



## Office of the Premier

North West Provincial Government  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



# **SPEECH BY NORTH WEST PREMIER, PROF TEBOGO JOB MOKGORO, ON THE PURPOSE OF THE PROVINCIAL WORKSHOP ON THE ANTI-CORRUPTION STRATEGY HELD AT THE PROTEA HOLD IN MATLOSANA ON FRIDAY, 26 JULY 2019**

Programme Director, the Reverend T. Mpa

MEC for Cooperative Governance, Traditional Affairs and Human Settlements, Rre Gordon Kegakilwe

Executive Mayors, Mayors and Speakers of various municipalities,

Representatives of the Leadership of SALGA in the North West

Magosi a rona a a tlotlegang

Representatives of the offices of the Public Protector, Auditor-General, South African Human Rights Commission as well as the Public Service Commission

Senior Managers at all spheres of government

Organised Labour

Leaders of Business

Members of the Academia and Research Institutions

Members of the media

Delegates

Ladies and gentlemen,

Good morning.

We are indeed honoured and privileged to be hosting this Provincial Public Consultation Workshop aimed at making a meaningful contribution towards the development and finalisation of a National Anti-Corruption Strategy that South Africans from all walks of life can proudly own up to; in our noble quest to eradicate corruption and malfeasance from our midst.

Ladies and gentlemen, we have made considerable strides in the North West Province since the end of June last year in our fight against maladministration, corruption, malfeasance, misuse of state funds, mismanagement, reckless and wasteful spending of public resources as well as brazen theft of public funds.

We continue to put in place systems and measure to continuously combat the scourge of corrupt practices in the public service and in the process, reduce the financial burden corruption brings to the public purse.

During the first State of the Province Address of the 6<sup>th</sup> Administration on 28 June this year; less than a month ago, delivered before the North West Provincial Legislature, we reported progress in the fight against corruption and promised to step up the ante in the fight against corruption by committing to make the following a thing of the past:

- fraud,
- embezzlement of public funds,
- undue influence in the procurement of goods and services,
- bribery of public officials involved in the awarding of bids, and but not limited to,

- fraud in bid evaluations, invoices or contract obligations.

To this end, we will be implementing the following to deal with such tendencies:

***Pre-auditing of all tenders above R10 million by the provincial internal audit to reduce the possibilities of non-compliance with laws and regulation;***

***Internal control unit in the departments and entities will be strengthened to manage supply chain risks such as fraud, bribes, value for money etc; and***

***Existing controls, thresholds and procedures will be regularly reviewed and assessed for relevance, adequacy and effectiveness.***

The Provincial Government, through the Provincial Treasury, is implementing programs aimed at combatting and to decisively deal with corrupt activities and irregular tendencies around the Supply Chain Management processes which lead to irregular appointment of service providers.

The programs will amongst others include ensuring that there is adherence to the municipal SCM policies and procedures on appointment of service providers.

The Provincial Treasury jointly with the Department of Co-operative Governance, Human Settlement and Traditional Affairs will capacitate municipalities to ensure that contracts procured by municipalities are

adequately managed and monitored through effective contract management.

We are hard at work and not just building castles in the sky when we say we are committed to fighting corruption and malfeasance in the North West.

The North West Provincial Government, that is led by me and a collective of committed men and women, has the interests of the people of this province at heart and to deliver quality services as well as the will to change their lives for the better; nothing else apart from that.

Ladies and gentlemen, we are well aware of the needs of our people and we are committed to delivering water and sanitation, upgrade the rural roads infrastructure to allow those communities to easily access main urban centres as well as enable them to participate in the mainstream of the economy, create job opportunities, provide adequate and decent housing as well as fight crime and corruption.

We cannot attain these goals by allowing corruption to flourish and erode the public purse as well as create a trust deficit between the government and citizens – eventually leading to non-delivery by us on the commitments we had made and the eventuality of violent public protests by angry communities.

Let us not allow the ugly face of corruption to define our democratic dispensation – our forebears fought for freedom and democracy so that we can have a better life and a better future as a free people.

I am therefore pleased that we are all gathered here today to embark on this consultative process to add impetus to the development of a National Anti-Corruption Strategy because the fight against corruption cannot be left to government only but requires the commitment and participation of all societal role players.

I, therefore, have no doubt that the deliberations that are going to ensue today will go a long way in strengthening our government's resolve to fighting and eventually eradicating corruption and malfeasance in both public and private sector.

I thank you.

ENDS