Free - Gratis - Mahala www.theweekly.co.za

Free State Province Copy No: 529 cpc

FREE STATE The Weekly YOUR RELIABLE SOURCE OF NEWS

ANC FS READY FOR REGIONAL CONFERENCES PAGE - 2

BEHAVIOURAL GHANGE STILL KEY IN AIDS FIGHT PACE - 5



ANC RUBBISHES NOMPONDO GOLF 7 RUMOURS

- Provincial secretary says allegations work of haters
- ANC FS backs Nompondo's innocence in the matter

By: Ramosidi Matekane

NC in the Free State has rubbished as unfounded, wild rumours circulating on social media insinuating that the Mangaung ► Metro has purchased provincial secretary Paseka Nompondo a brand new popular Golf 7 sport car.

The rumours, which have been dismissed as malicious and whose source remains unknown, had been peddled as truth in the social media amongst members of the ANC working in the metro as well as council officials.

However, an unfazed Nompondo did not mince his words yesterday when quizzed on the matter, stating that it is the work of those who are hell bent on tainting his image and frustrating his political work.

"I do not work at Mangaung. I do not even have a tender there, so why must I be

bought a car by the metro. This is nothing but attempts by those preoccupied with slander and character assassination motives against me," said Nompondo in an interview with The Weekly.

He said he was still trying to locate where the rumours stem from and there is nothing to worry him regarding "the baseless claims".

"They are trying, but they will never come right. They have tried in the past and failed, and they will still fail even today.

"This is the work of counter-revolutionaries who are hell-bent on tainting the image of leaders of the ANC. We are aware that following several conferences where they have been defeated their only hope is to slander those who have been endorsed by branches of the ANC."

Nompondo said it is nonsensical to suggest that Mangaung metro has purchased a vehicle for him "when I am not their employee...Please show the vehicle."

Nompondo was elected unopposed for the

position of provincial secretary of the ANC during the provincial conference that was held in Bloemfontein earlier in the year. His election followed a marathon of conferences that have been taken to court to challenge the legitimacy of the outcomes.

Before that he had been serving as the regional secretary of Motheo Region and was subsequently appointed by the National Executive Committee (NEC) of the ANC as coordinator of the Interim Provincial Structure. The unit was put in place to prepare the province for its conference after the court had nullified the December provincial elective conference that was held in Parys, Ngwathe Local Municipality.

Also perturbed by the rumours levelled against Nompondo was the ANC provincial spokesman Thabo Meeko, who shot them down was an attempt to drive a wedge between leaders of the ANC in the Free State and their members working for the metro.



"We would like to refute with the disdain they deserve, the insinuations that a vehicle was bought for the provincial secretary of the ANC, comrade Paseka Nompondo," said Meeko.

and dirty tricks employed by sinister forces to divert the focus of the party from efforts to unify and renew itself in the province.

"This is an attempt to create a buffer between ANC leaders in the province and those working for the metro. The ANC continues to give guidance to all municipalities including the Mangaung metro on issues of improved service delivery."

The spokesperson called on leaders of the ANC at the Mangaung metro to resolve whatever underlying issues which could have fuelled the false perception that a vehicle was bought for Nompondo.

manager Mangaung communications Qondile Khedama yesterday said the metro

bought a Golf 7 spot vehicle, not for Nompondo as alleged, but for the municipality's traffic department directorate.

Khedama stressed the said vehicle was not He noted this was part of a smear campaign bought for any individual outside of the metro, citing such insinuations were both 'malicious' and 'unfounded.'

"This distorted information left a bitter taste in the mouths of members of the community, given some of the service delivery challenges we are currently attending to are still to be completed," he explained.

Khedama added: "The City has a valid finance lease agreement that it uses to purchase cars as and when there's a need from different directorates. This vehicle forms part of the fleet that the city is purchasing through the contract, which was subjected to all supply chain



7.5 million people living with **HIV** in SA

The prevalence of HIV among people in South Africa has risen to 13.1 percent, according to figures released by South Africa's Statistician-General Risenga Maluleke on Monday.

"People living with HIV in 2018 are estimated to be sitting at 7.52 million persons. Of course we are looking at people in South Africa living a lot more healthier. With the proliferation and availability of ARVs, there are more people [with HIV] living so it's not a question of the numbers just increasing," said Maluleke in Pretoria.

"Certainly, we still have new infections, but the fact is that the people are living a lot more longer with ARVs. Over time, HIV prevalence among adults aged 15 to 49 is increasing while declining among youth 15 to 24 [years]."

The number of AIDS related deaths has been on a consistent decline from 276 921 in 2007 to 115 167 in 2018.

The total number of people living with HIV in South Africa has however increased from an estimated 4.25 million in 2002 to the 7.52 million by 2018. For 2018, approximately one-fifth of women in South Africa in their reproductive ages [15 to 49] are HIV positive, according to StatsSA.

Earlier, Maluleke revealed that South Africa's population has risen to 57.7 million.

"We are talking about mid-year population estimates which use the latest fertility, mortality and migration data to estimate the size of the population of the Republic of South Africa. Now, the mid-year estimates for 2018, we are sitting at 57.73 million people that are living in South Africa," said Maluleke.

"In 2017 we were sitting at 56.8 million. We had 1.2 million births, a 0.2 net migration and we had about half a million deaths."

Approximately 51 percent [about 29.5 million] of the people in South Africa are

About 29.5 percent of the population is aged younger than 15 years, and approximately 8.5 [percent (or 4.89 million] of the population is 60 years or older. - African News Agency

The Weekly

8 Genius Locci CP Hoogenhout and Maretha Maartens Langenhoven Park Bloemfontein 9300

T: (051) 446 4720 - F: (051) 446 4723 Email: newsroom@theweekly.co.za

If you have a story that you would like us to inve stigate or report send us an e-mail with your contact details and phone number to: newsroom@theweekly.co.za

All correspondence must include the name, address and phone number. The Editor reserves the right to accept or reject

Code of Conduct

This newspaper has committed itself to reporting news which are truthful and accurate and publish comments which are fair, with the highest standard of journalism as provided in the press code of South Africa. Should you have any complaints with our newspaper, please report it to our Editor at newsroom@theweekly.co.za. The Weekly is published by Letlaka Media





Raring to go . . . ANC provincial spokesman Thabo Meeko

ANC ready for regional conferences: Meeko

By: Ramosidi Matekane

The ANC in the Free State is only awaiting a go ahead from its national headquarters Luthuli House before taking all the four districts of the party, with the exception of Xhariep, to their respective elective regional conferences.

The movement is awaiting an audit of the ANC members in the province to be completed

by national office before going ahaed with the

ANC provincial spokesman Thabo Meeko said the organisation hopes the party will expedite this process so that the province can get done with its regional conferences in time to allow for preparations for a decisive electoral win in next year's national general election.

conferences in the province would go hand in glove with the list processes for leaders who will stand on the ANC ticket during the elections.

"On completion of the membership audits there will be branch general meetings which will look into the list processes as well as preparations for the regional conferences," he explained.

"We have since adopted a road map to guide Meeko noted preparations for the regional us through the regional conferences and part of

it states that regions where leadership terms have expired or about to expire will be turned into task teams for those regions."

A point in case, the spokesman said, is the Maluti-a-Phofung region whose term of office had lapsed and was then converted into a regional task team by the party's provincial leadership.

He noted provincial deployees have been included in this particular team to work at uniting the region through the election of a collective leadership through conference and returning the area to political stability.

Converted regional leaderships would still be tasked with preparing for regional conferences in their respective areas, alongside regions whose mandates still stand.

"So far the process is going smoothly; our provincial deployees are currently engaging with regions on processes towards the regional conferences and are also briefing them on the list processes. The feeling we get from the ground is that members of the ANC are ready to go to their regional conferences," Meeko said.

Meanwhile, the ANC is still trying to engage with some of its disgruntled members that took the party to court earlier in the year to challenge the legitimacy of the movement's provincial conference.

Meeko said efforts to rein in members that expressed happiness with the organisation through courts are aimed at unifying the ANC and approaching the elections as a united front for a resounding victory in 2019.

"The provincial leadership of the ANC continues to engage disgruntled individuals in the movement with the aim of closing rank and uniting the ANC. We hope to use these upcoming regional conferences also as a platform for imparting political education and finding each other with the disgruntled members," he explained.

He added patching differences among members and aligning them behind the drive for an ANC win forms part and parcel of oiling the organisation's elections machinery.

'Qualified managers needed to run ailing councils'

Ntombela optimistic of turn arounds

By: Ramosidi Matekane

Free State Premier Sisi Ntombela says there is need to deploy seasoned and qualified municipal managers and chief financial officers to help ailing municipalities in the province come out of their current financial quagmires.

Local municipalities fared badly in the all municipalities in the province. auditor general's report for the past financial year with no council obtaining a clean audit outcome.

