

SA's new ministers take oath of office

STAFF REPORTER

SOUTH Africa's new ministers and deputy ministers were sworn in on Friday night at the Presidential Guest House in Pretoria. Those who were already in the cabinet and changed portfolio did not need to be sworn in again.

Finance: Malusi Gigaba, 45.

Gigaba is viewed as a Zuma loyalist and close to the Guptas. Born in Eshowe, he attended Vryheid High, with academic qualifications in pedagogics and a Master's degree in social policy. He has no background in economics. Other cabinet positions he has held include minister of home Affairs and minister of public enterprises, as well as time served as deputy minister of home affairs.

He is a previous president of the ANC Youth League.

Gigaba replaces Pravin Gordhan.

Police: Fikile Mbalula, 45

Known as a fun-loving, well-travelled sports minister, he has previously served as a deputy minister of police. Mbalula has a Master's degree in economics. He is a previous secretary-general and president of the ANC Youth League. Most recently, he presided over the country's failed attempt to secure the 2022 Commonwealth Games to be hosted in Durban.

He replaces Nkosinathi Nhleko.

Home Affairs: Hlengiwe Mkhize, 65

Mkhize has been a member of Parliament since 2009. Briefly deputy minister for correctional services and more recently deputy minister of telecommunications and postal services, she previously served as ambassador to the Netherlands. She has a BA degree in psychology, social work and sociology (University of Zululand); BA Honours (psychology) and a Master's in clinical psychology from the University of Natal. She was a senior lecturer and researcher at Wits from 1990 until 1995. She was a founding member and trustee of the Children and Violence Trust, a board member of the SA Prisoners Organisation for Human Rights; a Truth and Reconciliation Commission commissioner; chairperson of the reparations and rehabilitation committee and chairwoman of the University of Zululand council and on the executive of the ANC Women's League.

Mkhize replaces Gigaba.

Public Works: Nkosinathi Nhleko, 50

Nhleko holds a diploma in labour law from the Graduate Institute of



Minister of Energy Mmamoloko Kubayi.

PICTURES: OUPA MOKOENA



Minister of Transport Joe Maswanganyi.



Minister of Communications Ayanda Dlodlo.



Minister of Tourism Tokozile Xasa.

Management and Technology. His career includes serving as the head of the anti-corruption unit in the Department of Public Service and Administration, and as deputy manager for uMhlathuze Municipality.

He is the former regional commissioner for the Department of Correctional Services in KwaZulu-Natal. Nhleko was previously director-general in the Department of Labour. Nhleko replaces Thulas Nxesi.

Communications: Ayanda Dlodlo, 55

Dlodlo was previously deputy minister of public service and administration and served as an adviser to President Jacob Zuma in 2009 and 2010. She left South Africa at the age of 18 to join the ANC's military wing uMkhonto weSizwe (MK) in Angola and received military intelligence training in Moscow in 1984 and 1985. She later studied marine and shipping management in the UK.

Dlodlo returned to South Africa in 1994 and worked for Telkom, Portnet and Sanlam, holding various positions such as human resources, transport, strategic information and industrial relations. She is a former secretary-general of the uMkhonto

weSizwe Military Veterans' Association.

Dlodlo replaces Faith Muthambi.

Sport and Recreation: Thembelanie Thulas Nxesi, 58

He was previously minister of public works who had to deal with the Nkandla saga. Opposition parties accused him of trying to mislead Parliament on the costs of Nkandla. He has also served as deputy minister of rural development and land reform.

He holds a BA degree from the University of Fort Hare, a Bachelor of Education from the University of the Witwatersrand and a higher diploma in education from Unisa. He was a secretary-general of the South African Democratic Teachers' Union. Prior to this, Nxesi was a teacher at Ikusasa Senior Secondary School in Tembisa.

Nxesi replaces Fikile Mbalula.

Tourism: Tokozile Xasa, 52

She has been promoted from deputy minister, a post she has held since 2009. Originally a teacher, Xasa became a councillor and mayor of the Kei District Council. She was a member of the provincial executive council of social development in the

Eastern Cape between 2005 and 2009. She has served on the national executive of the ANC Women's League. Xasa holds a Bachelor in public administration and psychology and a Master's in public administration. Xasa replaces Derek Hanekom.

Public Service and Administration: Faith Muthambi

Previously minister of communications. Fiercely loyal to President Jacob Zuma, she protected the SABC chief operating officer Hlaudi Motsoeneng and interfered in the work of the broadcaster's board. She was an ANC whip on the communications portfolio committee and one of the seven ANC MPs nominated for the ad hoc committee to consider Zuma's submissions on the public protector's report on his Nkandla home. She has been blamed for the country's delay in moving from analogue to digital TV. Muthambi holds a BProc degree. Muthambi replaces Ngoako Ramatlhodi.

Energy: Mmamoloko Kuyayi

This ministry is key to Zuma's plans for the country to go for a nuclear build programme. The former minister Tina Joemat-Peterson,

was fired for taking too long on the deal and for favouring renewable energy options. Kubayi, a Zuma loyalist, was the ANC proportional representative from 2006 to 2009 in the City of Johannesburg and also the chairperson of the portfolio committee on transport during the same period. She also served in the ANC Youth League as a provincial executive council (PEC) member in Gauteng. She read for a BA through Vista University from 1998 to 2000 and a project management diploma through Damelin in 2002. She also served as the chairperson of the portfolio committee of telecoms and postal services.

She replaces Tina Joemat-Peterson.

Transport Joseph Maswananyi, 51

Not much is known about Maswananyi. Born in Malamulele (Giyani), Limpopo, he trained as a teacher and has a BA from Unisa. He has long served in various portfolios in the Limpopo provincial executive. Since 2015 he has served as a member of the committee on transport and the auditor-general in the National Assembly.

He replaces Dipuo Peters.