



ACCEPTANCE SPEECH
BY
KAGISO LAZARUS MOKGOSI
PREMIER OF THE NORTH WEST
NORTH WEST PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE
14 JUNE 2024
10:00

The Judge President
Hon Speaker
Hon Deputy Speaker
Outgoing Premier Kaobitsa Bushy Maape
The Chairperson of the majority party Nono Maloyi
Leaders of Political Parties
Hon Members of the Provincial Legislature
Chairperson of North West House of Traditional and Khoi-San Leaders
Chairperson of SALGA
Mayors and Executive Mayors
Speakers of Municipalities
Director General
Heads of Departments
Municipal Managers
CEOs and Chairpersons of SOEs
Bagaetsho Dumelang

Hon Speaker, allow me to extend my gratitude to the Judge President for his guidance and leadership in the constitution of the 7th administration of the Provincial Legislature.

We further thank you Judge President in anticipation of the remaining constitutional processes for the final constitution of the Executive which shall take place in liaison between your Office and the Office of the Premier.

This moment that happens every after five years remains a critical demonstration of the strength of our constitutional democracy in action.

We thank our fore-bearers who painstakingly crafted and designed this system that provides certainty and avoid despair and speculation about the future of our country each time we have elections.

As **Honourable Members** we are therefore duty bound to devote ourselves to the preamble of our constitution, which commits all of us to **“heal the divisions of the past and establish a society based on democratic values, social justice and fundamental human rights.”**

This commitment was given impetus by our struggle heroes and heroines who in 1955 at the adoption of the Freedom Charter in Kliptown declared that; **“South Africa belongs to all who live in it”**.

Through their visionary leadership we have taught the world the language of unity, reconciliation, compassion, and the ability to put the interests of South Africans first.

Hon Members I wish to extend my thanks to the outgoing Premier of the North West **Hon, Kaobitsa Bushy Maape** for his leadership in the concluding years of the sixth administration.

He has led us with a firm but kind hand, promoted consensus and collaboration.

My gratitude also goes to Acting Premier Nono Maloyi who held the fort while Premier Maape was on sick leave.

They bequeath to us a provincial administration no longer encumbered by the limitations of Section 100 intervention.

The seventh administration inherits a well-oiled machine that has delivered Accelerated Service Delivery Programme through Thuntsa Lerole.

Hon Premier Maape, the lessons of your leadership shall be the guide we rely on to navigate the next five years and hope you will still be available to provide counsel and sanction when required.

We pray that God gives you healing and preserve you for us, we need you more now than ever before.

We thank the Electoral Commission ably led in the North West by Dr Tumelontle Thiba for the management of elections and facilitating processes for the people to determine the composition of the legislature we have installed today and the government we will have in the coming days.

The performance of the IEC has earned us respect in the international community. We thank you and the dedicated staff of the commission in the province.

We congratulate all political parties who have earned the trust of the people of the North West to represent their views in the legislature, both returning and the new members.

We extend a hand of friendship and collaboration to all irrespective of the size or influence of your party.

The nature and form of our representation are determined by the people, they know better, let us represent their voices and work together.

The next five years offers us an opportunity to build on the foundations of the sixth administration.

The policies, plans, and resources to scale up service delivery are available, and few require any changes.

No time will be wasted with new plans where none is required.

The North West has the largest youth unemployment in the country. Youth jobs will be the focus of the seventh administration.

The first item of the seventh administration will be the roll-out of the Labour Activation Programme coordinated by the Office of the Premier in partnership with Department of Labour and Employment, business, employer organisations and other social partners.

We will break all remaining barriers to open the public service for employment opportunities for young people, in particular graduates.

Gate keeping, bias and nepotism in departments will not be tolerated. We will transform our public service into a delivery machine that reflects the demography of our province and the spread of its skills and talent.

We will modernize our governance to utilize the benefits of technology to expand access and the reach of services we deliver to the people.

The North West is one of the rural provinces with existing digital inequalities that have held back our people and prevented entrepreneurship from flourishing.

The sixth administration concluded the process for the review of the Provincial Growth and Development Strategy (PGDS) which is a product of extensive consultation with all critical stakeholders in the province.

The focus now is to develop an implementation plan with contribution from all provincial departments, municipalities, private sector, and labour.

A Provincial Economic, Investment and Jobs Summit shall be held later this year to craft a clear economic plan for the North West.

This follows the two investment initiatives we held last year on the sidelines of the BRICS+ Summit in Sandton and Dinner with Investors at Sun City.

We want our municipalities to work, and to deliver uninterrupted services to the people.

The time for excuses is over. We will share with the public interventions in the local government sector after due consultation with legislated institution and forums in the coming weeks.

All provincial state-owned entities should just through their existence deliver on the developmental mandate of the province.

We will not waste public resources on entities failing to meet conditions as set out in their respective shareholder legislative compacts.

Hon Speaker, it is not my intention to abuse the limited opportunity you granted me for my acceptance remarks by delivering the state of the province.

We will approach your office properly following the constitution of the Executive Council for an opportunity to share the seventh administration plans with the citizens of the North West.

We are keenly awaiting your decision to constitute portfolio committees and appoint chairpersons who will be the link and play an oversight role between the Executive and the Legislature.

We commit to cooperate and respect the authority of the portfolio committees to hold the executive to account.

The relationship between the Executive and Legislature is not easy, tension is normal and will happen.

But we are not the first Legislature, there are lessons on how our predecessors have managed this relationship in line with the constitution and the rules adopted by the legislature.

Hon Members, I wish to thank the Director General, Heads of Departments, the Office of the Premier for their excellent work in holding the system together in the last months as most of us were out campaigning.

We hope your commitment to service shall continue in the next five years of the seventh administration.

I wish to thank the leadership of the African National Congress, both Nationally under the leadership of his Excellency President Ramaphosa and in the Province Comrade Nono Maloyi for their vote of confidence.

We further extend our gratitude to our alliance partners and the people of the North West for bestowing their confidence in the governing party.

I shall serve in line with the mandate and the wishes of the organization, to work together with the people to do more in the next five years.

I wish to thank my family and all stratum of society for their support.

We will be visiting all corners of our province to expedite provision of services.

“A borwa mafoko a bolelwa go engwe ka dinao...therefore there is no time to waste time”.

In the words of Chinese revolutionary and Marxist Ideologue, Chairman Mao Zedong:

“Our duty is to hold ourselves responsible to the people. Every word, every act and policy must conform to the people’s interest.”

I thank you