

<b>MEDIA RELEASE</b>	PSA welcomes newly appointed NYDA Board: Calls for proper governance and prioritisation of youth agenda
<b>DATE</b>	28 July 2025
<b>EMBARGO</b>	None
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The Public Servants Association (PSA) welcomes the new National Development Youth Agency (NYDA) Board that was appointed by the President for three years in terms of the *National Youth Development Act of 2008*, from 1 August 2025.

The term of the current Board ended on 31 October 2024. The PSA noted with concern that the President appointed the Board four months after Parliament made recommendations of candidates for appointment to the Board. This delay was unfortunate and fuelled the perception that the NYDA and government do not take issues of corporate governance seriously. The NYDA faced criticism over the years, including financial mismanagement, unethical leadership, and irregular expenditure. Some critics of the NYDA were calling for its closure based on accusations of bias in that it only assisted politically connected young people. Many have pointed out that the NYDA is failing to address youth empowerment and employment. It has been widely reported that the NYDA has been used as a cash-cow for politicians since its inception, hence the dismal failure on its mandate.

The NYDA is failing to fulfil its mandate, which is to address the challenges faced by South African youth by promoting youth development programmes, supporting young entrepreneurs, and monitoring and evaluation of youth development intervention programmes. The PSA thus calls upon the new Board to immediately address the alleged poor governance, nepotism and abuse of power, financial mismanagement, negative perception, as well as ensuring consequence management. The PSA urges the Board to ensure that the NYDA develops programmes that are tangible to address the challenges faced by the youth, including unemployment, inequality, and poverty. The huge rate of unemployed graduates is concerning and should be prioritised.

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