But Ntombela is optimistic that the struggling municipalities can turn things around with the

placement of experienced managers. "Working together with the Department of cooperative governance and traditional affairs, we are prioritising basic services such as water, electricity and sanitation," said Ntombela during

a live interview on national radio this week. She noted, "We are optimistic that the deployment of seasoned and qualified municipal managers and chief financial officers will help us turnaround our municipalities."

The Premier was unpacking the challenges faced by the province regarding the performance of municipalities as well charting the way forward in overcoming them.

Ntombela has in the past met with the municipalities and treasury MEC Elsabe Rockman to dissect the outcomes of the auditor

general's report on the province's councils. A task team led by the provincial department of treasury was chosen to look into the financial situations of different municipalities and to find ways of assisting them.

Ntombela's calls for deployment of seasoned Municipality which includes officials to run the councils also come hot on the heels of a high level meeting between the minister of co-operative governance, traditional affairs outstanding debt of R2.8 billion and co-operative governance Zweli Mkhize and for electricity owed to Eskom.

The meeting was also part of the nationwide drive by the minister to find facts around the below average performance of struggling

municipalities across the country. In the Free State Mkhize's Imbizo pointed out that the biggest problem facing municipalities in the province is low revenue collection due to a small base. These include Mafube, Masilonyana, Maluti-A-Phofung, Kopanong, Letsemeng, Mantsopa, Nketoana, Tokologo and Mohokare local municipalities.

Mkhize told officials attending the meeting, including municipal managers, mayors and chief financial officers to persuade people whose names do not appear on council indigent lists of those living below the bread line to pay for services they receive.

At the last count the total debt of the province's municipalities to power utility Eskom amounted to 40 percent of the total R16 billion owed to the parastatal by all council across the



Ntombela wants more action on Aids

Free State Premier Sisi Ntombela has called on municipalities to revive Local Aids Councils (LACs) so there is continued awareness about the pandemic at grassroots level and ensure people living with the condition receive constant support.

Ntombela said this when she addressed the Provincial Council on AIDS (PCA) in Tweeling on Friday last week. This was her first meeting with the PCA which she chairs by virtue of her position as the Premier of the province.

In a statement released by the PCA Head of Secretariat Tefo Tabi this week, the Premier said it seemed unscrupulous businesspeople were taking advantage of the inactivity of the LACs and were selling untested sexual products on the streets which promise magical results, thereby leading people to engage in risky sexual behaviour.

Some of these products included the so-called love portions to help bring back a lost lover, penis

oils from some fake pastors.

"(Municipalities) should revive their Aids Councils and fast-track the establishment of Ward Aids Forums whose members will serve within 'War rooms," said the Premier in t he statement.

She said there were posters all over the province promoting these products with some sellers even distributing flyers at street corners yet there are very posters on HIV and Aids awareness.

"The DACs (District Aids Councils and (LACs) should develop a programme of action that responds to HIV and Aids and Tuberculosis in line with the goals of HIV and TB Provincial Implementation Plan (PIP) for the period 2017-2022," said the Premeir in her recommendations to the province.

Ntombela said the PCA's action plan called "Business Unusual" should be implemented fully to ensure progress in the fight against HIV and Aids, TB and Sexually

Transmitted Infections (STIs)

The Business Unusual Plan promotes the implementation of the "She Conquers Campaign" which is a three-year national campaign that aims to improve the lives of adolescent girls and young women in South Africa.

Business Unusual also seeks to promote social behaviour change interventions; drug abuse and human trafficking; up-scaling HIV/TB services targeting men; enhancing adherence to HIV, TB, STI and chronic disease treatment; decreasing incidence of non-communicable diseases and improve non-communicable diseases; intensifying focus on addressing incidence of mental illness and improving mental health treatment outcomes.

Tabi said by telephone that another important measure the Premier recommended was to ensure nurses were trained in sign language so they can effectly communicate with those who cannot speak or hear.

"The Premier said nurses should be taught sign language. She also wants doctors and

other healthcare workers to undergo the same programmes so that there is improved communcation with patients," said the PCA Head of Secretariate.

The PCA is responsible for fostering dialogue and consensus between government, civil society and all other stakeholders in its strategies and programmes to turn the tide against HIV, TB and Sexually STIs in the province.

Its functions include among others, deliberating and recommending the provincial implementation plan for HIV, TB and STIs every five years as well as advocating for policy proposals from civil society, district and local government, private sector, technical experts and partners.

The Provincial Council on Aids is led by the Premier, who is the chairperson and other members include all MECs, all mayors, the Director General, all heads of departments and civil society organisations.



A night of dance... Dj Lover's and What What set to rock Spotlite Lounge on the official launch.

Spotlite adds flair

By: Thapelo Molebatsi

Entertainment joint Spotlite Lounge, now under new management, has vowed to add a new flair to the ever-growing showbiz industry in the

Located in Jagersfontein, the lounge has since reopening early this month made a mark in the hearts of the mixed audience in the

The new management said patrons should expect mega entertainment from both local and national and disc jockeys during its official opening on August 5.

Headlining the heavy line-up during the official opening would be Lesedi FM's Lerato Mpompo and award winning muso and producer DJ What What. They will be supported by local

the DJ and Big Mo.

Speaking ahead of the official launch, owner Lucky Phuroe said as with the launch of all new night life venues, Spotlight Lounge has big plans to change the face of clubbing in Jaggersfontein.

"More specifically, Spotlight Lounge wants to bring new fire to the party scene in the Northern dorpie. All is set to reintroduce a premium modern luxury clubbing experience to the Free State market," pointed out.

He added: "This new sexy, seductive and opulent lounge opens its doors on Friday 4th August for the first time. It's all systems goes for us. We've been working hard to ensure that all is in place ahead of the big day and we're happy that the day is finally upon us. We're more than ready to give people a good time in a safe and secure environment."

acts Surprise the DJ, Twin-Cyber, The Saw, Dice DJ What What said he was humbled to be among

entertainers on the night.

Needing no introduction to the industry having worked and produced for one of the country's most successful artists, DJ Cleo, What What noted patrons can expect a wild night from

Still working on new music, the popular disc jockey said there was a possibility of dropping new joints for the fans during the event.

"We always get caught up in the 'in moment' as DJs such that we drop new music unplanned and having been in the industry for so many years, I've fallen victim of that and am certain this will be the case on the night," he said joyful.

The fusion of deep, soulful and commercial house is set to cater greatly for the different expected revellers.

By: Thapelo Molebatsi

Her curvy body has made her a star of the red carpet and a favourite at clubs around the

But fame has not stopped Skolopad from telling horny men where to get off. Mzansi's selfproclaimed Beyonce said she is tired of men who think of getting under the sheets every time they

"I am not a sex object!" said the socialite. Skolopad, whose real name is Nonhlanhla Qwabe, said event organisers were the biggest

"They want to have sex with me once they have booked me. But I do not work for sex and I do not sell my body. This has nothing to do with the clothing I wear. It happens because I am a

She said men often try to take advantage when a woman is kind to them. "They assume you want to sleep with them." She said men needed to start respecting women.

"If I provide a service and I am nice to you, I am only trying to build a working relationship, not a sexual one.

Although not all the promoters she worked with were sex pests, she said quite a few had tried to sweet-talk their way into her panties. "At the end of the day this reflects badly on all men," she

She encouraged men to protect women and children from abuse. "Assault is not the only form of abuse. A man can abuse you by giving you a look that suggests he wants to sleep with you."

Skolopad said fear should not prevent women from being who they are or doing what they love.

Since Mzansi met Skolopad in the yellow dress, she has kept her name alive with one nude snap or risqué pose after the other, but the entertainer says the bottom-line should always be about her talent.

"Women in this industry deserve to be respected. I deserve respect as woman in this industry. Even when my costumes are revealing... more than Skolopad the performer, I am a mother, someone's daughter and a talented woman. Being nude has nothing to do with my talent," said Skolopad.

The musician said people wanted to limit her

to her body so they could overlook her talent. She went on to question why that was the promoters who apparently judged her based on



I deserve respect . . . Skolopad

I'm not about sex, says socialite Skolopad

case when the same treatment was not given to other international and local female entertainers.

"There are other female celebrities that are almost always naked, but people don't just assume that is all they know. Even celebrities in America like Beyoncé hardly ever puts on clothes but they are still seen for their talent, why can't I get the same chance?"

Skolopad said she was left disgusted by

"Like one promoter told me to remove my request for accommodation because I can 'come sleep over' after I perform. Like just because I show a lot of skin, I am saying I am available to sleep with random event organisers. It's really disgusting but I know it's not an entertainment industry thing, but a South African men thing. To them a naked or half naked woman is an invitation for sexual advances," she added.

