



Address by the Sedibeng District Municipality Executive Mayor, Cllr. Mahole Simon Mofokeng on the occasion of the 184th Meeting of the Mayoral Committee held at the Sedibeng Mayor's Parlour on the 20th January 2011, in Sedibeng

Colleagues & Officials

It is as we wind down our term of office, driven by the passion to account for the mandate given to us by our communities that the Mayoral Committee Meetings are coming thick and fast. I greet this august body again in the space of one week after the dawn of the New Year.

Colleagues, let me take this opportunity to thank the MEC for Local Government & Housing, Comrade Humphrey Mmemezi on behalf of the Gauteng Provincial Government for the support he has shown and the commitment he made to work together with us in finding a solution to the floods challenges we are faced with in our District.

I am sure that I will be representing your sentiments when I say that his visit yesterday to our District is welcomed and appreciated. I am made

aware that a report has been sent to his office already in this regard. He indicated that his job would be easier if he could get this report.

This Mayoral Committee comes on the tail end of the Lekgotla which sought to find tangible ways to create 5 million jobs in the next five years. It is the National Leadership both in government and the ruling party, the ANC grapple with these challenging matters that we in Sedibeng must be seen to take up these challenges at the Local Government level.

There is no doubt in my mind that we will lead the way in creating the framework within which jobs will be created in the District. I say this without any fear of contradictions. The fact that we have received a Clean Audit for five consecutive years sends a very clear message to potential investors: Sedibeng works and has all the necessary credentials to safeguard our investment.

The fact that our Tertiary Institutions continue to provide the industry with much needed qualified cadre without the attendant controversy attached to other institutions of higher learning has not gone unnoticed. When last have you heard of class boycotts at VUT or the Potchefstroom University here in Sedibeng? Almost never.

The historical heritage of Sedibeng makes it a highly sought after address for foreign investors. The availability of fresh water sources and peaceful

surroundings is appealing to most. It is not surprising the interest of Wall-Mart in offering to buy into our retail sector.

The success of Vanderbijlpark Makro has served to whet the appetite of Wall-Mart offer. I will be watching this development with interest to ensure that community interests are protected in the sale to Wall-Mart.

The Nangalembe event has come and gone, the community and national interest in Sedibeng and matters affecting the Region is at an all time high. We need to harness this interest with a view to drive community passion towards the 2011 Local Government Elections. To that end, a number of high profile public participation engagements are in the offing. These are the following:

- The planned hand-over and allocation of houses in Lakeside which is planned for the 31st January 2011.
- Hot on the heels of this hand-over is the District-Wide Mayoral Imbizo which will be held in Midvaal in the second or third week of February this year.

The date still has to set for this one. This Imbizo will coincide with the providing of school shoes to more than three hundred deserving learners from indigent families through the Give them Hope Campaign.

- It is after the 2011 Local Government Elections, which I have no doubt we will do well in, that the State of The District Address will be tabled at a venue still to be determined.

At this event, I will be Coffering Civic Honours to the nominees who would have been determined through the nomination process in terms of the Council Policy.

It is also intended that at the Gala Dinner on the same evening, Sedibeng District Municipality will have the distinct pleasure of Launching the Sedibeng Development Agency.

It is my wish that all the processes will be concluded to guarantee a successful delivery of these planned activities.

On the sporting note, it is pleasing to realize that Giniel DeVilliers has finally earned a podium finish in the Dakar Rally by ending second overall. We wish him well next year. On the cricketing front, we noticed with concern as the Proteas seem hell bent on giving the Indian team a first series win in the One Day International (ODI Series) currently playing here.

I sat spell bound as Wayne Parnel lost his wicket when we needed just one run with 42 balls remaining. As if that was not enough, the third match was just as thrilling. The Proteas set up a modest total of 220 in Cape Town, only to fail to take the last two wickets even after we had bowled out their recognized batsmen including Imraan Pathan who gave us the stick.

I hope the Cricket Team does us proud in India for the ICC World Cup starting in February. Once again we are called upon to wear our green and gold cricket shirts to support our boys in the World Cup.

I wish to place on the record, the need for us to provide for the educational needs of Mittah Molete. Her progress is such that she will need constant assistance and sponsor to ensure that she complete her studies. To that end, I enjoin this august body, the Mayoral Committee to look in favour of this matter.

In conclusion, with the powers vested in me, I present the following reports for your attention, which were deferred from the last MAYCO:

- Adjustment Budget for the 2010/2011 Financial Year
- Human Rights Month: 2010/11 Financial Year
- Annual Report: 2009/2010 Financial Year

I thank you.