



To All Media Houses

8 September 2024

Hon. Nthabiseng Garekoe elected Chairperson of the Women Multi-Party Caucus.

The Women Multi-Party Caucus of the Free State Legislature met to nominate and elect its Chairperson. In terms of Rule 236 of the Standing Rules and Orders of the Free State Legislature, the Multi-Party Caucus comprise of all women members of the Provincial Legislature, including Members of the Executive Council as well as a designated representative of the Speakers' Office. The Chairperson is elected from the ranks of the members. The Caucus has, amongst other things, the responsibility to consider all matters relating to women elected representatives.

During the meeting, Hon. Ntombizanele Sifuba, Member of the Executive Council for Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation, rose to nominate Hon. Nthabiseng Garekoe, and was seconded by Hon. Dibolelo Mance, Member of the Executive Council for Public Works and Infrastructure, as the Chairperson of the Multi-Party Caucus. The Chairperson was therefore elected unopposed. The Acting Speaker, Hon. Nolitha Ndungane congratulated the Chairperson and wished her well in the new role.

In her acceptance speech, Hon. Garekoe said: "Thank you to all members for the confidence shown in me. This is the responsibility I will not take lightly. Together with my fellow members, we will work hard to strengthen the Caucus and ensure that it is functional to lobby, influence, and advocate for women's rights in all key sites of our society."

"An activist legislature that champions democracy"

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