Harriet is tested in her own home. Jerry and Vuyiswa reach a stumbling block, while Diamond finds a partner. Shaka finds it difficult to come to terms with the death of a loved one. Jerry doesn't know how to comfort Cleo. Diamond recruits another member to his squad. Unexpected visitors arrive at The Khozas making demands, drama unfolds. Diamond pays the Big 5 a visit. Gracious issues a command.

SKEEM SAM

Lelo receives an unexpected guest at her doorstep which she rebuffs. Big Boy finds himself at the brunt of a woman's anger. Principal Thobakgale shocks Alfred when her lights switch off. Lelo finds herself in Lehasa's

bedroom yet again. A worried Alfred tells Celia that he may have let the cat out of the bag to Principal. Big Boy finds himself tapping into the cash box again to help a special someone. Something in Lehasa's past makes Lelo uneasy. Just as he's starting to relax, Alfred learns something unsettling from Principal Thobakgale. Big Boy treads on dangerous territory while Leshole remains oblivious to.

GENERATIONS

Okuhle gets her own back when she hears what was said about her. A client mistakenly leaves a file behind giving a vengeful sister the perfect ammunition she needs. Two former colleagues draw closer to each other. The Morokas are shocked to hear where Rori spent the night. Tshidi's visit to #hashtag isn't as innocent as it seems. The more Mrekza tries to help, the more it backfires on him. A man plots a devious, dangerous way of emerging the hero for his girlfriend's family. Hlengiwe piles on financial pressure in a bid to help her family.

••••



Twenty-two year old Leena Gxalaba of Bloemfontein is business management at one of the local private colleges. She describes herself as an outgoing person who is fun to be with with.











My fans' love kept me going: Bunu

When Khanyisa Bunu left her stable teaching job to follow her passion for entertainment, she had no clue how tough the road would be and how dependent she would be on her fans' support.

Chatting to TshisaLIVE Khanyisa explained that after leaving her full-time job to pursue her dreams, she was often just motivated by the love from fans when the industry hostility got too much to handle.

"I had a very rough path in this industry. It isn't the most welcoming, and I haven't always felt at home. It wasn't easy. So now people see me doing well and some may think that life has always been that way but it wasn't. It was my fans' support that validated my choice, it showed me I made the right one".

The comedian, who has opened up for comedy acts like Trevor Noah, has since flourished in her standup comedy and has had many successful one-woman shows.

Pushed by passion and the love from her supporters, Khanyisa also decided to take on acting, something she's wanted to do for a long time. She recently blew viewers out of the water with her stellar performance as Dambisa on Scandal!.

hear him. He told me how my growth shows and -Tshisalive



Showered with love . . . Actress Khanyisa

how I should keep up the good work."

Khanyisa said she'll forever be indebted to her fans and will strive to perfect her craft for their benefit and hers.

"I really want to tell my fans that they "I have received the most amazing love from have fuelled me up to be better because this total strangers and close friends alike. But I was industry is not really kind. It's really tough really touched, when recently this one guy just here, today you can be here and tomorrow sang my praises to me and to everyone who could totally forgotten or at the very bottom."

Premier puzzled by rape of blind woman

By: Martin Makoni

Free State Premier Sisi Ntombela says she has been puzzled by the alleged rape of a blind woman from QwaQwa who cannot identify the perpetrator but can only sense his natural body

The 24 year-old woman who is now HIV positive, did not immediately report the alleged incident which occurred last year, to her family as she was in deep shock and only opened up more than a week later. The matter was reported to the police, but there has been no breakthrough.

In a telephone interview on Wednesday, Ntombela said the woman recently told her she was living in constant fear as she recently picked that person's smell when a group of people came to her house for prayers but could not pinpoint the suspect as it was a big gathering.

"Rape is very traumatising to women," said an emotional Ntombela.

"Now, this was a blind woman who cannot easily tell who is around her. She needs assistance all the time and we expect men to be protecting women instead of abusing them. But what I don't understand is that some of the men also have their own child?" she added.

The Premier said she had tasked Police, Roads and Transport MEC Sam Mashinini to put together a team to investigate the matter and see how the blind woman could be assisted after she picked the body smell of the suspect again during the prayers about two weeks ago.

According to Ntombela, the woman was alone in the house when a man walked in and told her to remain quiet before proceeding to rape her.

She said the woman had not heard the person's voice before, which makes it more difficult to track down the alleged rapist.

"The woman told me she had never had sex before and neither did she sleep with anyone after the incident. But when she got tested for HIV, she was positive. So, it can only mean that she was probably infected by that suspect. It's such a painful experience.

"The woman also said, after raping her, the man acted friendly and said she mustn't tell anyone about it because he liked her and would come back to spend some time with her. So, when she picked that smell during the prayers at

children. Would they want that to happen to her house, she said she was scared that the man was actually around, meaning, he could come back anytime," noted the Premier.

> She said society should find ways of protecting the disabled because cases of abuse were on the rise.

"Disabled people are also human beings. They must be treated fairly and with dignity."

Police spokesperson Sinah Mpakane said it's important for rape victims to immediately report any form of sexual abuse to the police as it makes investigations easier.

"We have a police officer from the Family Violence, Child Protection and Sexual Offences (FCS) on standby, 24 hours a day. This officer can go to any police station whenever a case of rape has been reported in order to assist with investigations. This is to ensure that victims get all the help they need and that their case is resolved," explained Mpakane.

She said it's important for victims to report cases within 72 hours as this helps gather evidence more accurately.

"When a case is reported within the 72 hours, we call it a warm case because the police can still collect DNA samples from the victim

which may help identify the perpetrator. DNA can be collected from the victim's clothing and if there was sexual penetration, the victim must be immediately taken to hospital for treatment and have more evidence collected. But if the case is reported after 72 hours, it becomes a cold case and DNA cannot be collected," she pointed out.

Asked why police asked rape victims too many detailed questions which some people felt were too invasive, Mpakane said it's important for the police to understand the actual circumstances to the crime in order to adequately prepare

"When the police ask the victim what transpired, they are not trying to embarrass the victim. They want to have a full understanding of the case. Of course some questions may seem a bit uncomfortable to the victim, but this is actually done in order to prepare the victim for court. In court, some questions can be very difficult to answer, so we would rather ask them during investigations so that the facts are written down and can be presented in court. We don't want the victim to be surprised when the same questions are repeated in court," she said.

A recent study by the South African Medical

Research Council (SAMRC) describes rape as a significant societal and public health problem in

Titled "Rape Justice in South Africa" the study, which was released in October last year, found that that there was "substantial" underreporting by victims fearing what they called "discriminatory police attitudes and secondary victimisation".

The study looked at data from 2012 and found that only 8.6 percent of cases that went to trial achieved a guilty verdict.

It said prosecutors declined to prosecute 47.7 percent of the cases referred to them by the police, due to the likely success rate based on the available evidence.

The study used a sample of 3 952 cases. About 94.1 percent of complainants were female, 46 percent were children under the age 18 years and 4.9 percent were disabled.

Arrests were made in 2 283 cases or 57 percent and 2 579 (65 percent) were referred for prosecution. Prosecutors accepted 1 362 cases (34.4 percent) and these were enrolled for trial. Trials started in 731 (18.5 percent) cases and 340 (8.6 percent) cases were finalised, with a verdict of guilty of a sexual offence.

METSIMAHOLO

Local Municipality

Metsimaholo Local Municipality, an employment equity employer, seeks suitably qualified persons to fill the under-mentioned posts Applicants who previously applied for the positions of Director: Social Services, Director: Organisational Development and Corporate Services and Director Economic Development and Town Planning need not re-apply.

The following remuneration levels and term of contract apply to all Senior Manager positions advertised below:

Remuneration: Total remuneration package of R973 759 (minimum)/R1 145 598 (midpoint)/R1 317 437 (maximum) per annum (as determined by Government Gazette 41173 dated 10 October 2017 on the Upper Limits of Total Remuneration Package payable to Municipal Managers and Managers directly accountable to the Municipal Manager (TRP) for a Category 5 Municipality). The salary level will be determined by experience, qualifications, knowledge and competence in line with the TRP These are 5-year fixed-term performance-based employment contracts

The following appointments will be made in line with sections 56/57 of the Local Government Municipal Systems Act. 32 of 2000 and relevant Local Government Regulation applicable to the appointment of Senior Managers. The successful candidates will report directly to the Municipal Manage

Directorate: Social Services Director: Social Services

Requirements: • A recognised Bachelor's degree in Public Administration/Social Sciences/Law or equivalent at an acceptable tertiary institution • A minimum of 5 years' work-related experience and knowledge at Middle Management level • Proven successful institutional transformation within the public or private sector, preferably in the local government sphere • Computer literacy in MS Office • A valid Code 08 (EB) driver's licence • Good knowledge and understanding of relevant policies and legislation • Good knowledge and understanding of institutional governance systems and performance management • An understanding of: * Council operations and delegation of powers * Health service management * Cemetery management * Facilities management * Public safety, traffic management, fire, disaster, waste management * Parks and recreation management • Registration with the South African Council for Social Service Professionals (SACSSP), or similar recognised relevant professional body, will be an added advantage • A Certificate in Municipal Financial Management (SAQA ID 48965), as prescribed by National Treasury Government Gazette No 29967 dated 15 June 2007, will be an advantage.

