

## **MEC for Finance and e-Government**

### **Member Statement: Introduction of the 4IR Panel**

#### **Introduction and Background**

It is axiomatic that Gauteng province requires an inclusive process to guide the modernisation agenda and ICT response with the full understanding of the challenges of poverty, inequality, and unemployment that underpin the National Development Plan (NDP) and Gauteng's 2030 Growing Gauteng Together Strategy.

Gauteng continues to embrace the modernization of government services and learn new ways of connecting with people, using data and processes. Government needs to regulate and create norms and standards to protect participants and beneficiaries of the 4IR.

Gauteng requires an organic provincial digital strategy, and actions that are suited to the economic hub, in the developing country context that is increasingly integrated into the global economy.

This means that we need a nuanced understanding of what 4IR represents for Gauteng province is most critical. The timing of the establishment of the Panel presents high opportunities for GPG during the COVID-19 pandemic. The introduction of measures to curb the spreads of the virus have necessitate the need for further collaboration of multiple stakeholders to redefine the response to societal challenges and forced institutions to relook at measures to bridge the digital divide and the underlying structural inequalities in the economy and society.

It is my pleasure to make this statement to announce that the Honourable Premier of Gauteng, Mr David Makhura has established 4IR Advisory Panel, mainly to support government in ensuring that citizens access modern government services.

## The Gauteng Provincial Government Approach

The Gauteng Department of e-Government will spearhead the provincial government's strategy to transform the provincial government, facilitate the adoption of new technologies and ensure that all Gauteng's citizens benefit from a modernised public service.

In responding to the 4IR challenges, the province should be more modernised, smarter and digitised to drive sustainable economic growth and prosperity for Gauteng citizens, businesses and government and to ensure service delivery. The economic growth of the province needs to be governed by the following pillars:

1. **Capitalising on new insights** by distilling insights from varied quantities and sources of information generated by day to day operations and public engagement, cities can establish holistic, city wide visibility across domains and create strategic planning based on these trends and results.
2. **Develop analytics and predictive capabilities** to proactively respond to situations, optimize infrastructure capacity, and improve strategic and operational decision making.
3. **Collaborating in new ways** by coordinating across city agencies and collaborating with citizens and all relevant stakeholders, the GPG can transform traditional work structures and enable a faster, more effective and efficient response.
4. **Improve communication and accountability to citizens** to enhance service delivery and better partnerships and community ownership.

These should be the basis of Gauteng's approach to the 4IR. The involvement of all role players in the provincial innovation ecosystem will be a major asset for the provincial government as it navigates through the emerging opportunities and risks of the 4IR.

The honourable Premier has appointed a (15) member panel, comprising representatives from academia, ICT industry experts, business sector leaders, labour and research institutions to lead and advise the executive

on the development and implementation of a comprehensive 4IR Strategy for the province.

The following persons are appointed in the Gauteng City Region 4IR Advisory Panel:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Surname</b>	<b>Designation</b>	<b>Sector and Category</b>
Lufuno	Marwala	Executive Director	Marwala Executive Consulting
Nazeer	Essop	Innovation Officer	Government and Public Services Lead-Deloitte
Teddy	Daka	Chief Executive Officer	Ansys Limited
Glenda	Kruss	Director: Centre of Science	Technology Innovation Indicators, HSRC
Rachel	Chikwamba	Executive Industrial Development	CSIR
Lesley	Williams	Chief Executive Officer	Wits Tshimologong Precinct
Samantha	Ngcolomba	Associate Director Founder Lady Liberty	Entrepreneurship Development Agency
Lillian	Barnard	MD	Microsoft SA
Vukosi	Marivate	University and Senior Lecture	University of Pretoria
Sifiso Nick	Khumalo	Senior Manager	MTN Group
Thomas	Mensah	President and CEO	Georgia Aerospace Systems
Paul	Mashegoane	CEO	Artificial Intelligence Group
Stafford	Masie	Computer Scientist and General Manager	We Work
Yolisa	Mashilwane	Head: Public Policy	Uber Technologies
Rapelang	Rabanna	Founder and Chairperson	Rekindle Learning

## The Advisory Panel:

- will be chaired by the Premier or His nominee, and
- will meet at least twice annually with the Executive Council to advise and report on progress in respect of the mandate set out in the Terms of Reference.

## The TORs for the Panel

The 4IR Advisory Panel will be at the forefront of delivering a provincial 4IR Strategy that responds to the social, economic and service needs of the citizens. A strategy that coalesces the inputs and contributions of various government departments and entities into a single response in order to make government more efficient, transparent and responsive to the needs of our people.

Specifically, the panel will identify policies, relevant strategies and plans required to make Gauteng respond efficiently to the 4IR, and further advise and make recommendations on:

- development of an integrated provincial strategy to respond to the 4IR. This will include detailed intervention to be carried out in achieving global competitiveness of the key economic sectors, including agriculture, finance, mining, manufacturing, ICT and electronics, and business with science, technology and innovations a cross cutting enabler;
- a provincial approach to the 4IR, innovation stimulation, support, partnership management and to contribute to the development of a Gauteng City Region wide 4IR strategy and roadmap;
- principles, processes, outputs, metrics and governance of the 4IR strategy and related programmes;
- research and skills development programmes to advance the 4IR;
- how to mobilise resources to support the 4IR interventions;
- make recommendations to enable relevant infrastructure for Gauteng Province to participate in the digital economy;
- make recommendations on approaches to address inclusivity and digital divide;
- make recommendations on interventions to enable entrepreneurship and SMME's to take advantage of the 4IR; and

- make recommendations on mechanisms to measure the impact of Interventions on the 4IR.

## **Method of Work**

The Panel:

- will align its activities to ensure alignment with the Tenth Pillar Transformation, Modernisation and Re-industrialisation Programme and the 2030 Growing Gauteng Together Initiative of the province;
- may report to the Executive Council and publish its reports at least once a year in consultation with the Premier;

## **CONCLUSION**

I have no doubt that this advisory panel has the expertise, vision and insight that will help us meet and surpass the challenges and opportunities that the Fourth Industrial Revolution provides us will be provided with the resources and teeth required if it is to avoid the same fate of units previously created with the aim of taking advantage of rapid advances in ICT.