chair of Sub Committee of Education and Training effective immediately. Her contribution has been invaluable to the committee and BUSA at large. She will continue to participate as a member of the committee. A Call for Nominations to serve as the SubCET Deputy Director will be circulated to the Social Policy Standing Committee in replacement.

## **CONDOLENCES**

BUSA paid tribute to Ronald Bernickow (Bernie) who passed away on 26 June 2017 after a long illness. Many in the BUSA family have worked with Bernie for many years where he built our trust, respect and friendship. His most recent contribution was as chairperson of the labour stability and national minimum wage task teams in Nedlac where he facilitated many difficult days and months of negotiations between the social partners.

*For enquiries, please contact Nomaza Spelman via email on [Nomaza.Spelman@busa.org.za](mailto:Nomaza.Spelman@busa.org.za) / 011 784 8000*

*Disclaimer: Whilst every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the information at the time of finalisation on this Bulletin, circumstances do change from time to time.*