Main duties: • Fulfil the role of Administrative Head for the Community Services Department • Manage the implementation, monitoring, evaluation and reporting sequences of outcomes associated with plans and programmes designed to accomplish key service delivery objectives with respect to public safety and disaster management. This will be through the coordination of operations associated with the enforcement of Municipal Policing Laws and By-laws and the provision of Emergency Fire and Rescue Services in order to ensure the risk of damage to property and/or loss of lives is limited through prompt and efficient execution of sequence and applications • Align the departmental key performance areas • Compile the Departmental SDBIP, and monitor and report on programme implementation • Ensure the development of appropriate strategies, policies and plans for relevant areas • Direct the implementation of specific procedures, systems and controls associated with key functional areas embodied in the Protection Services Departmental Structure • Provide strategic leadership and planning for the Department • Be responsible for public safety, which amongst other things includes traffic management, security, fire and rescue services, disaster management and law enforcement, facilities management, waste management, cemeteries and licensing . Monitor expenditure against budgetary provisions and prepare motivations with reasons to seek approval for additional funding for specific programmes or activities • Participate in the establishment of, and providing support to, the Community Policing Forum with regards to roles, responsibilities and methodology • Evaluate current levels of performance with respect to quarding, investigations and public order and address deviations or adjustment to plans and/or coordinate joint efforts (South African Police Services) to eliminate/minimise security and safety risks • Assess the adequacy of control procedures with respect to firearms and ammunition and assets and address/investigate specific deviations with a view to instituting disciplinary measures • In order to ensure unsafe conditions and/or hazards are identified and rectified, minimise the threat of injury to persons and/or damage to property • Maintain and be responsible for staff discipline • Execute any other lawful duties that may be assigned

Directorate: Organisational Development and Corporate Services Director: Organisational Development and Corporate Services

Requirements: • A recognised Bachelor's degree in Public Administration/Management Sciences/Law or equivalent at an acceptable tertiary institution • A minimum of 5 years' work-related experience and knowledge at Middle Management level • Proven successful institutional transformation within the public or private sector, preferably in local government spheres • Proven successful management experience in administration • Computer literacy in MS Office • A valid Code 08 (EB) driver's licence • Extensive knowledge and understanding of relevant policy and regulations • Good knowledge and understanding of institutional governance systems and performance management • Good knowledge of corporate support services, including human capital management, legal services, facilities management, administration, records management, public participation, Information Communication Technology, committees and Council support • Good knowledge of supply chain management regulations and the Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act, 2000 (Act No 5 of 2000) • Knowledge of Good Governance • Good knowledge of Labour Relations Act and other labour-related prescripts • A legal and human capital management background • Knowledge of coordination and oversight of all specialised support functions • Sound labour relations skills, including speech and report-writing • The ability to work under pressure • The ability to promote strategic planning and innovative leadership • The ability to negotiate at all levels • Registration with a recognised relevant professional body will be an added advantage • A Certificate in Municipal Financial Management

(SAQA ID 48965), as prescribed by National Treasury Government Gazette No 29967 dated 15 June 2007, will be an advantage. Main duties: • Overall management of the Corporate Services business unit, policy formulation, strategy development and corporate governance promotion • Provide strategic management and processes in the areas of Council Support, Human Capital, Legal Services, Administration Services, Committees, Auxiliary Services, Records Management and Information Communication Technology • Develop, implement and manage strategic goals, procedures and plans and align these with the Municipality's objectives • Compile/update delegated powers as stipulated in the Municipal Systems Act • Develop organisational policies and procedures • Develop and manage the Directorate's budget, such that expenditure is in line with council policy, MFMA and supply chain's requirements • Prepare and submit reports to the Municipal Manage

Directorate: Economic Development and Planning

Director: Economic Development and Town Planning

Requirements: • A Bachelor of Science degree in Building Sciences/Architecture or a Bachelor's degree in Town and Regional Planning or Development Studies, or equivalent qualification at an acceptable tertiary institution • A minimum of 5 years' work-related experience and knowledge at Middle Management level • Proven successful institutional transformation within the public or private sector, preferably local government spheres • Proven successful professional development/town and regional planning experience • A valid Code 08 (EB) driver's licence • Good knowledge and understanding of relevant policy and legislation • Good knowledge and understanding of institutional governance systems and performance management • Good knowledge of supply chain management regulations and the Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act, 2000 (Act No 5 of 2000) • Knowledge of geographical information systems • Knowledge of spatial, town and development planning A Project Management certificate or diploma, or certificate in Municipal Financial Management (SAQA ID 48965), as prescribed by National Treasury Government Gazette No 29967 dated 15 June 2007, will be an advantage • Registration as a Professional Planner in accordance with the Planning Professions Act, 2002 (Act No 36 of 2002). Main duties: • Manage, develop and oversee Local Economic Development through Enterprise Development, Industrial Development, Trade and Investment Promotion and Neighbourhood Development initiatives • Analyse/contribute/decide about the LED Policy • Develop long-term LED strategies • Collect economic information and organise focused research • Direct implementation of priority economic development projects • Facilitate strategic partnerships • Facilitate LED delivery within the entire municipal boundary • Manage the day-to-day operations of the LED Unit • Measure impact analysis of LED activities • Improve economic development capacity in local government by sharing information and knowledge • Assess the economic feasibility or cost and benefit of undertaking particular projects • Manage the Business Regulation and Governance section • Manage, develop and oversee tourism through branding Metsimaholo, marketing and initiatives to promote the area as a tourism destination • Manage tourism development, rural planning development and agriculture, including urban management • Manage the Human Settlement division to ensure that all residents within the municipal area who qualify for Government housing subsidies are sheltered in quality housing units • Draft the housing policy for the municipal area, based on the demands of inhabitants • Implement low-cost housing allocation (rural subsidies, people's housing process subsidy, individual subsidies, institutiona subsidies • Project link and consolidation subsidies to Metsimaholo communities • Prepare and manage the operational and capital budget to effect the smooth running of the housing section • Create an enabling environment through the facilitation of LED initiatives which encourage the creation of jobs, the retention and expansion of enterprises and the attraction and promotion of investment supported by economic research ensure proper planning of long- and short-term objectives and plans of the LED, Tourism and Trade section • Be responsible for productivity, personnel management, administration and risk control • Manage urban and rural development to ensure effective service delivery of all the development management (Town Planning, Building Control and By-laws and Ordinance Enforcement), Town Planning Administration and GIS, Properties and Housing services within the municipal area, in a manner that will promote the health, safety, good order, amenity, convenience and general prosperity of all inhabitants in the jurisdiction of the Municipality.

Directorate: Technical and Infrastructural Services

Director: Technical and Infrastructural Services

Requirements: • A Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering/BTech Engineering or equivalent • A minimum of 5 years' work-related experience and knowledge at Middle Management level or as programme/project manager, of which 3-4 years must have been engineering management experience at professional/management level • A valid Code 08 (EB) driver's licence • Good knowledge and understanding of relevant policy and legislation • Good knowledge and understanding of institutional governance systems and performance management • Extensive knowledge of the public office environment • The ability to formulate engineering master planning, project management and implementation • A Certificate of Competency as required in terms of the General Machinery Regulations, 1988 or registration with a recognised relevant engineering professional body will be an advantage • A Certificate in Municipal Financial Management (SAQA ID 48965), as prescribed by National Treasury Government Gazette No 29967 dated 15 June 2007, will be an advantage

Main duties: • Manage the Technical and Infrastructural Services Directorate of the Municipality • Assist the Accounting Officer to carry out his Technical Management responsibilities in areas ranging from water demand and conversation, roads and storm water management, waste management and sanitation management, through to ment • Report directly to the Accounting Officer on strategic technical (infrastructure) management issues monitoring Provincial Infrastructure Grant Projects (MIG and PIG), road construction and rehabilitation projects, housing projects, operation and maintenance • Provide technical support and evaluation of proposed projects in alignment with the respective Municipal IDP and the regional and provincial growth and development plans • Appraise civil engineering proposals, design reports and tender reports, civil engineering design, estimation and tendering • Annual budgeting and cash flow management • Ensure compliance of all legal aspects and conditions, required from different spheres of government • Manage cash flows and committed project expenditure • Manage capacity building in the Technical Service Directorate • Conduct site visits/meetings to ensure compliance with business plan conditions • Verify payment certificates and preparation of monthly payment schedule documentation • Maintain project performance data according to business plan

The successful candidates must have the following competencies as per Government Gazette No 37245 of 17 January 2014: • Strategic direction and leadership • People management • Programme and project management • Financial management • Change leadership • Governance leadership • Moral competence • Planning and organising • Analysis and innovation • Knowledge and information management • Communication • Results and quality focus.

