



Address by the Sedibeng District Municipality Executive Mayor, Cllr. Mahole Simon Mofokeng on the occasion of the 46th Ordinary Council Sitting held on the 25th January 2010, in Vereeniging in Sedibeng

- **Honorable Speaker of Sedibeng District Municipality,
Cllr Kedibone Mogotsi;**
- **Fellow councillors;**
- **Members of the public and of the media;**
- **Ladies and gentlemen.**

I rise to greet and welcome you all to our 46th Ordinary Council Sitting of the Sedibeng District Municipality. I also take this time to welcome you into the New Year, the seminal year that is 2010. This is the year that our country has been waiting for in bated breaths. The expectations are high throughout the country, and Sedibeng District is no exception. Our

communities are highly expectant of the windfall that comes with the 2010 FIFA World Cup, we have set very high standards, even though we are not a host city. We have in place very extensive plans, we have set aside the money to achieve these plans, the precincts are waiting to be built, the team to carry out this task, led by our new and capable Municipal Manager, Mr Yunus Chamda is in place. We dare not fail.

Madame Speaker, it is with the 2010 FIFA World Cup just around the corner, with less than 150 days to go before the first whistle is blown, that I will lead a delegation from our Sedibeng District Municipality to Switzerland and Cote'dlvore, with the intention to sign agreements to have them set up base camp in this beautiful region we call our home.

It is with the above in mind, that the precincts that we have spoken of, must be tackled in earnest. We have to deliver them on time, the George Thabe Stadium must be turfed, the hospitality area in the venue refurbished, the roads leading to this Constitutional Centre of South Africa must be spick and span by the time we receive our guest. The same goes for Isaak Steyl stadium, which is getting there.

Ladies and gentlemen, it is while we are on this trip, that a slight detour will be taken, a Short Left, if we may. This will take us to the launch of the Aaron Mokoena Foundation in London. This detour is fitting and proper, appropriate in the period leading up to the 2010 FIFA World Cup, in support of the captain of Bafana Bafana and the leading son of Sedibeng District Municipality.

Ladies and gentlemen, the world is abuzz by the detractors of South Africa and our ability to host the World Cup. The skeptics in Britain are talking of stab proof vests, whilst others are talking of bullet proof vests. This is happening at the time when over 20 000 Barmy Army, the England Cricket fans have just left our country without a single incident. Let me remind you, Ladies and Gentlemen, Monica Seles, was stabbed at the hallowed ground of Wimbledon, an event attended by the British Royalty. These stab proof vests should have been sold there not here.

We need this trip more than ever before, to allay any fears to our visitors, to set the trend and the tone, to invite tourists to our beautiful District, to create a lasting legacy to our communities, to create a future full of hope to the youth of vibrant yet relaxed and laid back Sedibeng District .

Madam Speaker, ladies and Gentlemen, it is whilst the whole country is distracted by the 2010 FIFA World Cup, that the best from Sedibeng District Municipality will be rolling down the hill to sweep everything in its

path like a Tsunami. Our Municipality, together with our communities, in partnership with the Provincial and National Government, are working tirelessly, burning the midnight oil, to bring about the 50th Anniversary of the Sharpeville Shooting, within the ambit of the African Festival.

In partnership with our vibrant communities, guided by the principle of a Developmental District Municipality as presented and espoused by President Jacob Zuma in the January 08th Statement, Sharpeville will never be the same after the 21st March 2010, the district will never be the same, as we lead the charge with our communities to the Centenary Commemoration of the Sharpeville Massacre.

It is with the above in mind, Madam Speaker, that I will be leading the Survivors of the Sharpeville and Boipatong Massacre on a trip to Cape Town on my return. This trip will coincide with the official opening of Parliament. I Have spoken at length about the exiting times ahead, allow me to pause and say that I am sure this house extends its blessing for these great things we are about to achieve and for that we are eternally grateful.

Madam Speaker, allow me to wish our colleague and friend, Clr Busisiwe Ncube a speedy recovery from her ailment. I am sure that I represent the sentiment of this house when I that her presence is missed in this house at this time.

Madam Speaker, I present to this august house for approval, the following:

- Annual Report: 2008/2009 Financial Year
- Adjustment Budget: 2009/2010 Financial Year
- Reports of the Mayoral Committee which must be considered by Council for the period 03 December 2009 to date.

In conclusion, Madam Speaker, allow me to thank the support received from all councillors and colleagues during the Nangalembe Massacre Commemoration on the 12th of January 2010, special mention should also go to our new Chief Whip Cllr Khulu Malindi for the energy he brought on the 01st January Celebration with the Khulumani Support Group at Teknorama.

I thank You.