



**Address by the Executive Mayor, Cllr. Mahole Simon Mofokeng on the occasion of the 191st Meeting of the Mayoral Committee held on the 10<sup>th</sup> June 2011 in Sedibeng**

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Honourable Members of the Mayoral Committee, I take this opportunity to welcome you all to the first Meeting of the Mayoral Committee in the new term of political office. As a brand new team, following the deployment by our glorious movement, the ANC, a day before the final journey of our stalwart, Mme Albertina Sisulu, we stand in awe of her relentless spirit.

It is therefore fitting that before we even proceed with the business of the day, we all stand up to observe a moment of silence, to give tribute to the Mother of the Nation, who gave so much for the attainment of freedom for so many. May her Soul Rest in Peace.

We lowered our flag as Sedibeng, also in honour of the Anniversary of the death of Chief Bambatha, who led what is historically known as the Bambatha Rebellion against unjust laws imposed by colonialists in our country.

The masses of our people, stood in long queues to ensure victory to the ANC on the 18<sup>th</sup> of May. In tribute to the late Walter Sisulu, on whose birthday the election date fell, who will be reunited with his dearly beloved Mme Albertinah tomorrow, the people of Sedibeng voted in their tens of thousands.

One hundred and thirty one thousand of them voted on that day to be exact. We stand here today as a reflection of the will and aspirations of those multitudes.

**Dear Colleagues,** lest this moment be lost on us as we travel together for the next five year, allow me to remind all of us that we are the servants of all the people of Sedibeng, deployed by the grace of the ANC. I had the opportunity to have one on one interviews with all of you.

You convinced me that indeed you all form the team I will want to take the next five years with. Your enthusiasm displayed during these interviews, left a lasting impression on me, setting the foundation that indeed we all share a Collective Dream.

The ANC and the community of Sedibeng are expecting great things from you. They have invested a lot of their trust and faith in you.

I have no doubt that their trust is not misplaced, as the saying goes in Shangaan “**Mintirho ya Vhula-vhula**” loosely translated into English it means “**Our action will speak volumes**”

Our victory in the 2011 Local Elections, came as a result of hard fought battles with our erstwhile comrades, now former members of the ANC, in the form of the shapeless Independents. These traitors took to the streets to usurp the gap we had created between ourselves as the ANC and the communities we lead. In doing so they created a perception of us and them.

Our communities, armed with the vision of a better and greater Sedibeng, galvanized by a future they hold dear to their hearts, that of “Together building better communities” wiped the slate clean ensuring a deathly blow to any independents.

I take this time to urge you as the Cabinet of the Sedibeng District Municipality, to use every opportunity available in the discharge of your mandate, to close any perceived or real gap with our communities. We can no longer avoid vacuums to exist between us and our electorate.

The road before us is long. The tasks are many. The aspirations of our people are expecting fulfillment. Our job is cut out for us. I look forward to completing this journey with all of you in this current form. A team that has assured me of its support, forged together in the fire and furnace of the

2011 Local Government Elections, driven by the will of the people, under the guidance of our Glorious Movement, the ANC.

We stand tall, we stand firm, on the efforts of the greatest leaders this continent has ever seen, the likes of Oliver Reginald Tambo, Walter Sisulu, Chris Hani, Solomon Mahlangu, Joe Slovo, Albertinah Sisulu, Ruth First. The list is endless, let us take our place in history to deliver our communities farther into the promised land. Like Jushua after Moses, let us lead them into their Canaan.

The entire administrative staff, under the leadership of our Municipal Manager, Mr Yunus Chamda, who is celebrating his birthday today, Happy Birthday Mr Chamda, may you see many more years, has been burning the midnight oil, working tirelessly to prepare a feast to welcome us into our rightful place.

To provide political guidance to a hard working team, they have become. Credit to their efforts, the communities of Sedibeng voted for the ANC in their numbers, convinced of the good work we are capable of.

They have been preparing a Royal Feast. A feast to signal a period of greater things to come: Convinced that indeed the time is now, for no greater platform could have been set for us to succeed than the one set by the previous team of the Mayoral Committee.

With powers vested in me, I take this opportunity to present the following agenda items for your attention:

- Briefing on the logistics for the Inaugural Address
- Overview of the Executive Mayor's Inaugural Address

I Thank You.