Other requirements: • South African citizenship or permanent residency • No criminal record • Knowledge of Batho Pele principles.

Applicants must use Annexure C (Application Form) of the Local Government: Regulations on appointment and conditions of employment of Senior Managers, available on the website: www.metsimaholo.gov.za All applications must be on the Prescribed Application Form, and must include a comprehensive CV with at least 3 contactable references and e-mail addresses of referees, originally certified copies of qualifications (it is the applicant's responsibility to have foreign qualifications evaluated by the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA) and to attach the proof thereof), driver's licence and Identity Document, which should be directed to Mr SO Mashiane, the Acting Municipal Manager, Metsimaholo Local Municipality, PO Box 60, Sasolburg 1947. Applications can also be hand-delivered in the Municipal Manager's Office of our Head Office, 7th Floor, Main Building, Civic Centre, 10 Fichardt Street, Sasol

Direct enquiries to the Acting Municipal Manager, Mr SO Mashiane at (016) 973-8313.

Shortlisted/recommended candidates will be subjected to security vetting, competency-based assessment over 2 days prior to appointment, qualification verification and reference check. The successful candidates will also be subjected to the signing of an Employment Contract on or before assumption of duty, Annual Performance Agreement within 60 days of appointment and annually thereafter, and Disclosure of Financial Interest.

late applications, applications not made on the prescribed application form and Z83 applications will not be considered.

The successful candidates will be stationed at Metsimaholo Local Municipality's Head Office in Sasolburg, Canyassing for appointment will automatically disqualify an applicant. The person must not be holding any political office in a political party, whether in a permanent, temporary or acting capacity. If no reply to your application has been received within 90 days of the closing date, you should consider your application unsuccessful. The Municipality will not take responsibility for information not mentioned in applications. The Municipality reserves the right not to make an appointment

Closing date for applications: 13 August 2018 at 16:00 Mr SO Mashiane - Acting Municipal Manager

Notice No 22/2018

Helepi murder accused hires new lawyer

By: Martin Makoni

One of the five suspects in the case of slain Bloemfontein businessman Lejoni Alfred Helepi, Baninzi Andile Gxamza has hired Tshepho Thusi of Tshepo Thusi Attorneys as his new lawyer after parting ways with the state funded Legal Aid.

Gxamza, 34, confirmed this before the Bloemfontein Magistrates Court when he made a brief appearance on Monday. He was expected to make a formal bail application during that appearance, but the case was postponed to August 17 to allow for further investigations.

Thusi could not be drawn to say why Gxamza had sought new legal representation when asked soon after court, saying he was yet to be briefed on the way forward.

"I wouldn't know about that," said Thusi

"My client will be the best person to answer that. I am yet to be briefed. I have just taken over the case," he added.

Gxamza is the only one in custody out of the five suspects following his rearrest in Port Elizabeth early this month after they all absconded and were on the run for several months. The others are Ntsane Togowe, 38, Lira Morienyane, 38, Ntabiseng Clementinah Lempe, 32, and Maseboko Alice Majake, 27.

The five were initially arrested following the death of Helepi in an alleged armed robbery at his home on March 29, 2016. They are each facing a charge of conspiring to commit murder, murder, armed robbery and theft of a motor vehicle. Togowe and Gxamza are the only South Africans involved in the matter while the other three are from Lesotho.

The five appeared at the Magistrate's Court on several occasions and on November 11, 2016, their case was struck off the roll due to continued delays by the state to secure a trial date. When the state was ready to proceed with the case, four of the accused, except Togowe, were nowhere to

He eventually stood trial alone, pleading his innocence, but he eventually fled just before judgment was handed down by the Free State High Court where he stood trial.

Togowe was however arrested together with three other people in Lesotho at the beginning of this month for an unrelated business robbery and he is in custody there.

Helepi was allegedly shot twice in the chest by Togowe as he stepped out of the bathroom. The deceased owned a tavern adjacent to his house. He was preparing to go to the bank to deposit the Easter Weekend takings.

It is believed that on the fateful day, Togowe teamed up with Gxamza and went to rob Helepi

after hatching the plan with Majake, who was employed at the tavern when the robbery took place.

Lempe is Majake's friend and she was allegedly roped into the scheme to find people who could execute the robbery. Lempe is said to have linked up with accused three, Moreenyane who then got the first and second applicants involved.

involvement in the fatal robbery after giving self-incriminating evident to the police when she was arrested just a day after the killing.

Majake is said to have admitted her

Togowe and Gxama are said to have stormed into Helepi's tavern and demanded cash.

The two are said to have held hostage, two female employees in the tavern, one of whom was Majake as well as the deceased's friend before demanding keys to the safe. At that point, Togowe allegedly went to the bathroom in the house where the Helepi was taking a bath and shot him in the upper body. He collapsed and died on the spot.

The pair then took an undisclosed amount of money, Helepi's gun, three cell phones, house keys, and several sets of car keys before fleeing the scene in a bakkie which belonged to the businessman. The vehicle was later found abandoned in Phelindaba.

Dad backs murder accused son

The father of a former Brits schoolboy vesterday told the High Court in Pretoria his son was quiet, obedient and respectful and would never have planned to rob or kill a secretary at his school.

The 18-year-old youth's father testified in the trial of his son, who pleaded not guilty to the November 2016 kidnapping, robbery and murder of Esbe Koster, a secretary at the Rabboni

Christian School in Brits. The youth put the blame for Koster's murder on his 19-year-old friend, who is presently serving a 25-year sentence after admitting guilt to the murder.

The self-confessed killer earlier testified that his younger friend had been part of a plan to hijack Koster because they wanted her car for spare parts for his friend's car.

He said they had asked Koster for a lift after school, but then forced her at gunpoint to drive to a remote spot where his friend first tried to tie her up before the older pupil shot Koster twice in the head when she resisted.



The victim . . . Esbé Koster

The 18-year-old insisted he had no idea they were going to hijack Koster, let alone kill her, and put the blame on his friend, who he said had threatened him.

He said his friend had tripped Koster and he was standing with his back to them when he heard shots and saw Koster on the ground with blood running from her head.

The youth's father testified that he had met the 19-year-old for the first time on the day of his son's arrest. He did not like the manner in which the boy talked to his father and did not approve

of him as a friend for his son. He said a police officer had slapped his son on the cheek during questioning before his son

made a statement. His son had acted differently the night after the murder. He was sitting on his bed with his head in his hands, refused to eat dinner, suddenly jumped up as if something had frightened him and paced up and down in the corridor in the early hours of the morning.

He asked his son three times if something was wrong.

The trial continues. -Citizen

Cele vows to shut down drug factories

Police minister Bheki Cele has lauded the work of law enforcement agencies that brought down a major drug operation in Harding, KwaZulu-Natal, on Wednesday.

"Drugs and substance abuse [are] a serious problem and we will find these so-called factories and shut them one by one," said Cele following the drug bust.

Hawks spokesperson Hangwani Mulaudzi said two people were arrested after a team including the Hawks, Crime Intelligence and Port Shepstone's tactical response team and K9 unit searched a farm "where a huge clandestine drug manufacturing laboratory was found".

"We will continue with the strengthening of the multi-disciplinary approach in responding to crimes of this nature. We will intensify our campaign by working together with our sister departments and relevant stakeholders in the fight against drug and substance abuse," said Cele of the joint operation.



Moving in fast . . . Police minister Bheki

Mulaudzi said the value of the drugs was yet to be determined as investigations were ongoing.

"Various elements of the SAPS (South African Police Service) forensic unit are currently administering the crime scene where large quantities of narcotics that resemble Mandrax and paraphernalia are being processed."

The operation comes in the wake of months of collaborative investigations, Mulaudzi said.

"Further details regarding this operation will be made available at a later stage," he added.

Human Communications 142481

Behavioural change still key in Aids fight

By: Martin Makoni

The Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) says despite a significant drop in the number of new HIV infections 2017 compared to previous years, people should not become complacent and engage in risky sexual behaviour or stop taking their anti-retroviral medication.

HSRC executive director for the HIV/AIDS, STIs and TB (HAST) Research Programme Dr Khangelani Zuma said it remains important for people to practice safe sex while those on ARVs should take them religiously in order to stay healthy.

Zuma said this in a telephone interview following the launch of the fifth SA National HIV Prevalence, Incidence and Behaviour Study findings by the HSRC last week.

"It's very important for people to get tested for HIV so that they know their status," said Zuma.

He noted while HIV incidence has significantly declined since 2012 by 44 percent when 378 700 new infections were recorded to 231 100 new infections in 2017, it remains imperative for people to change their sexual behaviour.

