

4 December 2020

To Whom It May Concern

Re: Letter of Introduction- Rapid Skills Assessment of reskilling and upskilling needs in response to the COVID-19 crisis in South Africa

The International Labour Organization (ILO) is implementing a project component under the AUC – AUDA (NEPAD) SIFA Programme to support the strengthening of skills anticipation systems in selected Member States of the African Union.

The objective of the ILO Project Component is to support identification and anticipation of skills as an integral part of national labour market information systems (LMIS) and to ensure more effective matching of skills supply to skills demand in the labour markets of targeted AU Member States. Interventions under this component will contribute towards the overall SIFA objective of enhancing the employability of the African youth.

However, as the COVID-19 virus pandemic continues to cause an unprecedented fall in economic activity globally, and a sharp rise in unemployment and underemployment, it has also exposed many workers not only to loss of employment but also to inequality in protection from its health, economic and social impacts

Against this background, the ILO is conducting a rapid assessment of targeted sectors with the view to identify the skill and labour shortages and surpluses resulting from the impact of the COVID 19 pandemic and to recommend effective reskilling and upskilling measures

This letter therefore serves to introduce Professor Hoosen Rasool of FR Research, commissioned by the ILO to undertake the rapid skills assessment in response to COVID 19 in South Africa.

Any assistance rendered to him as he undertakes this assignment will be highly appreciated.

Yours Sincerely

Joni Musabayana

Director: ILO Pretoria Office