



**Address by the Sedibeng District Municipality; MMC Johnny Tsotetsi
on the occasion of the Public Participation Stakeholder
engagement with Veppa, Khulumani Support and the Ex-
combatants Group held in Sedibeng, on the 11th March 2011.**

Programme Director

Our glorious defenders of democracy

Our mothers and guardians of Sedibeng

Setjhaba sa Sedibeng

Our Distinguished Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen

I bring you greetings from the Sedibeng District Municipality. It is as we enter the month of March 2011, the month which defines who we are as Sedibeng District Municipality.

The month in which 51 years ago, the community of Sharpeville stood up to say to the entire world: Enough is enough, Africans in particular and South Africans in general can no longer stand the separation of brother from brother.

This led to the massacre of our people which heralded the Sharpeville Massacre. This act of selflessness has bestowed on us the honour of being the Cradle of Human Rights Struggles as well as the Constitutional home of South Africa.

Your contribution to the liberation of South Africa and the sacrifices you have made brings pride to the community of Sedibeng in particular and the South African nation in general. It is not an error of judgment that the 21st March is determined as the Human Rights Day in South Africa.

It is my intention here today to provide the feedback to you as our important stakeholder as to what happened to your inputs you all made last year in October. Through the various IDP Public Participation process last year, we listened as you told us that which you wanted. We heard and recorded everything you wanted to be done by your Municipality.

A lot of our communities still have to be convinced that these stakeholder engagements work. I am here today to provide an answer so that all of you present here today may provide independent proof. We as Sedibeng District Municipality value your inputs. We are only as good as the quality of inputs we receive from you.

Last year in October, you our important stakeholder raised the issue of the providing of housing for ex-combatants and members of Khulumani.

The matter is receiving attention as we speak. Some of the ex-combatants have been allocated houses in Tshepong Phase 02 and this process is continuing as houses are being completed in that area.

Suffice it to mention that you will be provided houses on all the other housing projects as they continue to be built. It is our wish that we will in working with the province, provide housing to you. We have also sent a list of destitute ex-combatants to the Department of Housing and this list has assisted us greatly in the allocation in Tshepong.

You also raised the issue of a provision of information about the tendering process and that the community must take part in projects in their respective areas.

It is interesting to note that in pursuit of the 100 Days service delivery projects, including the building of headstones in the Vuka Cemetery, the families of the late heroes were employed. The successes of the various Precincts Projects are due to a great part as a result of your involvement.

You also raised the issue of transparency in terms of employment opportunities in the Municipality. I know for a fact that skills assessment was done with the ex-combatants to find a proper fit to assist in this regard.

I hope that this will assist in making it possible to open up employment opportunities in the light of the clarion call by the President Jacob Zuma to create an environment where jobs will be created.

Suffice it to mention that together with the many other issues you raised last year, on the 03rd and 04th of February last week, a Strategic session was held in Sedibeng to develop plans to deal with these matters. All the outstanding matters will receive our attention and will find expression in our planning.

In conclusion, I wish to inform that this current IDP 2011/2012, is a bridging IDP. This is unlike the other five year IDP's, is only for the next financial year. This is made so with a view to allow the new political leadership which will be elected in May, the space to develop their own priorities with you.

It is my hope and wish that you will be there to walk the long road with the Council which will be elected then. I have no doubt in my mind that you have indeed registered to vote and I know for sure that you are going to vote. Your presence here today is greatly appreciated.

I Thank You.