



Speaking Notes by the Sedibeng District Municipality Executive Mayor, Cllr. Mahole Simon Mofokeng on the occasion of the Political Steering Committee Meeting held on the 14th May 2010, Velmore Banquet & Conference Centre, Centurion in Pretoria

Dear Colleagues, comrades and fellow councillors,

Today marks the **44th day** before the opening ceremony of the 2010 FIFA World Cup. It is with great euphoria and excitement that we all are looking forward to this great event. This excitement may well be misplaced, if we are to look at things which we are expected to carry out within 100 days Programme which we as the Sedibeng District Municipality and our constituent local Municipalities have made a commitment to.

Fellow Councillors, with the challenges facing us at this time, the amount of work that needs to be carried out, we might just find ourselves working around the clock, just to make sure that we are up to speed with all that we set out to do. The time for talking, engaging in extended analysis of the wisdom of the decisions we took is over.

We can no longer afford the lag time between decision making and implementation of our decisions. In fact, we should and must be looking at progress reports on a weekly basis, as we tackle what is being done to execute decisions that we took. Our inability to track down the implementation of the decisions we took, creates a vacuum in which political-administrative disjuncture thrives, thus allowing for some of the major decisions taken to fall through the cracks.

I enjoin this leadership core to take up the call of the State President, Honorable Jacob Zuma who has declared this, 2010, the Year of Action. This is the year of business unusual. This is the year leading up to the Local Government Election, where we hope our mandate will be renewed by our constituencies. Just recently, the State President, in his meeting with public servants, made it very clear that the country can no longer afford laziness and failure to deliver on our mandates.

Socrates writes in one of his epistles ***“Doing the same thing in the same manner, over and over again, hoping for different results, is a sure sign of insanity”*** We cannot be doing things like we did last year and hope for different results, for indeed we are not insane, at least I am not. I take this opportunity to remind us all that a lot of sterling work has gone into the development and review of our IDP.

We have taken a lot of efforts to develop our Quick Wins. We have applied our minds in developing projects for the 100 Days Programme. Allow me to remind us all of those things that we committed ourselves to in the light of the above. These are projects we are going to carry out within the allocated time, even if it means that some of us are going to work without sleep for the entire period leading up to their completion.

100 days deliverables

We have as the Municipality invited the State President and Cabinet Ministers to come again to see what has been done as part of the 100 days projects i.e Seiso Street, Sharpeville hall, Phelindaba cemetery and other projects. A project plan must be set up working backwards, with commitment from all, to show leadership that we can deliver on what has been promised.

Sharpeville is being focused on. One item for Evaton is added on. Emfuleni Local Municipality will have to be brought on board. Cemetery upgrade phase one – This matter must be actioned as a matter of urgency.

Constitution walk – Technical Evaluation to be done. No further delays will be tolerated.

Marketing – SEMECA , marketing service provider, has collapsed. Some of the deliverables must be handed to Sharpeville people.

Craft Hub –Must get the contractor back on site as work has to be done in the next 100 days. Let us get up to speed with this one.

Sharpeville Hall – Technical evaluation of the received bids are taking place and these must completed for work to begin.

Supply Chain workshop to be held in Sharpeville as soon as possible.

Monday PMT meetings – These meetings must be continued. Emfuleni must be called to get their commitment for these projects. PMT will monitor service delivery which becomes the business of political leadership. The municipal manager must meet with Mr Sam Tshabalala from Emfuleni LM. We have to indicate what will happen up to 29 June 2010 and check projects, and also have a plan. This will kill uncertainties on the ground.

Memorandum by Sharpeville concerned residents – We need to develop a way to incorporate and action some of these concerns

Issues re HIV, Youth Development and refuse removal in the area– These are to be incorporated into the 100 days programme. Province also committed themselves in respect of the same issues. Emfuleni has a similar programme. We must be seen to be taking an active part in the campaign for Voluntary Counseling and Testing Programme geared for

the testing of 15 million people, spearheaded by the Minister of Health, Dr Motsoaledi.

Cemetery upgrade - Tender document local content percentage is 25% but preferred bidder is prepared to offer more than 25% by themselves. This must be encouraged.

