



**Speaking Notes by the Sedibeng District Municipality Executive Mayor,
Cllr. Mahole Simon Mofokeng on the occasion of the 167th Ordinary
Mayoral Committee Meeting held in the Chamber in the Mayoral Parlor
in Vereeniging on the 19th January 2010, in Sedibeng**

I take this opportunity to greet this esteemed body, the Mayoral Committee of Sedibeng District Municipality for the seminal year in the history of South Africa, the much anticipated 2010, the year declared by the ANC National Executive Committee as *“The Year of Working Together to Speed Up Effective Service to the People”*.

What does this mean to this Mayoral Committee, are we to continue doing the same thing every day, every time expecting different results? Does it mean doing the same thing different days? Most certainly not! We are an ANC led District Municipality, we have to be seen to be carrying out the directives of the organization we profess to belong to.

The challenge remains the interpretation of this clarion call. We must work together to ensure that it is aligned and integrated into our way of doing things. We must cascade it to the administrative core of our institution. We must make the people of our District feel that indeed the President was speaking to them and that they belong. Our new Chief Whip, will be expected to lead the charge in this vision, and we shall follow, because the ANC has spoken.

This 167th Mayoral Committee sitting which marks the first sitting in 2010 comes at the time when the entire South Africa is working full steam ahead to deliver the first FIFA World Cup on the African soil.

Dear Colleagues, the business of the 2010 FIFA World Cup, begs the question, are we as the Sedibeng District Municipality ready and willing to go the extra mile this year? If not, what are we waiting for? What are the challenges and what are we doing to overcome these challenges?

As if the 2010 FIFA World Cup is not enough, we are faced with the difficult task of bringing about a resounding 50th Anniversary Commemoration of the Sharpeville Shooting in March this year. This event is creating an energy and a buzz all of its own, the community of Sharpeville and the communities of Sedibeng in general, are looking at us with anticipation, and have put us

under serious scrutiny to bring about an earth shattering Jubilee Commemoration.

It is our plan for the African Festival, to bestow upon State President Zuma, the Freedom of Sedibeng District Municipality, appoint the First Lady, Ma-Khumalo Zuma, the Patron of Sedibeng Development Agency.

We dare not fail the people of Sedibeng District, this need to succeed is made more damning in view of the fact that we are just a year away from the 2011 Local Government Elections.

Once again the Matriculation Class of 2009 has done us proud. I take this opportunity to congratulate all of the students who have done well and passed. I wish them all the best in their future plans. To those who did not succeed, the year 2010 offers them another opportunity to try again. I will be making awards on behalf of the Municipality in conjunction with the Gauteng Department of Education this Friday evening, and I know that your invitations are ready and will be sent to you today, I hope you will find it possible to accompany me to this event.

Comrades and Colleagues, it is with the above challenges in mind, that serious cohesion and concerted efforts from all of us is demanded, astute and clear political directives must precede us every step of the way, the administrative core of the Municipality must cease to involve themselves in

political decisions, avoid this on-going low intensity warfare which leads the Municipality nowhere. The level of gossiping and backstabbing must stop forthwith, as this goes against the grain of the January 8th Statement.

Allow me to pass our message of support to the people of Haiti, following last week's earthquake, I am sure that all of us share my sentiment and grief in this regard. Our condolences are with those who have lost their loved ones, may their souls rest in peace.

The attack on the Togolese Football team is strongly condemned, and I am sure that South Africa will provide a World Cup that will be remembered for all the right reasons. It is also with a sense of pride that I inform that we have had few fatalities on our roads in the District during the Festive Season, congratulations to our men and women in the Public Safety, you are doing us proud.

I take this opportunity to welcome Cllr. Khulu Malindi as our Chief Whip here in Sedibeng, we are looking forward to the energy he brings to invigorate us to do more. I am also pleased to welcome the new MMC for SRAC & H, Cllr. Mluleki Nkosi, whose youth and exuberance will lead us to a very successful African Festival and the Jubilee Celebrations in March 2010.

We hope that our colleague and comrade MMC Busisiwe Mncube will find her feet and recover from the ailment that affected her for the better part of

the recess. Our wish for her this year is full recovery and clear leadership for this all conquering Department.

Speaking of this Finance Department, I am reminded that we now have a fully fledged Municipal Manager in the Municipality, Mr Yunus Chamda. Mr Chamda, last year we won a number of awards, with your appointment we hope to defend these and make them our own, I hope you are charged up to lead us to their defense.

In conclusion, I hope that this Mayoral Committee shall act decisively on the following agenda items:

- The Annual Report is considered
- Monthly Financial Management Reports for the Months of September – November 2009 are noted.
- The Monthly Supply Chain Compliance Report be noted.

With powers vested in me, I declare this session of the 167th Mayoral Committee Meeting open.

I Thank You.