"HIV is not just a health issue, it's also a behavioural and cultural issue. People should not be complacent even when they are on medication. They should continue protecting themselves and their partners from possible infections. And during cultural rituals such as circumcisions, there should be a high level of hygiene," he explained.

Overall, between 2016 and 2017 the number of new HIV infections dropped by 14 percent. This can be zrcumcised, more than half of these are medical circumcisions," said the HSRC executive director.

Among adults aged 15 to 49 years, HIV prevalence varies geographically across South Africa, ranging from 12.6 percent in Western Cape to 27.0 percent in KwaZulu-Natal. In the Free State, the figure stands at 25.5 percent.

South Africa has the biggest HIV epidemic in the world, with an estimated 7.1 million people living with HIV, according to the United Nations.

The country has the largest ART programme in the world, which has undergone even more expansion in 2016 with the implementation of 'universal test and treat' policy.

Zuma said South Africa's ART programme can only be successful if it is complemented with improved sexual behaviour. This was very important as the country still had a long way to go in achieving the 90-90-90 targets by 2020 set United Nations to ensure that 90 percent of all people living with HIV know their HIV status and that 90 percent of those with diagnosed HIV infection receive sustained antiretroviral therapy (ART) as well as that 90 percent of the people receiving ART have viral suppression.

By 2017, South Africa had attained 85-71-86, which means more people living with HIV should be put on treatment.

"The burden of HIV continues to disproportionately affect different geographical regions and high risk groups, especially Black Africans, adolescent girls and young women. HIV incidence has decreased from the 2012 estimates, yet remains high, particularly among female youth aged 15-24 years," said Zuma.

The HSRC survey which provides a comprehensive assessment of HIV behavioural status of the people of South Africa is undertaken every three years. It is a population-based crosssectional survey of households in South Africa and was designed to assess the prevalence and trends of key HIV-related indicators.

The survey was conducted between January and December 2017 and provides information on national and sub-national progress toward HIV epidemic control in the country. The report summarises the HIV epidemic and impact of South Africa's national HIV response.



Guard against complacency . . . HSRC executive director Dr Khangelani Zuma

DA's De Lille survives another day

Cape Town mayor Patricia de Lille, who so far has survived many attempts by the DA to see the back of her that one would be forgiven for thinking she has nine lives, will live to see another day as mayor following reports that the motion of no confidence that she was set to face yesterday has been withdrawn.

The City of Cape Town council was expected to bring a motion of no confidence against the embattled politician after lunch. However, the motion has been withdrawn after a deal

The agreement between De Lille and the DA, which states that the party will bring no further motions of no-confidence in the Cape Town mayor but will continue the council disciplinary investigation into her, was signed on

In a separate matter, council speaker Dirk Smit is set to face a motion of no confidence, this one brought by the ANC.

This would have been the second motion of no confidence De Lille has faced at the hands of her own party. She survived the last one by a single vote, leading some to question whether she would have been able to make it out of this one unscathed.

Twitter Ads info and privacy

De Lille issued a statement on Twitter, saying the motions of no confidence "have been on the basis of untested allegations without evidence".

She also expressed her desire to "remain positive and continue to put the people of Cape Town first", ending the message on a philosophical note with the words "what must be, will be".

Last month, the party's removal of De Lille was declared unlawful and set aside with costs in the Western Cape High Court.

The judgment found there was noncompliance with the DA's own constitution in the handling of the disciplinary process that culminated in the removal of De Lille as a member of the party and then as mayor of Cape Town. The party's removal of De Lille was declared unlawful, and was set aside with costs.

The DA's refusal to give De Lille the opportunity to give evidence in mitigation was said to be an example of non-compliance in the matter by judge Andre le Grange. The party was meant to give De Lille a chance to make representations, "which in our view it did not do".

The judge said the process taken by the DA's Federal Legal Council (FLC), which handles internal matters, was legally incorrect.

The Citizen reported soon after that as a result of the ruling the party could face a review of several decisions made by its disciplinary body over the past three years, according to its federal executive.

If the motion of no confidence had taken place, and she lost, De Lille would have been forced to resign and dissolve her mayoral committee, causing deputy mayor Ian Neilson to

step in pending the appointment of a new mayor. The ANC said on Wednesday they did not plan to support the motion against De Lille. -Citizen



EVG construction system, can be used to build: BNG Houses (RDP)

Residential Units

Villas & Bungalows

Multi Storey Apartments (up to medium rise buildings)

Extension to existing buildings and penthouses

Industrial & Commercial Buildings Hospitals

Hotels

Agricultural Facilities

Boundary & Retaining Walls

Road Walls

Economies of Scale & Advantages During Construction:

Less Material on site

Less Wastage of Material

Less Heavy Machinery and Equipment on site

Less Man Power

Less Dust During Construction

Less Noise During Construction

Lightweight Construction System

Faster Erection Process Energy Efficient Building

Monolithic Structure

Anti-Seismic Construction

Thermal Insulation which satisfy 2020 EU Directives

U-Value for EVG-3D-G Wall Panels = 0.7W/m²K

U-Value for EVG-3D-S Wall Panels- 0.4W/m 2K

Fire Rating of up to 4 hours

Acoustic Insulation

NHBRC (registered)

Easy and Fast Installation of Mechanical and Electrical Services

Same lifespan of conventional building **Ballistic tested**

EPS – Expanded Polystyrene Fire Retardant Thicknesses of 50, 100 and 150 mm

Bullet resistant as specified. Certified by:

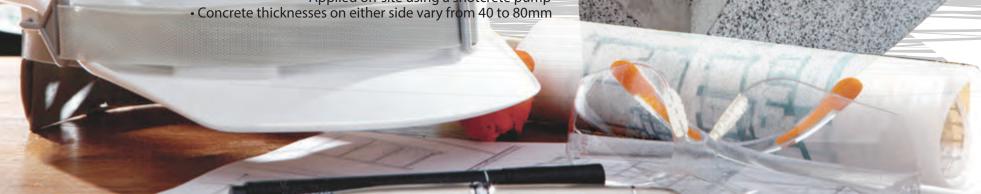
Galvanised welded-wire Cover Mesh

Agrément SA 2017/554 • 50 x 50mm mesh x 3.0mm wire diameter FIRELAB (Fire resistance)

Galvanised Steel Diagonals • 3.8mm wire diameter

Shotcrete ·

Applied on-site using a shotcrete pump



• Innovative • Thermally Insulated • Load Bearing • Light Weight • Fast Construction



EVG 3D AFRICA

EVG 3D Africa (Pty) Ltd Unit 8 - Genius Loci Office Park, 6 CP Hoogenhout Street, Langenhoven Park, Bloemfontein, 9300. Tel: (+27) 51 446 4720 Cell: (+27) 71 462 7030 Fax: (+27) 51 446 4723

E-mail: tumi@evgafrica.co.za

Restore FS agric, Ntombela urges farmers

By: Neo Ntsele

In a move to rally the farming community behind spirited efforts to return the Free State to its glory as South Africa's bread basket, Premier Sisi Ntombela has urged farmers in the province to work hand in glove with her government.

Ntombela made this passionate call at a meeting with farmers at the Glen Agricultural College in Bloemfontein on Wednesday

"I'm pleading with you, both black and white farmers to join forces and work together to deal with challenges faced in your sector, I'm confident your partnership will help grow

your businesses as well as the economy of the province," she said.

"If you want to live like a king you have to work like a slave, and for us to achieve this goal we must start working hard as a collective."

The Premier said her office remains open to farmers wishing to address sector challenges, adding it was sad the province's agricultural sector today resembles a sorry shadow of its former self.

Ntombela recalled that agriculture used to be at the centre of the province's economy but the situation has since regressed so badly that Free Staters now buy produce such as vegetables and fruits from Gauteng and other provinces.



NALA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

REGISTRATION OF SUPPLIERS ON THE CENTRAL SUPPLIER DATABASE (CSD)

In terms of regulation 14(1) of the Municipality Supply Chain Management Regulations and MFMA Circular 81, all prospective service providers of goods and services and infrastructure procurement are required to apply on Central Supplier Database (CSD) in order to do business with all organs of state in the Republic of South Africa.

Nala Local Municipality hereby invite prospective service providers to apply for CSD registration online at www.csd.gov.za or visit the Nala Scm office for assistance with the registration.

Key Information for registration:

- Business registration documents
- Identity documentation of directors
- Business Adress (Residential & Postal)
- Business bank account information
- Tax reference number
- B-BBEE Certificate
- Cellphone number
- Email address

Please note that existing suppliers on the Nala local Municipality's database MUST also register on the CSD.

For more information contact Ms M P Soka on 056 514 9200 during working hours

B C Mokomela Municipal Manager

(PROVINCIAL GAZETTE NUMBER 35 OF 03 JULY 2015)

The Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality hereby notify for general information in terms of the provisions of section 47(3) (a) and (b) of the Municipal Land Use Planning By-Law, read together with the relevant provisions of the Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act, 2013, that the following applications have been received from Ralph Rex Town Planner.

