

Transcript of audio recording of CEO Vidhu Vedalankar's address to the Portfolio Committee for Justice and Constitutional Development on 12 October 2010 during LASA's briefing on its Annual and First Quarter Reports (audio recording: <http://www.pmg.org.za/node/23447> ; transcript made by Adv Brink)

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Acting Committee Chairperson John Jeffery: ... I think maybe highlight more the trends, the issues rather than an examination of the data. ...

CEO Vedalankar: OK Chair so the Quarterly report is also the I'm not sure because we've never done quarterly reports before so that is why what we did is we thought it would be useful to give you the high-level summary we give to our Board [inaudible] which is essentially the corporate dashboard and the corporate dashboard then that's what they track quarter on quarter to see if we are on track or not and that's what we thought would be the easiest and then also to then summarise. And I'm just going to indicate in terms of the overall performance that we are on track on all components of our Business Plan and we are confident that we will deliver this Business Plan in this financial year also. So we don't have any problem areas that we would like to report on. We do have challenges in terms of some of the funding issues like OSD but at the moment we are in the process of fixing it. In fact the Minister has been involved in that which relates to OSD Phase 1 and Phase 2 funding. And our Chairperson met with the Minister and he undertook to assist to resolve this issue through the medium-term sorry the mid-term adjustment budget.

Committee Chairperson Jeffery: [Occupational Specific] Dispensation, that's the salary increase for professionally qualified people.

CEO Vedalankar: And so that so that the Minister was in was and also because we indicated that if that didn't come through it meant that we would have to freeze posts. In this period of recession we don't have increases but there is also we have a budget cut that's coming in 2012, R34 million. So we were a bit worried because actually we run a very tight ship and if we didn't get the OSD money that we were meant to it would mean that we would have to freeze some posts but the Minister didn't want that and said that we needed to continue with the business. And so he did get involved and he had assisted. We just need to ensure that it's now, so it was in the mid-term adjustment, we need to ensure it's also in the end-tack [?] allocations because then that entails a change in the baseline because if we don't have that we still are going to go back to that problem. So overall we are on track in terms of Slide 1 you'll see. And then in terms of client and community I'm going to hand over to the head of our national operations Brian. And then after Brian speaks Jerry will take over and he'll talk to the finance and non-legal issues. Thank you Chair.