

The Role of Provincial Whips in ensuring effective coordination between Provincial Delegations and Provincial Legislatures

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Role of Whips in the NCOP

Responsible for the daily coordination and implementation of the NCOP constitutional mandate ie. Representing the country's provinces.

Political management

Daily coordination of the program of the NCOP and its Select Committees

Categories of Whips in the NCOP

Chief Whip of the NCOP

Provincial Whips

Programming Whip

Party Whips

Delegated Whips – Housing, Transport, Duty, Questions & Motions, Resources, Leave and Discipline

Provincial Whips

Ensure the NCOP maintains a strong link with provincial legislatures

De facto leader of provincial delegations in the absence of the Premier – therefore need to ensure their delegations have necessary support to carry out their responsibilities

Coordinate multi party delegations from their respective provinces, and feedback the NCOP program to the legislature

Assist Chief Whip in fulfilling their duties

Liaising with Provincial Legislatures regarding any matter of interest that should find expression in the work that the NCOP carries out

How best to realise these responsibilities

Constant communication with Provincial Legislatures, especially Chief Whip of legislatures and Office of the Premier/Leader of Government Business

Participate as much as possible in the work of the provincial legislature

Harness good working relationship between and amongst the delegation with the intention to work as a team on provincial matters

Plan ahead for all activities that cut across and affect members of the delegation

Conclusion

Provincial Whips play an integral part in ensuring the smooth running of the NCOP

The Program, content and activities that the NCOP carries out should rely heavily on matters that are processed from provinces

Balancing both the work that the NCOP and legislatures undertake is a skill that one should master in order to achieve this as well.