



**Speaking Notes by the Sedibeng District Municipality Executive Mayor, Cllr. Mahole Simon Mofokeng on the occasion of the 179th Mayoral Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> October 2010 in the Big Exco Room, Mayor's Parlour, Vereeniging, Sedibeng**

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Comrades & Colleagues;

Officials

I rise to greet this important body in the **Sedibeng District Municipality**. The **179<sup>th</sup>** seating of the **Mayoral Committee** is a historic one. It is the first **MAYCO** to be held after the **National General Council** of the **ANC** which is the ruling party in the country and in Sedibeng District Municipality.

The **NGC** has had a serious impact on the country as a whole, and it should have a serious impact on us as well, seeing that we are the **Deployees in Local government** of this glorious movement.

For me, the **NGC** has cleared any misperceptions that may have been created in the public space, the perception that the **ANC** belongs to the

few that have the ability to make noises on the public arena. Now it is clear that the **ANC** which we belong to is the home of all, rich and poor alike.

This means that we as the servants of the people must be seen to represent the aspirations and interest of the people we serve. We have poor communities looking up to us for inspiration, the need for our Municipality to be developmental in character and be biased towards the poor is clear.

A bolder statement could not have come out of the **NGC**, namely that all government programmes must advance our liberation as a nation. This is only possible if there is cohesion within the ruling party, as well as the representative and servants of the poor in our communities across the length and breadth of our Region.

We are tasked with using government resources to bring about a better life for people. These programmes must upon completion, ensure a resounding victory for the **ANC** at the **2011 Local Government** elections.

The Regional Working Committee of the ANC is currently visiting our Local Municipalities throughout the Region. The purpose of this visit among other is to get first hand information on the performance of these municipalities and at the same time identify opportunities, achievements

and work together with PMTs & Caucuses to address challenges where they exist.

The Sedibeng District Municipality is as well going to receive a visit from the RWC for this purpose. The RWC will be visiting Lesedi Local Municipality tomorrow. This is after a visit to Emfuleni Local Municipality sometime last week.

In addition to this process, we are also faced with a visit from the Provincial Office Bearers of the ANC scheduled for the 28<sup>th</sup> October 2010.

I hope and trust that we will stand the test of time, having been able to carry out the mandate of the 2006 Local Government Elections. If our activities are anything to go by, I don't think that we have anything to worry about.

**Dear Colleagues,** we have had the opportunity to hear from our consultants, **Urban Econ** on the progress made in our quest to establish the **Sedibeng Development Agency**.

This body will assist **Sedibeng District Municipality** in taking all opportunities available in placing our Region on the pedestal of Economic Development which has to-date been difficult to manage. The launch of the **SDA** is now set for March 2011.

We have just recently undergone a very successful trip to **Lesotho** with the survivors of the **Nangalembe Massacre**. This Journey of the Living History took us to the **Parliament of Lesotho** and other historical sites in the **Mountain Kingdom**.

Our guests, the community of Sedibeng were treated well and were very happy to have been part of the trip. **MMC Mluleki Nkosi** will be presenting our report in this regard.

I am very pleased to inform you that the filming of the movie "*Algiers*" is progressing well here in our Region. It is the nature of interest in our District that clearly indicates the richness of Sedibeng which needs to be harnessed.

The formation of **Sedibeng Development Agency** as well as the **Mayoral Investment Council** will assist greatly in the harnessing of this wealth. We will continue in this rich vein of form to create an environment conducive for the creation of the Arts industry in Sedibeng.

**Dear Colleagues**, bad news travels fast and good news have no legs. We had the opportunity to visit the **100 Days Service Delivery Projects last week** on the 12<sup>th</sup> of October 2010. The doomsayers were saying we will not be able to carry out these projects.

When we said “***Together with our Communities-A final push towards a speedy service delivery***”, we were not creating another slogan.

I am saying this because today, we can once again proudly and confidently raise our hands and loudly say that our communities have been empowered to take the centre stage in their development.

Women and people living with disabilities are in the forefront of changing the public space in our townships. They have been awarded tenders and are doing a great job. We are doing a great job indeed and our communities are happy.

We will continue the good work. We will go back to our communities to inform them of the progress made so far. In that manner we will close the public space for our detractors from taking over to turn our communities against us.

You will recall that we have an IDP Review Breakfast meeting with the Business Community as part of our engagement with them in an attempt to ensure to ensure that they participate and play a role in our IDP Processes.

This Breakfast is planned for Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> October and I am looking towards the Executive Directors here present to invite the service

providers who benefitted from working with us in the past two years to form part of this IDP Business Breakfast meeting. You will all agree with me when I say, it cannot be that the last time we see them is when they receive their cheques.

We will tell our own successes and claim our deserved victory. Our communities, who are seeing all the good work, expect nothing less from us. I hope that all of you will support me as I go out on Public Outreach Programme to report back to our communities on these projects.

My office is hard at work developing a calendar for this outreach programme to cover Lesedi, Boitshepiville Phase 04 and Midvaal. This will include a District-Wide Mayoral Imbizo penned for the last week of November this year.

**In Conclusion**, I take this opportunity to inform that **Jet Nteo Secondary School** in **Boipatong**, has continued to show the country and the world that **Sedibeng is the District of Heroes** by winning the **Kay Motsepe Cup Tournament**.

This they did by beating all their contenders in the competition that covers all the high schools in the country and thereby won **R 1 million** for their gallant efforts. We say to the young boys and the staff of **Jet Nteo**

**Secondary, “Congratulations to you our all conquering Champions. We are surely proud of you”.**

Let me once again take this opportunity to congratulate the young men and women of Sebokeng who embarked on a walk to Bloemfontein in their campaign to raise funds for the movie, “*Sebokeng*”. We have done our best as Sedibeng and wish them well in their endeavours.

**Comrades**, let me as well hastily announce that I had an opportunity of witnessing the official opening of Makro Vaal this morning and it was stunning to say the least. Councillor Tsoetsi, I am aware that you were held up in the traffic on your way to this event and had to come back to the office.

I do hereby take this opportunity to place for your deliberations the following reports:

- Status Quo Report: Township Tourism
- Progress Report: Supply and erection of Tourism signs on Major routes in the Sedibeng District Municipality
- Progress Report: Sedibeng Cooperative Conference
- Knowledge Management activities and the District Knowledge Management Strategy

- Final Progress Report: Sedibeng Jazz by the River-25<sup>th</sup> September 2010, Dick Fourie Stadium, Vereeniging
- Report on the 100 Days Programme
- Progress Report regarding Sedibeng Regional Sanitation Scheme

I invite you to join me on behalf of the people of Sedibeng in wishing the Matriculation Class of 2010 the best in their coming examinations. They had a very difficult year and every bit will help. We have confidence that they will do their best and as always, will make us proud

I thank you.