Upgrade of exhibition centre- National Treasury gave us R 23.8 million. Some money will be received this month to start with the constitutional walk. This must be effected and actioned on.

Sharpeville Hall. – The tender closed on the 12th March 2010. The hall can be completed in 100 days. We have to monitor this one very closely.

The Constitutional Walk- Development must be done in such a way that money won't be wasted. Some work must be done between April and 31 May 2010, whilst some work can be done on the stadium. Professional advice is awaited in respect of what is possible. Emfuleni is doing an upgrade in the stadium and we should also take opportunity to do work as well. Work on the constitutional walk is critical.

Other local municipalities must be drawn into 100 days programme.

Lesedi have a reservoir and roads projects which are already running. We must check how far they are to include it in the 100 days project. If we have nothing to do with it we should not include it. As a district we must however indicate what is happening in the area.

We should look at timeframes and ensure letters of appointments goes out for all projects. A 100 days calendar must be drawn up as a matter of serious urgency, noting that we are well within the 100 days we have committed ourselves to.

Evaton Road Paving - This project is funded and must be carried out without further delay. We have R 7.5 million to use in this financial year and the road paving project must be done before end of June 2010. We must also look at how many contractors will work on the seven (7) roads. It is very encouraging to notice that invitations to tender are already out.

Communication through Batho Pele Office has to be speeded up. Community members must be afforded the opportunity to phone in. Radio stations wants to continue broadcasting and they can report on the 100 days deliverables as communities never know what is going on. We should have a centralized desk where people can phone in for constant contact with the municipality.

The SANRAL project which is outstanding must be included in the 100 days. It has gone up to R 8 million and must be built into the 100 days projects. The Municipal Manager and Executive Director must unpack this issue and look at ways to incorporate it.

There must be a technical team which is attached to these projects to report on what is taking place. If any blockages are being encountered, the Steering Committee can look into these without any delays.

Sedibeng must have a project management unit based in the district so that ELM can be assisted and to also save money. We should have a unit instead of project managers everywhere. The Communication strategy must clearly communicate the number of jobs and broad beneficiaries and value of the money so that the community can relate to the benefits. We must communicate all the projects to the community.

Sedibeng promised the Boipatong Community that by 17 June 2010, their graveyard will be different. We undertook to build a long slab with tombstones in Boipatong as part of the 100 days. Let us not overlook the process of consultation. We should go back to the public and family members. The project does will not cost a lot of money. Sedibeng must commit itself to this project and the relevant department must run with this project at the earliest.

Mieta's house in Boipatong

In Boipatong Mieta's house has not been built yet. MEC committed R40 000.00 to the building of that house. We committed R200 000.00. Emfuleni and other stakeholders were requested to also assist financially as well. Several letters have been written to various businesses for financial assistance, who have yet to respond.

The Municipal Manager must device a team to focus on this project as this has become a critical issue. This project must be attended to as this will

be the champion project. There was a commitment from contractors in Boipatong. This commitment must be checked as well. Boipatong graveside slab can be done by the same contractors.

The Youth Advisory Centre housed in Boipatong clinic has been vacated. Community Services is looking for an alternate place to house the youth centre. I hope that the issue will be resolved and finalized as a matter of urgency. We must prioritize and concentrate on the graves as well.

Feasibility studies are being undertaken in Emfuleni, Lesedi and Midvaal. Some projects can be done as quick wins. Boipatong wetlands studies show that funding can be supported. The Political Steering Committee must dictate based on the preliminary work that has been submitted. They must indicate what must be done within the 100 days. We have R31 Million for projects.

SANRAL project is a joint venture with Sedibeng initially for R10 mill. A contractor was appointed and a losing contractor took Sedibeng to court who ruled that the process should be restarted. SANRAL was not happy, which was an embarrassment but they indicated commitment to continue with the project. The project was revised at a cost was R6 million more

than initially set out. The agreement was that Sedibeng provide up to R 8 million. Sedibeng has appointed a contractor and SANRAL appointed the engineer.

The SLA was also revised. Sedibeng is awaiting SANRAL to confirm continuation for appointment of an engineer. Sedibeng's money is available and committed. SANRAL project will not be included in the 100 days project.

Some 100 days projects must be launched in the month of April 2010. Time is no longer on our side.

I THANK YOU
