



Office of the Premier

North West Provincial Government
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



KEYNOTE ADDRESS DELIVERED BY NORTH WEST PREMIER PROF TEBOGO JOB MOKGORO ON THE OCCASION OF PROVINCIAL SOCIAL SECTOR DIALOGUE HELD IN RUSTENBURG KLOOF RESORT ON TUESDAY, 18 MARCH 2019

Programme Director

MEC for Social Development, Mme Fenny Gaolaolwe

Executive Mayor of Rustenburg Local Municipality, Cllr Mpho Khunou

Chief Executive Officer of National Development Agency, Ms Thamo Mzobe

Provincial Executive Manager for Statistics South Africa, Mme Ingrid Setshedi

Representatives of various organisations present here

Acting Head of the Department of Social Development, Mr Itumeleng Mogorosi

Officials from various government departments and state owned entities

Members of the Media

Distinguished guests

Ladies and gentlemen,

Programme Director, allow me to take this opportunity to welcome every delegate and participant to this North West Provincial Social Sector Dialogue aimed at the advancement of the needs and interests of the people of the North West Province; especially those in the receiving end of social sector services.

It is quite important to note that this social sector dialogue is hosted under the theme: **“Strengthening partnerships with the social sector towards poverty alleviation.”**

In his State of Nation Address in 2018, President Cyril Ramaphosa announced that a Social Sector Summit will be convened during the course of this financial year with the aim of improving the interface between the state and civil society; and address the challenges that Non-Governmental Organizations and Community Based Organizations face.

This dialogue, therefore is a precursor to the forthcoming National Social Sector Summit, where in we acknowledge, as government, the pivotal role of civil society organisations in our democracy.

Since the dawn of democracy in 1994, many civil society organisations have worked tirelessly to this very day to restore the moral fabric of society and added value to the development of our country.

In doing that, they have played a critical role in tackling poverty, inequality, unemployment and related social problems that continue to torment our communities, and critically, they at some point delivered services on behalf of government where there is no adequate capacity.

Civil society organizations are characterized by diversities stemming from, amongst others, the circumstances and purposes of their establishment, scope of their operations as well as their structural formations; a factors that advantageously position and enable them to identify and respond to community needs by providing programmes, services and support in order to improve people's lives, particularly where markets have failed and where government has no footprint.

Government will continue to provide support - financial and non-financial support - to organizations in order to enable them to expand their services, have capacity to mobilize resources, and reduce dependency on government as the fiscus is shrinking over-time.

The civil society sector further provides a collective voice for the society as it gets involved in issues of common concerns of communities.

Ke a dumela gore ditheo tse di ka ipetsa sehuba tsa re 'Roma Roma' go direla setshaba.

Bagaetsho, ke nako ya go dira mmogo re le puso le mekgatlho e e seng ya puso go tlaholola matshelo a batho ba rona ka lobelo le le potlakileng.

Re a itse rotlhe bagaetsho kwa re tswang teng. Kgololosego ya rona ga e ise e tlale fa bohuma, go tlhoka tekatekano le mathata a loago a santse a ngaparetse bagarona.

Re ntse re itemogela kudu e wetseng dikolo di le dintsi go ralala naga mo bana ba dikolo ba bolayang ba bangwe kwa dikolong.

Go a bontsha gore rotlhe ba re leng fano, re lebagane le tiro e kgolo ya go aga setshaba le go netefatsa fa botlhe ba itumelela maungo a kgololosego.

Programme Director, the social sector therefore, remains one of the most important partner of the state that needs to be drawn into playing a monumental role in responding effectively in the reduction of poverty levels.

According to the National Development Plan (NDP) which has become the blueprint of development, our country can realise its developmental goals by drawing on the energies of its people, growing an inclusive economy, building capabilities, enhancing the capacity of the state, promoting leadership and partnerships throughout society.

We need to identify the role different sectors of society need to play if we are to reach the NDP Vision 2030. As we engage in discussions and make recommendations, we need to remember that all these are in the best interests of the vulnerable citizens that we seek to protect as per our constitutional obligation.

The late Former United Nations Chief and Nobel peace laureate Kofi Annan once said : (I quote) : “If we are to make poverty history, we must have the

active participation of States, civil society and the private sector, as well as individual volunteers.” (Close quote).’ May his soul rest in peace.

With this courageous statement uttered by a great leader of our own, I urge all stakeholders present here to participate meaningfully in the deliberations that will take place in the next two days.

I wish to see this wonderful attendance being present at the National Summit that will be held at the time and place which our President will announce.

The North West Provincial Government will provide necessary support to ensure successful attendance at the National Social Sector Summit.

I wish you all the best.

Ke a leboga.