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# TAC Eastern Cape and other NGOs urge Eastern Cape MEC for Health to cooperate with civil society and implement the NSP

By *moderator*

Created 2008/06/20 - 8:22pm

20 June, 2008 - 20:22 ? moderator

The Treatment Action Campaign, Cosatu, SACP, Amnesty international (SA) and the EC NGO coalition have tried to meet with the current MEC for Health in the Eastern Cape, Ms Jajula, since she took office in 2006 . Our numerous attempts to meet with her have all been met with rebuff; instead she has referred us to DDG Dr Diliza from clinical management services. Now, two years into her tenure as MEC, Mrs. Jajula is still not committed to meet with representatives from civil society.

The National Strategic Plan 2007-2011 is a collective plan that requires the participation of all stakeholders for its effective implementation. This cannot happen if the MEC for Health refuses to meet with EC civil society. Civil society's participation in the health plans and services for the Eastern Cape is being undermined. We are therefore concerned that the human rights of poor people will be violated.

We have identified the following as being key health issues in the Eastern Cape which require urgent discussion if we are to achieve the targets of the NSP:

- The accreditation of Primary health care facilities as ARV's sites
- The implementation of the revised PMTCT guidelines
- The finalisation of the human resources for health (HRH) plan for the Eastern Cape as well as the HRH retention plan
- The provision of post exposure prophylaxis (PEP) to rape survivors

We demand status reports outlining progress made on each of the four critical health initiatives listed above.

Signed by TAC, COSATU, the SACP, Amnesty International South Africa and the Eastern Cape NGOs Network. Please direct any comments related to the above Eastern Cape Civil Society media statement to:

- TAC Provincial chairperson ? Ms Portia Ngcaba 078 456 9102
- TAC Provincial Secretary- Mr Thabang Maseko 083 7373 180
- Cosatu Provincial Secretary - Mr Xola Phakathi 082 752 6504
- Eastern NGO coalition- Mr Mandisi Brukwe 043-7264014
- Amnesty international ? Nombasa Gxuluwe 082 640 5547

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Source URL (retrieved on 2018/03/21 - 10:40pm): <http://www.tac.org.za/community/node/2354>