

## **DG addresses concerned Durban service providers**

Public Works Director-General (DG) Mr Mziwonke Dlabantu has met with concerned service providers working with the Durban Regional Office of the Department of Public Works over late or non-payment for their services.

The DG was accompanied by the Department's Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Mr Cox Mogoro and the Deputy Director General (DDG): Regional Co-ordination Mr Butcher Matutle.

Service providers have accused the DPW of failing to pay them for services rendered within the prescribed 30-day period after the submission of invoices.

Mr Dlabantu's visit to the Durban Regional Office comes after the service providers staged a protest outside the office. The contractors led by their interim chairperson, Mr Sandile Ngwabe thanked the DG for attending to their grievances immediately after their protest.

In response, the DG promised the service providers that their issues will be speedily addressed. He also warned DPW officials who neglect their duties that they will be dealt with. He also urged service providers to submit all the required documentation on time to prevent delays in the processing of their payments.

DG Dlabantu also made a commitment that he and the CFO will meet with all the parties to check on progress.

Meanwhile, the Director-General also met with the staff in the region to discuss various matters ranging from disciplinary issues, Property Management Trading Entity (PMTE), the audit outcome, change management and fraud and corruption.

Staff members also voiced their concerns and challenges with the DG and got first-hand information on the developments in the Department.

Mr Dlabantu encouraged staff members to report any corrupt activities in the Department to him so that culprits can be apprehended.

For the staff visit session, the DG was accompanied by the DDG: Corporate Services, Mr Clive Mtshisa, CFO Mr Cox Mogoro, DDG: Regional co-ordination Mr Butcher Matutle and the Acting Chief Director: Communications and Marketing, Mr Vuyo Bavuma.