

## MEDIA STATEMENT

TO: All media

ATTENTION: News Editors/ Reports

For Immediate use:

22 April 2022

### DHET STATEMENT ON NON-REGISTRATION OF NATIONAL DIPLOMA OF DENTAL TECHNOLOGY GRADUATES BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN DENTAL TECHNICIANS COUNCIL

The Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) is concerned about the dilemma facing graduates from the Tshwane University of Technology (TUT), Durban University of Technology (DUT) and Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT) who have completed their National Diploma in Dental Technology and unable to register with the South African Dental Technicians Council (SADTC).

The Department urgently convened a meeting on the 13th April 2022 with the Council on Higher Education (CHE), South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA) and Universities South Africa (USAf) to get a common understanding of the situation and collectively agree on a way forward to address the plight of dental technology students.

It was agreed that:

- meetings will be requested with the Department of Health and SADTC in the short-term to address and resolve matters raised by the students and Universities of Technology; and
- in the medium-to-longer term address any conflicting pieces of legislation with regards to accrediting quality councils, statutory professional bodies oversight, and registration bodies.

DHET, CHE, SAQA and USAf are committed to continue engaging at the highest levels towards the resolution of the dilemma experienced by pipeline students and graduates who have completed the National Diploma in Dental Technology and are unable to find gainful employment.

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