



**End of the year message from the Sedibeng District Municipality
Executive Mayor, Cllr. Mahole Simon Mofokeng on the occasion of
the Sedibeng Employees Yearend Function held on Wednesday,
15th December 2010, Emfuleni Park, in Sedibeng**

Madam Speaker: Cllr. Kedibone Mogotsi;
Members of Mayoral Committee present;
Fellow Councillors here present;
Municipal Manager & Manco Members;
Members of staff and colleagues

Just like all good things, they come to an end. Funny how time flies when we are on a good stretch, a purple patch they say if you are a good striker who scores goals regularly.

It is as the final minutes of a good game come to the end, with many a goals in our favour, a match we do not want to end, for we are having a lot of fun, with victory guaranteed, we want to stretch the winning feeling. The referee decrees that at the end of the ninety minutes we have done enough.

The cup beckons, and the winners medals are waiting for necks from which to hang. Once again, it has been a good year.

We know that it has been a good year. A little bird from the office of the Auditor General whispered into my ear the other day. We are on track to receive another unqualified audit, it said.

I know it is true because the same bird has been making the same trip for the past four years. We have faced challenges in the eye and came out victorious, we fought a good fight we balled the cat and lived to tell our tale.

Reassured that greater things are still to come!

Our tale is a very good one, a good yarn to spin while sitting under the warm South African sky on a cloudless night. Sedibeng District Municipality has done it again. In the face of adversity, it weathered a storm or two, like an Israelite to his Philistine, with faith we conquered.

When the pots started boiling in March, a feast royal being prepared for all and sundry, the Deputy President Kgalema Motlanthe, in tow. For the bridal shower was ready. The 50th Anniversary of Sharpeville the day called. The little truant sought to destabilize the party. Our guests indignantly asked, "Whose child is this acting so badly?

'We will not admonish our children in public" we said. A 100 Days Service Delivery Programme we drafted and developed. Together with our communities-A final push towards a speedy service delivery, we agreed. In no time the little truant silenced. With work left, right and center, we all threw our weight. For the 2010 FIFA World Cup beckoned, stadiums to complete and guests to welcome.

Who did all this, who is Sedibeng District Municipality, who is the Council, who is the all conquering hero, who brought the winners medal home? Look in the mirror and you will see.

The gallant women and men who tend our gardens and fields in and around the Municipality precincts and open spaces, who create an environment that is pleasing to the eye and provide sustenance to the birds and the bees, who take care of our beautiful Sedibeng and its surroundings.

The men and women, who provide us with our refreshments, both hot and cold, day in and day out, without a single word of complaint or whimper. Rain or shine, they clean out the offices we call our home, for one long week after the other, month after month until we meet like we do today, at the end of another successful year.

Through the rains of summer and the cold of winter, they oil the big machinery we call the Municipality: You are our pride and joy, an envy of all the other Municipalities, Metros and Districts alike, who wish and yearn to be like you.

The young and not so young, the long and the short, the brown and the blue, the most beautiful and lovely, in all shades of hue, the drivers who make our deliveries on time, the brave employees of Sedibeng District Municipality, who when tragedy struck, they alone acted with dignity and compassion, with innate understanding of the right thing to do, My pride in all of you, knows no bounds.

Not a single one broke rank when we were under siege. Not a single one spoke out of turn. No one pointed a finger of blame when communities were up in arms. Shoulder to the wheel, you put in your daily efforts. Today we celebrate the success of the 100 Days Service Delivery Programme. Like good soldiers you marched.

To the beat of a distant drum of victory you soldiered on. For indeed our race a marathon it was, and not just another short sprint, this you understood. We stand at the pinnacle of excellence. For all this and that we have you to thank.

The secretaries and administrative assistants mostly misunderstood, with spring in your steps making our days made greatly fulfilling, making our jobs much easier to bear, waking up in the morning with an expectant smile, for a day at work beckoning, with the knowledge that worthwhile work will be completed, for indeed you are the life and soul of our daily grind, making the leading of this beautiful region a calling most fulfilling, You are the winning Sedibeng District Municipality.

Pressured into battle, with little preparation, without adequate provision and arms, with ever dwindling budgets and short-staffed, both figuratively and literally, our managers and supervisors were called on to face their gauntlet.

Without missing neither a step nor a beat, into the battle they marched, “*Theirs was not to ask the reason why, theirs but to do and die, Into the valley they rode*, to their defining moment”, Glory to all that is Sedibeng District and more.

Take pride at the litany of our successes - **Your successes**, so that you understand my joy and pride. Once again we have received an unqualified audit from the auditor general, the fifth in a row, this we would not have achieved without your dedication and commitment.

Our pens and pennies accounted for and true

The Auditor General suffers no fools easily
For every penny well spent
Is accolades well earned and deserved
Dit vir ons in Sedibeng
'n Soort bevryding om te weet
Reassured in our knowledge
Our communities and staff

In faith belief
Evidence of things yet seen
A final push to speedy service delivery
A reality for all and sundry

Once again, when everybody was mumbling and complaining about the 2010 FIFA World Cup, we provided home and heath to all, from faraway places across the oceans, Switzerland had only praise to sing. Brothers from Africa we never forgot.

Didier Drogba and Ivory Coast, we embraced, for the best and greatest football spectacle. 2010 FIFA World Cup, the likes of which has never been seen On the African continent for all to see. For all that we have you to thank. We don't rest on our laurels. *Nil Nisi Optimum* - Only the Best are Good Enough, for indeed that is what you are.

Our Region has been reintegrated, new streets are tarred and paved
Our economy is new and reinvented, with Makro and Heineken our crowning glory

Our environment is revived; the river Lekoa is clean again

Our surrounding Air Quality improved

Our human potential released; our heritage offering second to none

Our precincts creating a history of their own during construction

Our governance good and financially sustainable; the fifth unqualified audit on the way.

Meritorious mention of the following categories of employees is in order, this as a result of their adding immeasurable value to very well-oiled Sedibeng District Municipality machine:

- We welcome new staff members who have joined our staff compliment this year, a warm welcome to the winning team
- We say goodbye to two members of staff from Sedibeng District Municipality this year, Mr IJCS Harmse, Mr Mkumbeni and Rowe CC who have gone on pension this year, may they enjoy their well earned rest, we will miss you
- It is better to have lived, loved and lost than to have never loved at all, we have during the preceding year lost eight loved ones,
 - Tshoari OJ

- Ndebele TE
- Plaatjie SJ
- Mohapi TT
- Maku S
- Nkomo DM
- Nonyukela WM
- Mokhele MC

May their Souls rest in Peace

I would be failing in my duty, were I to forget to mention and thank the support of the staff in my office who made sure that I hit the ground running for the entire year that was. Guys, I am looking forward to a greater support from you in the New Year, because I know you can.

I have no doubt that whilst the rest of your colleagues will be winding down their well deserved rest, all of you will be by my side on the 1st of January 2011 as we carry out the business of council planned and scheduled for that day with the Victims and Survivors of various massacres of Sedibeng.

In this season of merriment, as we are about to take our well earned break and rest, to spend and enjoy with our loved ones, I do hereby wish you a very **Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.**

You are the Greatest

I thank you all.....