



Welcoming Address by the Sedibeng District Municipality Executive Mayor, Cllr. Mahole Simon Mofokeng on the occasion of the Launch of the GEGDS and Maize Triangle Conceptual Framework on the 29 October 2010

Programme Director

Premier of Gauteng: Mrs Nomvula Mokonyane;

MEC for the Department of Economic Affairs: Mr Firoz Cachalia;

MEC for Agriculture and Rural development: Ms Nandi Mayathula-Khoza;

Executive Mayor: Emfuleni Local Municipality: Cllr. Assistance Mshudulu;

DDG Ms Priscilla Pieterse;

Chairperson of the Holtfontein Co-operatives: Mr Amos Njoro;

Distinguished Guests;

Ladies and Gentlemen

Once again the intelligent province is leading the way, leading the way in the food security of our communities. With the sterling leadership of our Premier Mrs. Nomvula Mokonyane, our communities will never go hungry again.

The Gauteng Province is not all about building houses for the poor. A great achievement we all are proud of. We are not about building beautiful stadia and being the best and gracious hosts of the successful 2010 FIFA World Cup. We care for the welfare of our communities, both urban and rural.

The launch of the Maize Triangle here in Holtfontein today, signals the Gauteng Provincial Government's "Commitment to place the creation of decent work and sustainable livelihoods at the centre of its policies and programmes".

It is with the launch of this programme that we believe and know that "Investing in Agriculture to create employment, ensure food security and develop sustainable Communities" is not another buzz-word. Today that commitment is turning into a reality.

Programme Director, just by the way, sometimes back in the 1970's, Sedibeng District, then known as the Vaal Triangle, was the maize capital of the then Transvaal. We were known as then as the Maize Triangle. This area was well known for its Maize Products, the production of samp, maize meal and then some.

We were providing these products as far afield as Limpopo. We had very efficient granaries in the area. I hope that this project will take us back to

the lofty heights in ensuring food security and sustainable communities in the Region.

In conclusion, I take this opportunity to welcome our distinguished guests and the Premier of Gauteng Province, Mrs Nomvula Mokonyane together with two outstanding members of her Cabinet, MEC Firoz Cachalia and MEC Nandi Mayathula Khoza.

Your sterling work is earning you and the province accolades every day. We hope you will not tire to bring Sedibeng from the fringes of beyond into the centre stage. We hope your stay here will signal greater things to come to the community of Sedibeng. You are all welcomed...dumelang hape!

I Thank You.