

Mbalula recruits top stars

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SPORT and Recreation Minister Fikile Mbalula is living his dream of reviving school sport by launching a national sport volunteer movement, which will be spearheaded by sports legends.

The launch will take place at a leading Kempton Park hotel today where Mbalula will also name 10 school sport ambassadors.

Sowetan has learnt that Mbalula has roped in legends like Doctor Khumalo, Phil Masinga, Hendrick Ramaala, Hezekiel Sepeng and Louis Oosthuizen to serve as ambassadors.

The movement will serve as the human development element playing a major role in talent identification, coaching, technical assistance and other aspects of sport development.

Basic Education Minister Angie Motshekga and Mbalula are working jointly on this project, with their respective departments also expected to pump in millions. Mbalula has already hit the ground running by holding a series of meetings with big companies like Nestlé SA, Adidas, Coca-Cola and JSE Government Liaison.

"The primary objective of the minister is to design a long-term programme for SA to produce quality sportsmen and women," said Mbalula's spokesman Paena Galane. "We have been too focused on short-term goals. School sport is but a foundation within which corporate SA is needed to invest.

"So far the national road shows undertaken by the minister have yielded positive results. Investments for awards and schools sport have been received from various businesses."