

18 September 2015

## **SAE4D welcomes the appointment of members of the Presidential Working Group on Disability**

South African Employers for Disability (SAE4D) welcomes the appointment of the 45 members of the Presidential Working Group on Disability (PWGD) and congratulates the Presidency and the Department of Social Development on this initiative.

One of 11 Presidential Working Groups, the PWGD is tasked with enabling the Presidency to “champion and monitor the work of government departments and society in creating a better life for persons with disability.”

As a non-profit organisation constituted by employers who are committed to addressing issues confronting the integration of people with disabilities in the workplace, SAE4D calls on the PWGD to address those issues that hamper the full and equal participation of people with disabilities in our economy.

In order to gain greater insight into the challenges facing people with disabilities, SAE4D believes it is essential that the PWGD recommends and promotes regular updating and analysis of data relating to the population of people with disabilities in South Africa, particularly with regard to:

- Number of people with disabilities
- Employment trends for people with disabilities
- Economically active people with disabilities in the economy.

Other areas of research SAE4D believes should be promoted by the PWGD include:

1. Evaluation of the pipeline of people with disabilities moving through the basic and higher education systems; and their fields of study.
2. Progress and bottlenecks in the drive towards Inclusive Education.
3. Issues around mobility for people with disabilities including public transport accessibility and the affordability of private transport.

SAE4D wishes the PWGD well in their endeavours to accelerate the realisation of the socio-economic rights of people with disabilities, and looks forward to supporting and assisting the PWGD in any way possible.

Dr Jerry Gule  
Chairman, SAE4D