

BRANCH: INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT SERVICES

CHIEF DIRECTORATE: OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY

Webinar:
Draft Physical Agents Regulations

PRESENTER: BULELWA HUNA



employment & labour

Department:
Employment and Labour
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Introductory remarks

- ILO estimates that 4% of the world's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is lost due to accidents and work-related diseases.
- The economic costs of poor occupational health and safety practices affects both the employer and the employee:
 - ✓ Employer – medical and rehabilitation costs
 - ✓ Employee – loss of income

DEL has never accepted the proposition that injury and disease “go with the job”



Introductory remarks

- June 2019 - ILO Centenary Declaration adopted & declared that "safe and healthy working conditions are fundamental to decent work"
- 10 June 2022 - All constituencies agreed to the decision that safety and health at work is a fundamental right
 - Technical  Fundamental conventions:
 - C 155 – Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981 (No. 155)
 - C187 – Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 2006



Decent Work

- Significance of decent work:
 - Ensuring safety and health at work is indispensable as all preventative measures need to be in place to address hazards attached to any work in a particular environment.
 - Fundamental principles and rights at work
 - Commitment to significant health & safety improvement beyond meeting legal requirements



Approach

Proactive and preventive:

- ✓ Improvement on ERW of 1987 and thus align with technological advances
- ✓ Alignment with all OHH regulations
- ✓ Improvements include new requirements on :
 - Thermal stress
 - Illumination
 - Indoor air quality
 - Vibration
 - Non-ionizing radiation
- ✓ Inclusion of vulnerable employees and gender specific aspects on:
 - information, instruction and training and
 - risk assessment
- ✓ Control of exposure to physical agents
- ✓ Expanded on medical surveillance
- ✓ Keeping of records



Approach

- The Department of Employment and Labour's scope of application is prescribed in the OHS Act
 - ✓ All regulations promulgated in terms of the OHS Act apply only the sectors in sectors which fall under the OHS Act
- This draft is only a draft and not applicable yet
- This is not a training session, only an awareness session of the new draft so individuals/ organizations can make informed comments and suggestions
- Comments submitted in this webinar will not be considered by the TC, only comments emailed on the prescribed form will be accepted



TAKE HOME MESSAGE

Proactive & preventative approach supports sustainable Development Goals



OHS supports business continuity & the response to:

- ✓ SDG 3 – NDP outcome 2 – long and healthy life for South Africans
- ✓ SDG 8 - NDP outcome 4 – decent employment through inclusive economic growth



TAKE HOME MESSAGE

NDP, AGENDA 2063 AND SDGs

Long term plans that provide a shared development vision for all stakeholders within the country, in the continent and the world



NDP VISION 2030

Fight poverty, inequality and unemployment



AFRICA AGENDA 2063

Prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development



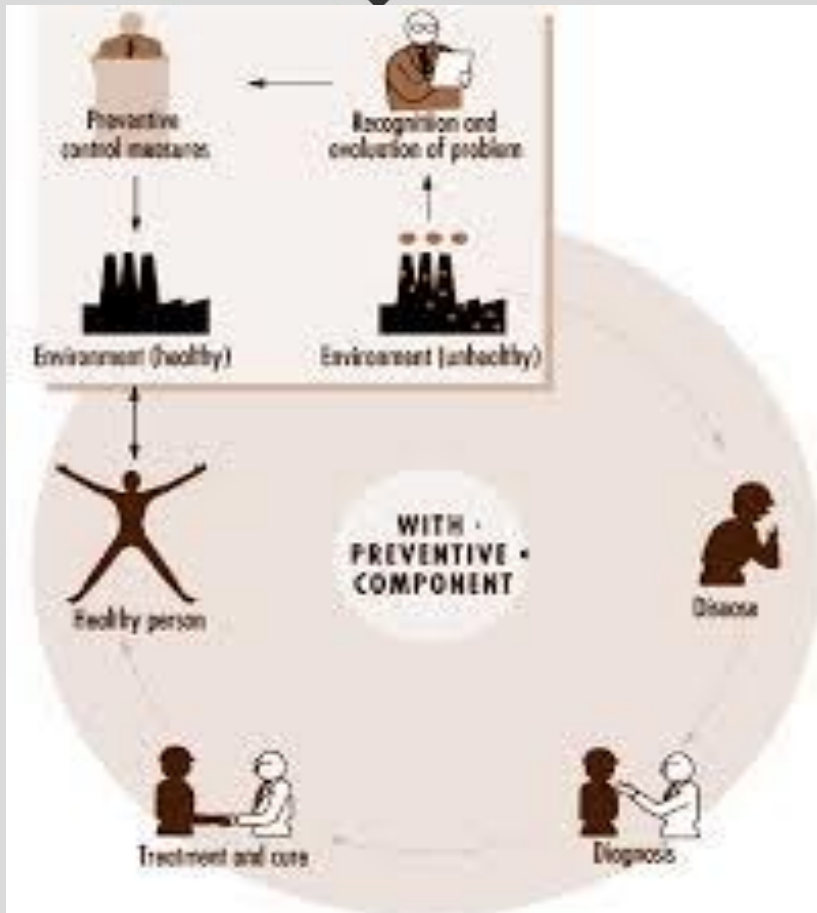
SDGs 2030

End poverty, protect the planet and ensure prosperity for all

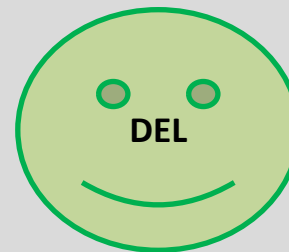
Mutually reinforcing agendas: Agenda 2063 focus also relate to the AU's Pan-African drive, African cultural identity, common heritage, values and ethics; the African Renaissance; and the strong focus on the security agenda



Take home message



ECONOMY



**REDUCED ACCIDENTS
REDUCED INJURIES
REDUCED OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES
IMPROVED QUALITY OF PRODUCTS/
SERVICES**

"IF YOU'RE GOING TO LIVE, LEAVE A
LEGACY. MAKE A MARK ON THE
WORLD THAT CAN'T BE ERASED."

— Maya Angelou



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References

1. ILO Encloypaedia
2. Rantanen J., Muchiri F. and Lehtinen S. (12 May 2020). Decent Work, ILO's Response to the Globalization of Working Life: Basic Concepts and Global Implementation with Special Reference to Occupational Health. Int. J. Environ. Res. Public Health 2020, 17, 3351.
3. Department of Employment and Labour. 1993. Occupational Health and Safety Act. South Africa¹⁰.
4. Decent Work and the Sustainable Development Goals: A Guidebook on SDG Labour Market Indicators.
5. The Presidency: National Planning Commission. National Development Plan, 2030.



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