

Date: 03/08/2023

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## **SASL APPROVED AS 12<sup>TH</sup> OFFICIAL LANGAUGE**

- President Cyril Ramaphosa has on 19 July 2023, signed into law the South African Sign Language (SASL) Bill, recognising it as the 12<sup>th</sup> official language to realise the rights of persons who are deaf or hard of hearing. South Africa is the 4<sup>th</sup> country on the Continent to recognise sign language in line with Kenya, Zimbabwe and Uganda.
- SASL is indigenous as an important element of SA linguistic and cultural heritage. It has its own distinct grammatical structures and lexicon and independent of any other language. The new legislation seeks to advance the cultural acceptance of SASL, ensure the realisation of the rights of persons who are deaf and hard of hearing to equal protection and benefit of the law and human dignity and promote inclusive and substantive equality, and prevent or eliminate unfair discrimination on the grounds of disability, as per Section 9 of the Constitution.

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### **PLEASE TAKE NOTE: WE NEED YOUR SERVICES**

Are you a competent Sign Language Practitioner working in Cogta? If so, kindly contact Mr L. Bottoman, Director Human Resource Management on before the cut-off date on 09 August 2023.

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**Produced by the Directorate of Corporate Communication.**

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