Media Statement by Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure, Patricia de Lille, MP

DPWI mourns the passing of Dr Mhlawumbe Francis Nzama - Council member of the South African Council for the Landscape Architectural Profession

Today, Dr Francis Mhlawumbe Nzama, a council member of the South African Council for the Landscape Architectural Profession (SACLAP) - one of the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure's professional bodies was laid to rest.

It was with great sadness that we learnt of Dr Nzama’s passing on 5 August. He was 64 at the time of his death.

On behalf of myself, the Deputy Minister and the department, I wish to extend my heartfelt condolences to the family, colleagues and friends of Dr Nzama.

We wish them strength and comfort during this time and we are forever grateful for Dr Nzama’s contribution to the SACLAP.

Dr Nzama was appointed He was appointed to serve on 5th SACLAP Council as a public representative member by former Minister of Public Works in August 2017. The 4 year term of office was effective 1 September 2017 to 31 August 2021.

He was elected as the Chairperson of the SACLAP Finance Committee at the first meeting of Council on 20th October 2017. A position he held until his passing.
Dr Nzama was also a member of the SACLAP Education Committee.

He also served in various capacities in the National Department of Education for over 37 years and served on numerous boards and trusts.

Dr Nzama was a Mathematics Education Specialist as well as a Human Resources Development expert.

He held numerous degrees from the University of Hull in the United Kingdom, Rand Afrikaans University, the University of the Free State and UNISA.

Dr Nzama was an avid scholar and never stopped studying despite having attained a PhD. At the time of his death he was pursuing an MBA at MANCOSA.

Colleagues have paid tribute Dr Nzama as a humble and unassuming man who was very passionate about the welfare of staff at SACLAP.

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