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# SWAZILAND GOVERNMENT GAZETTE EXTRAORDINARY

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## LEGAL NOTICE NO. 96 OF 2001

### THE FINANCE MANAGEMENT AND AUDIT ACT, 1967

(Act No. 18 of 1967)

### THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND REGULATIONS, 2001

(Under Section 12)

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 12 (4) of the Finance Management and Audit Act, 1967, the Minister for Finance hereby makes the following Regulations:

#### *Citation and Commencement*

1. (1) These Regulations may be cited as the Regional Development Fund Regulation, 2001, and are enacted after approval by resolution by the House of Assembly.

(2) These Regulations shall come in to force on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of August 2001.

#### *Objective of the Fund*

2. The objective of the fund is to alleviate and eventually eradicate poverty in each of the four regions of the Kingdom of Swaziland by initiating:

- (a) infrastructure improvements and service delivery, around which community commercial projects can be established;
- (b) viable commercial projects and/or schemes which will create jobs and generate income to sustain and further develop numerous Swazi families within each region at grassroots level.

#### *Administration of the Fund*

3. (1) The Fund shall be administered on the following basis:

- (a) at regional level, there shall be a projects committee of not more than twenty persons, consisting of two Chiefs, the Member of Parliament of that particular region, the Regional Administrator and the Regional Secretary or his duly appointed representative;
- (b) the Regional Administrator shall be the Chairman of the Projects Committee and the Regional Secretary shall be the Secretary;
- (c) if for any reason the substantive Chairman is unable to preside over a meeting of the Committee, the Committee shall choose a Chairman for the day from amongst the Members present; and
- (d) Regional Projects Committee Members shall be appointed by the Deputy Prime Minister and serve on such terms and conditions as he may determine.

(2) The Regional Projects Committee shall consider applications for funding from bona fide Swazi organized groups, Associations or Communities.

(3) Applications for funding of projects will initially be certified at Chiefdom level, through the Inner Council (Bandlancane), prior to submissions to the respective Inkhundla Committee for consideration and approval and subsequent submission to the Regional Projects Committee.

(4) Applications from each Inkhundla shall be submitted to the Regional Projects Committee by its Member of Parliament for consideration and approval through the office of the Secretary, with three supporting signatures of the Member of Parliament, Indvuna yeNkhundla and Bucopho's representative.

(5) In the execution of its task, the Inkhundla Council and the Regional Projects Committee shall receive assistance from technical staff as is available from Government Ministries, Non-Governmental Organizations and other Agencies.

(6) A maximum of E10 million shall be available to each region at the commencement of the operation of the Fund, and thereafter on an equal basis per region from whatever funds are available each financial year.

(7) A project in excess of E100,000 shall include a contribution by the benefiting association or community of at least 10% of the investment cost (in kind or cash).

(8) The funds will be disbursed strictly in accordance with the Government accounting policy and procedures, except where the Minister of Finance has authorized a variation thereto, taking into account any special circumstances warranting such variation as recommended by the Deputy Prime Minister's Office.

(9) The funds shall be disbursed by the Accountant General, after approval by the office of the Deputy Prime Minister, directly to the suppliers of goods and services.

(10) These Funds shall finance projects or schemes which have no recurrent cost implications for Government.

(11) The Principal Secretary in the Deputy Prime Minister's Office shall be responsible for ensuring that projects approved by Regional Projects Committees conform to all the provisions of these Regulations and shall be responsible for accounting and reporting on the Fund.

#### *Monitoring of the Fund*

4. The Principal Secretary in the Deputy Prime Minister's Office shall be responsible for the monitoring and reporting on the activities of the Fund to the Principal Secretary in the Ministry of Finance by submitting quarterly reports on a regional basis and on a consolidated basis.

#### *Auditing of the Fund*

5. The Fund shall be audited by the Auditor General in accordance with Government Regulations.

#### *Effect on existing Projects and/or Schemes*

6. (1) Projects and/or schemes which have been approved under the Regional Development Fund Regulations, 2000 (issued under Legal Notice No. 101 of 2000) shall, from the date of commencement of these Regulations, be administered as if they had been approved under these Regulations.

(2) The provisions of sub-Regulation (1) shall not be construed as creating any additional obligation on a project or scheme referred to in that sub-Regulation.

*Revocation of Legal Notice No. 101 of 2000*

7. The Regional Development Fund Regulations, 2000, are hereby revoked.

MESHACK M. L. SHONGWE  
*Acting Principal Secretary*

MBABANE  
24 July, 2001