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South African Council for Educators (SACE) on youth month

During the month of June and in particular on June 16, South Africans from all walks of life will once again remember the contribution that was made by the young people of our country towards the establishment of a democratic dispensation in South Africa. The educational sector in conjunction with other formations was instrumental in ensuring the emergence of better socio-economic and educational systems.

It is without question that youth make up an integral part of our society and therefore has a role to play in the consolidation of our democratic gains and the development of society in general. This on its own makes it critical for the South African Council for Educators (SACE) to consider the strategic importance of the youth, as well as the role they have to play in the development of our country.

This view is informed by the fact that the young people are leaders of tomorrow, and as such they are hereby urged to associate themselves with processes that are linked to our future as a nation.

The South African Council for Educators (SACE) is a statutory body that regulates the teaching profession, promotes the development of educators and upholds the image of the teaching profession. SACE has a particular interest in the profession of teaching, and this makes it important for us to continuously address issues affecting the teaching profession and educators. The Council places emphasis on the professional character of teaching, as well as the ethics which individuals involved in this profession must adhere to.

It is becoming increasingly obvious that the issues of education cannot be confined to the afore-mentioned matters only. We also have to address matters pertaining to the recruitment of more educators in this sector. Thus, SACE would like to mark the Youth Day and Month by urging the youth of our country to begin to consider joining the ranks of the teaching profession. This will enable us to deal with the looming teacher shortage, and will also improve the quality of education that will

consequently impact on the type of learner that is produced by the education system and ultimately the calibre of our future leaders.

A better educational dispensation will have a positive effect on other sectors including the development of our economy. Obviously, better education is bound to produce professionals who will excel in their various disciplines.

SACE is convinced that the role of young people in our country is very critical to the building of a better education system. South Africa needs the involvement of young people in the various activities and processes that are currently taking place in the country. Undoubtedly, education is a discipline that should be considered seriously by our youth, because education is a foundation of society, the source of our existence, and our future while the youth is the future

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