



**Address by the Sedibeng District Municipality Executive Mayor, Cllr. Mahole Simon Mofokeng on the occasion of the Certification Ceremony at Stone-haven at Vaal held on the 04<sup>th</sup> August 2010, in Vanderbijlpark, Sedibeng.**

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Programme Director: Mr Vuyo Mokoena

Gauteng Tourism Authority: CEO Dawn Roberts

Our Distinguished Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen

It is often said that the best qualities in all of us, are those things that can never be seen, touched or heard, the intangibles. The spectacle of the 2010 FIFA World Cup was visible for the entire world to see. The big and beautiful stadiums were in your face, very difficult to ignore. The superstars from various countries and nations were forever spoken about.

The transport system hit the headlines like a Tsunami. The coaches were turned into celebrities by the world media overnight. As if that was not

enough, the spoilsports who went on strike at the stadia as well as various trade unions were fed to the entire world with a view to undermine the good work that was done for the entire Rainbow Nation and the continent as a whole.

The world marveled at the beautiful smiles on the South African faces. They never stopped to wonder at the warmth of South Africa. When the doubting Thomases were saying that lawlessness would characterize this World Cup, South Africa went on to present a spectacle that was pleasing and memorable to watch.

From all four corners of our country, we had friendly faces, good service, spectators that were assisted for every little need. Our visitors felt so much at home that most of them extended their stay. The vuvuzelas was blown by all and sundry and received world-wide mention in more than 250 000 hits in the websites. It is now a new entrant in the English dictionary.

In all of this, very few stood to wonder as to what was the golden thread that held the 2010 FIFA World Cup together. The intangibles which were never heard, seen nor touched; the glue that made the 2010 World Cup Experience, a spectacle that it turned out to be.

For that we have you, the volunteers to thank. You have made us proud. You have made the entire continent proud. We are eternally grateful to the wonderful job you did. I take my hat out to you.

In conclusion, I take this opportunity to welcome you to this occasion. I hope that you will value the certificates you are about to receive. No other group of people in the entire world can say to their children and grandchildren, "I was the guardian of the best World Cup ever to be played on the African Soil". Sedibeng Welcomes You.

I Thank You.