



MEDIA STATEMENT

DWS responds to calls by OUTA and WSSA for an independent water regulator

23 January 2019

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) has noted the recent calls made by Organisation Undoing Tax Abuse (OUTA) and Water Shortage South Africa (WSSA) for an establishment of an independent water regulator.

It is government's resolve to advocate for civil society organisations to work with government and make meaningful inputs that will assist government to effectively implement its policies for the benefit of the public.

Whilst noting the advocacy, we wish to advise OUTA and WSSA to revisit the 2018 Budget Vote Speech delivered by Minister Gugile Nkwinti in the National Assembly on 22 May.

As part of his Five Pillar Turnaround Strategy, Minister Nkwinti announced that one of his marching orders would be the establishment of a National Water Resources and Services Regulator for South Africa. In addition to this, Minister Nkwinti further announced, as part of his turnaround strategy for the department, the following:

- National Water Resources and Services Authority
- Water Resources and Services Value Chain
- Water Resources and Services Master Plan
- Institutional Rationalisation and Organisational Alignment

This is part of an ongoing work that the department and the entire water sector is seized with, and working with all stakeholders in the sector, this vision will be realized.

End

Issued by the Department of Water & Sanitation

For more information contact Sputnik Ratau, Spokesperson for the Department of Water and Sanitation on 082 874 2942

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