

MEDIA RELEASE

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AGSA celebrates strides made in delivering on its targets and the culture shift strategy

Cape Town – Auditor-General Tsakani Maluleke, on Friday, 1 November 2024, presented the Auditor-General of South Africa's (AGSA) 2023-24 integrated annual report to the standing committee on auditor-general (Scoag) in Parliament.

AG Maluleke congratulated her team for their performance during the 2023-24 financial year. "We have elevated our insights to help improve public sector accountability. These are some of the reflections contained in our report," said Maluleke.

The AGSA achieved 85% of its targets and received a clean audit opinion, demonstrating the importance of the organisation's adherence to the same standards it expects its auditees to adhere to.

The report is a review of the AGSA's performance against its strategic objectives and the audited financial statements for the financial year ended 31 March 2024, as required by the organisation's governing legislation, the Public Audit Act. Maluleke expressed her gratitude to the 3 933 members of team AGSA for their dedication and hard work in achieving its constitutional mandate.

In the year under review, the highlights include the following key achievements:

- Through-out the year we successfully conducted 945 regularity audits for auditees under the Public Finance Management Act and Municipal Finance Management Act.
- We have audited R3,7 trillion of government budget and produced insights that enable public sector oversight.

- Our culture shift strategy aims to deepen our insights to reflect the lived realities of citizens. To help guide our insight journey as an organisation, we developed our multiyear audit plan (MYAP), which will help guide our insights into critical areas of service delivery.
- The quality of our audit work is paramount, as it ensures the credibility of our audit opinions and our reputation. As at 30 November 2023, we achieved our objective of implementing the new International Standard of Quality Management (ISQM).
- Our capability as a supreme audit institution was demonstrated in the
 international arena when we were appointed as external auditors for the United
 Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (Unesco), the
 International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB) and the
 African Organisation of Public Accounts Committees (AFROPAC).
- Our trainee auditor scheme reached a milestone of producing 2 017 chartered accountants (CAs) since its inception. This is a proud hallmark of the AGSA legacy and our contribution to advancing the transformation and professionalisation of the audit sector in South Africa.
- We have developed our information and cybersecurity plan based on the adoption of the ISO 27001 framework, which allows for continuous assessment and improvement of our overall security posture.

The AGSA launched its culture shift strategy in 2021 with the intention of having a more direct, stronger and consistent impact on improving the lives of ordinary South Africans by improving the public sector culture through insight, influence and enforcement. Reflecting on these gains, Maluleke said, "when I envisaged our #cultureshift2030 strategy, my overall aim was to strengthen democratic values and principles by shifting the public sector culture to a state where it is consistently characterised by performance, accountability, transparency and integrity, as experienced by the citizens of South Africa. At the heart of this ambition lies the important principle of trust."

The AGSA is proud of its achievements in the year under review and remains committed to carrying out its constitutional mandate impartially, without fear, favour or prejudice, as South Africa's supreme audit institution.

End.

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