

PREMIER MANDLA NDLOVU'S ADDRESS AS HE WELCOMES NEW MEC LEAH MARTHA MABUZA AND BIDS FORMER MEC FANA MLOMBO FAREWELL

Date: 04 September 2024

Greetings to the MECs

Acting Director General

Members from the Media

Ladies and gentlemen

1. MECs, I would like to appreciate that we were made to believe that the wheels of Government grind very slowly.
2. But today one can say that since some of you took a driver's seat, the wheels started to turn a bit faster.
3. I want to thank you for acclimatizing to your new responsibilities.
4. We all know that in our province;
 - Our population is 5.1million,
 - Unemployment rate is at 36.2%,
 - Poverty rate is 51.2%,
 - With young graduates' unemployment rate of 19.2%,
 - 13.1 of households do not have access to piped water,
 - 1.7% do not have access to sanitation,
 - 6.3% do not have access to electricity connection, to lighting,
 - 47.3% do not have access to refuse collection by local authorities,
 - GDP of R53.2 billion from R64 billion in 1994.
5. We shall not rest until all households in the province receive basic services, all people in the province have a shelter, we have a crime free province, zero poverty, zero unemployment and have an economic growth of between 3% and 5%.
6. MEC Jackie Macie, we are going to Pilgrim's Rest to face the illegal miners who are terrorizing the people of this province.

7. These people terrorizing our communities came to this country illegally and uninvited. We are going to push them. They must just surrender. We are more armed than these criminals.
8. There are few countries in Africa that control their marine borders, and we are one of those countries. We will not be intimidated. ***Uma kufika thina, azobaleka amagwala!*** We are not going to surrender.
9. The ANC took a decision to implement 3 females is to 2 males, 6 is to 4, 60/40. The decision of the ANC binds all of us.
10. We derive our mandate from the ANC. I am here today to implement the decision of the ANC.
11. From the 5 male MECs, one should be invited out. My decision is not based nor influenced by their performance. I just flipped a coin 1000 times!
12. We want to thank the good work done by MEC Mlombo. In just three months, he has left his mark. As a member of our movement, just like President OR Tambo, he knows that he doesn't decide his role in the organization, but the organization.
13. Therefore, the organization has decided his new role in the Mpumalanga Legislature. We wish him good luck and success in his future endeavors.
14. We welcome Honorable Leah Mabuza in her new position. She acquired vast experience in labour unions, the second Regional Secretary of the ANC Region of Nkangala, PEC member of the ANCWL, former Nkangala District Executive Mayor and eMalahleni Executive Mayor.
15. We hosted soccer Nedbank cup, we were told that there were some concerns raised about the logistics of the match.
16. This month on the 28th September 2024, Mabokoboko will be hosting Argentina here in Mbombela stadium.
17. We have our own child in the Paralympics team. There is a good girl representing us in the Proteas.
18. We will watch the Beast, De Klerk, our own boys, here in Mbombela on the 28th of September 2024.09.04 There is a soccer team, TS Galaxy, playing in the elite league, and we have two teams in the second division.
19. Our indigenous games are important. We still have Josiah Thugwanes, whose talents are hidden.
20. Honorable MEC, today I am unleashing you.