Any person who wishes to make an objection to the approval of the application, is hereby invited to lodge and substantiate their objection in writing to the Town and Regional Planning Sub-Directorate, Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality, PO Box 3704, Bloemfontein, 9300 or sent to <u>patricia.maasdorp@mangaung.co.za</u> Objection(s) stating comprehensive reasons must reach this office within a period of thirty (30) days from the date of publication hereof, i.e. from 27 July 2018 - provided that the objection stipulates the full particulars of the objector (s) (postal address, street address, telephone numbers(s) and e-mail address).

Any person who is unable to write may, during office hours, visit the offices of the Town and Regional Planning Sub-Directorate, Bram Fischer building, room 802 on the 8th floor, where an official of this office will assist those by transcribing their objections. Any person who submitted an objection will be notified in writing if a hearing will be held in respect of the application.

(a) Plot 30 Roodewal Small Holdings:

For the removal of restrictive conditions A. (a), A. (b) and A. (c) as depicted on page 2 of Deed of Transfer T14241/2004 pertaining to Plot 30 Roodewal Small Holdings (30 Jan Steyl Avenue, Roodewal), the subdivision of Plot 30 Roodewal Small Holdings into three portions (remainder included) and the creation of two 10,00-meter-wide right-of-way servitudes over respectively the proposed remainder of Plot 30 Roodewal Small Holdings in favour of both the proposed subdivisions 1 and 2 of Plot 30 Roodewal Small Holdings and over the proposed subdivision 1 of Plot 30 Roodewal Small Holdings in favour of the proposed subdivision 2 of Plot 30 Roodewal Small Holdings.

(b) Plot 14 Highveld Small Holdings:

For the removal of restrictive conditions B. (a), B. (b) and B. (c) as depicted on page 2 of Deed of Transfer T1249/2009 pertaining to Plot 14 Highveld Small Holdings (14 Seder Avenue, Highveld), the subdivision of Plot 14 Highveld Small Holdings into three portions (remainder included) and the creation of an 10,00-meter-wide right-of-way servitude over the proposed subdivision 2 of Plot 14 Highveld Small Holdings in favour of the proposed subdivision 1 of Plot 14 Highveld Small Holdings.

(c) Plot 5 Vaalbank Zuid Small Holdings: For the removal of restrictive conditions C. (a), C. (b) and C. (c) as depicted on pages 2 and 3 of Deed of Transfer T6928/2008 pertaining to Plot 5 Vaalbank Zuid Small Holdings (5 Impala Road, Vaalbank Zuid) and the subdivision of Plot 5 Vaalbank Zuid Small Holdings into three portions (remainder included).

(d) Erf 8530 Bloemfontein extension 55:For the removal of restrictive conditions B. (a) and B. (b) as depicted on pages 2 and 3 of Deed of Transfer T3442/2018 pertaining to Erf 8530 Bloemfontein extension 55 (20 Rindl Street, Universitas) in order to permit the owner, the opportunity to develop a second residential dwelling unit thereupon.



Addressing collective challenges . . . Farmers listen attentively during a meeting with Premier Sisi Ntombela at the Glen Agricultural College in Bloemfontein on Wednesday

Accompanying Ntombela during engagement was agriculture MEC Dr Benny

Speaking before the main address by the Premier, Malakoane pleaded for sound working province.

He said this would turn the tide of dependency and return the Free State to its heydays as the main supplier of agricultural products in the country.

engagements about what challenges you face in the sector," he noted.

The MEC added a distinction has to be made between animal lovers and farmers, jokingly stating that someone who owns dogs and cats

should not brand themselves as farmers.

Lefa Tlhapuletsa who hails from Xhariep district bemoaned what he called lack of support for black and emerging farmers.

Tlhapuletsa pleaded with the government relations with the farming community in the to focus its support on black farmers through allocation of bigger hectors of land and financial aid to help them grow their businesses in this predominantly white male sector.

The farmer who deals in the production of red meat also cited widespread diseases affecting "Be transparent and truthful in your livestock as their main challenge, and called on the government to step up the distribution of animal vaccines to farms.

Another farmer, Mojalefa Mosho based in Wepener, urged young people to go into

Other issues raised at the meeting related to limited working budgets, dire effects of drought, stock theft, and bad roads affecting production in different farming areas.

The meeting resolved to continue engagements between the MEC and farmers in the province, setting a deadline of three months to give a report back on the progress made in addressing the identified challenges.

The concerns would also form part of MEC Malakoane's departmental programme of action

Police MEC Sam Mashinini assured the gathering his department would work harder to fight stock theft and give feedback on its

Non-compliance worries department of labour



Promoting law compliance . . . Department of Labour provincial spokesperson Josial Ramokoena

By: Thina Tuoane

The Department of Labour says it is working hard to ensure better working conditions for all employees registered with the Compensation Fund.

The department last week held a networking session with its stakeholders following reported incidences of employees being injured on duty, contracting diseases, and not being paid out, due to non-compliance by employers.

The session was part of initiatives to promote dialogue amongst stakeholders and seek amicable solutions to remedy the noncompliance of companies to the Compensation for Occupational Injuries and Diseases Act.

spokesperson Josial Ramokoena explained that the Compensation Fund's mandate is to administer the law relating to occupational injuries and diseases.

"The main objective of the Act is to provide compensation for disablement caused by occupational injuries or diseases sustained or contracted by workers, or for death resulting from such injuries or diseases, and provide for matters connected therewith," he noted.

He added: "Diseases such as TB from working with asbestos, low temperature conditions or those that work on farms, are graded according to the different industries, which then determines their premiums."

The scheme worked like any other Department of Labour provincial insurance but it insured employers by giving comply," added Mafata.

them the responsibility of paying returns from their earnings on an annual basis to the Compensation Fund.

"We are faced with the challenge that companies do not comply; they do not pay the annual return of earnings which is intended to be the payout for employeex in the case of an jury or a disease. In other cases the correct documentation is not submitted," Ramokoena

He added it was also important that employees regularly visited the department to ensure that their employers are paying contributions towards the Compensation Fund.

The department has partnered with the Free State Black Business Chamber as numerous businesses in the province are affiliated to the organisation and this would help advance the call for compliance.

Free State Black Business Chamber CEO Lucky Motsamai said it is also their responsibility to represent and protect the business community in the province from employers who contravene

"We are exposed to the challenges that our businesses are faced with in regard to the Compensation Fund but we will strive to always ensure that they are protected," he said.

Stakeholders attending the meeting also showed enthusiasm in joining in the discussion to ensure employees receive what is due to them.

Compensation Fund commissioner Vuyo Mafata said the scheme would make sure that companies comply with labour practices by making use of labour inspectors and pay roll auditors that are sent out to companies to verify the information they receive.

"As an entity of the Department of Labour we have inspectors to enforce compliance, and we are recently employing pay roll auditors who verify the information the companies provide. This will allow us to see when companies do not

Together we can do more, says Mashinini

MEC joins hands with farmers to fix roads in Fezile district

By: Thapelo Molebatsi

Police, roads and transport MEC Sam Mashinini, with the help of Fezile Dabi farmers, has embarked on project to repair potholes and gravel roads that have deteriorated considerably over the past few months across the district.

Mashinini last Friday met with famers of the Vaal land care project in Parys to repair the 31km of Eden Vaal road used to access various farms in Fazile Dabi district.

The project will see the provincial department and farmers bringing resources together for the grading of roads in the area.

The MEC announced during his budget vote for the current financial year that a number of roads would be fixed in farming towns in the

The first leg of the programme was conducted in Thabo Mofutsanyane district.

Mashinini said the problem of poor roads goes much further than mere inconvenience, noting this was beginning to erode the socioeconomic activity of farms in the province.

"Access to roads be it in urban or rural towns, particularly those that are economical

viable, must be improved," Mashinini told farmers to come together. farmers during an informal chat in Parys during the rehabilitation of Eden Vaal road.

The MEC pointed out that access to roads including those in rural communities continues to be an integral part of government's service delivery programme.

Farmers cannot increase their productivity and also lose out on potential markets when their access to roads is restricted, he added.

"Furthermore, farmers can lose their produce if roads are flooded, have potholes or pose other dangers. They suffer immensely and cannot raise themselves out of such situations."

Mashinini applauded farmers' willingness to work hand in hand with government in addressing the problem or poor roads saying, "This is a reflection that together we can do more and build a better South Africa that we all can be proud of without pointing fingers at each other."

He noted the programme, if run properly, could be exemplary to other provinces with similar challenges.

The decision by the department to repair the road was made in November last year after numerous accidents were recorded, prompting

Co-chairperson of the Vaal Land Project Arnold de Beer said farmers could not be afford to be reduced to being spectators. "We had to come together to address the problem while waiting for the roads department to assist."

He said the decision by department to come on board was welcomed as it means roads would be fixed quicker as necessary equipment would now be availed.

Koot Naude, a local farmer in Hilbron and regional representative of Agriculture Free State also applauded the gesture.

However, he informed the MEC about 1500 km of road that needed to be graded in Hilbron.

In response to Naude, Mashinini said government intended to spend the allocated budget on the programme and pleaded for

"I always appeal to people; please be patient. We will get to all roads that we've identified fixed. We're not going to spend the budget on anything else but the upgrading of roads for our people," noted Mashinini.



Putting heads together.... Police MEC Sam Mashinini chats with farmers in Fezile Dabi **District**

ENVIRONMENTAL NOTIFICATION:

PROSPECTING RIGHT AND ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION APPLICATION

Notice is given in terms of Section16 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act. 2002 (Act 28 of 2002) (MPRDA) and Chapter 4 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) 2014 Regulations (as amended) promulgated under the National Environment Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMA) (as amended), of an application for a Prospecting Right and an Environmental Authorisation to explore for mineral deposits in the Free State Province of South Africa. This involves a Prospecting Right application in terms of the MPRDA and an Environmental Authorisation application following a Basic Assessment process as per GN 326 (of 2017) of the NEMA.

White Rivers Exploration (Pty) Ltd (White Rivers Exploration) submitted a Prospecting Right and an Environmental Authorisation application to the Department of Mineral Resources (DMR) Free State Regional Office. The DMR accepted the Prospecting Right application on the 25th June 2018. If the application is granted, White Rivers Exploration will be enabled to ascertain if economically viable mineral deposits exist within the application area. The minerals of interest include: gold, silver, coal, cobalt, copper, diamond (alluvial), iron manganese, molybdenum, nickel, lead, platinum group metals, rare earths, sulphur, uranium, tungsten and zinc. It is anticipated that only the following non-invasive techniques will be utilised during prospecting:

Non-invasive prospecting activities rour-invasive prospecting activities
Acquisition, capture and synthesis of historical data
Desktop studies
Site visit
Geophysical survey (if required)
Geological modelling
Resource estimation

The following NEMA listed activity under Listing Notice 1 of the NEMA 2014 EIA Regulations (as amended) will be triggered by this

 GN 327 (of 2017). Activity 20: Any activity including the operation of that activity which requires a prospecting right in terms of Section 16 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act 28 of 2002), including (a) associated infrastructure, structures and earthworks, directly related to prospecting of a mineral or (b) the primary processing of a minera resource including winning, extraction, classifying, concentrating, crushing, screening or washing; but excluding the secondary processing of a mineral resource, including the smelting, beneficiation, reduction, refining, calcining, or gasification of the mineral processing of a mineral resource, including the smelting, beneficiation, reduction, refining, calcining, or gasification of the mineral processing of a mineral resource, including the smelting, beneficiation, reduction, refining, calcining, or gasification of the mineral processing of a mineral resource.

The application area covers 12 422.1 hectares over 66 farm portions and it is situated within the Kroonstad Magisterial District, 13 km eas

Name of Applicant: White Rivers Exploration (Pty) Ltd

Project Reference Name:

Application Area Size

erested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are provided a period of 30 days to register and comment on the proposed activity and application Should you wish to register as an I&AP for this project and submit any comments, concerns or objections you may have regarding the Should you wish to eligister as an inach of this project and sometimenty comments, concerns or objections you may have regarding it project, please submit your name, contact details, reason for your interest and issues/concerns, in writing or telephonically, to Shang Solutions, **by no later than 31**st **August 2018**. Please include the project reference name (Kroonstad North Prospecting Right) in all correspondence. Please note that only registered I&APs will be notified of further opportunities for involvement in this process

ents, or concerns with regards to this application can be directed to Shango Solution

Contact person: Ms Zizo Siwendu F-mail: zizo@shango.co.za

Fax: 011 678 9731

tad North Prospecting Right address: P O Box 2591, Cresta, 2118, South Africa

Any comments or concerns regarding this application can also be directed to the Department of Mineral Resources (and a copy

sent to Shango Solutions): Tel: 057 391 1385 Fax: 057 357 6003

Contact person: Ms Nkateko Mhlarh

DMR reference number: FS 30/5/1/1/3/2/1/10520 EM Postal address: Private Bag X33, Welkom, 9460 Attention: Mine Environmental Management Directorate DMR - Free State Regional Office

Shango Solutions



ENVIRONMENTAL NOTIFICATION:

PROSPECTING RIGHT AND ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION APPLICATION

Notice is given in terms of Section16 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act 28 of 2002) (MPRDA) and Chapter 4 of Notice is given in their or Security of the Winitera and Petropeun Resources Develophine (Ac.) 2002 (Ac. 2.00 (2002) (INFOD) and Chapter 1 the Environmental Impact Assessment (Ela) 2014 Regulations (as amended) promulgated under the National Environmental Management Act. 1998 (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMA) (as amended), of an application for a Prospecting Right and an Environmental Authorisation to explore for mine deposits in the Free State Province of South Africa. This involves a Prospecting Right application in terms of the MPRDA and an Environmental Authorisation application following a Basic Assessment process as per SN 326 (of 2017) of the NEMA.

White Rivers Exploration (Pty) Ltd (White Rivers Exploration) submitted a Prospecting Right and an Environmental Authorisation application to the

Department of Mineral Resources (DMR) Free State Regional Office. The DMR accepted the Prospecting Right application on the 25th June 2018. If the application is granted, White Rivers Exploration will be enabled to ascertain if economically viable mineral deposits exist within the application area. The minerals of interest include: gold, silver, coal, cobalt, copper, diamond (alluvial), iron, manganese, molybdenum, nickel, lead, platinum group metals, rare earths, sulphur, uranium, tungsten and zinc. It is anticipated that the following invasive and non-invasive techniques will be

Non-invasive prospecting activities

eophysical survey (if required)

The following NEMA listed activity under Listing Notices 1 and 3 of the NEMA 2014 EIA Regulations (as amended) will be triggered by this

6N 327 (of 2017), Activity 20: Any activity including the operation of that activity which requires a prospecting right in terms of Section 16 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act 28 of 2002), including (a) associated infrastructure, structures and earthworks, directly related to prospecting of a mineral or (b) the primary processing of a mineral resource including winning, extraction, classifying, concentrating, crushing, screening or washing; but excluding the secondary processing of a mineral resource, including the smelting, beneficiation, reduction, refining, calcining, or gasification of the mineral resource

clearance of such indigenous vegetation is required for maintenance purpose undertaken in accordance with a maintenance managemen plan (i) within any critically endangered or endangered ecosystem listed in terms of Section 52 of the NEMA or prior to the publication of such a list, within an area that has been identified as critically endangered in the National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment 2004 and (ii) within critical biodiversity areas identified in bioregional plans

The application area covers 22 202.78 hectares over 88 farm portions and it is situated within the Kroonstad Magisterial District, 13 km east of Kroonstad, in the Free State Province of South Africa.

Name of Applicant: White Rivers Exploration (Pty) Ltd

Project Reference Name:

Application Area Size

Approximately 22 202.78 hectares Registration and Comment:

ested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are provided a period of 30 days to register and comment on the proposed activity and application. Should you wish to register as an I&AP for this project and submit any comments, concerns or objections you may have regarding the project, please submit your name, contact details, reason for your interest and issues/concerns, in writing or telephonically, to Shango Solutions, by no later than 31* August 2018. Please include the project reference name (Kroonstad South Prospecting Right) in all correspondence. Please note that only registered I&APs will be notified of further opportunities for involvement in this process.

Any queries, comments, or concerns with regards to this application can be directed to Shango Solutions:

E-mail: zizo@shango.co.za

Tel: 011 678 6504 Fax: 011 678 9731

Project name: Kroonstad South Prospecting Right
Postal address: P O Box 2591, Cresta, 2118, South Africa

Fax: 057 357 6003

Contact person: Ms Nkateko Mhlarhi

Contact person: Mis Nearest withinstill
DMR reference number: FS 30/5/11/8/2/1/10519 EM
Postal address: Private Bag X33, Welkom, 9460
Attention: Mine Environmental Management Directorate DMR – Free State Regional Office





ENVIRONMENTAL NOTIFICATION:

PROSPECTING RIGHT AND ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION APPLICATION

Notice is given in terms of Section16 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act 28 of 2002) (MPRDA) and Chapter 4 of Notice is given in terms of section to a the minimal and a concommental measures of the many of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) 2014 Regulations (as amended) promulgated under the National Environmental Management 1998 (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMA) (as amended), of an application for a Prospecting Right and an Environmental Authorisation to explore for n deposits in the Free State Province of South Africa. This involves a Prospecting Right application in terms of the MPRDA and an Environmental Authorisation application following a Basic Assessment process as per GN 326 (of 2017) of the NEMA.

Nature of Activity:

White Rivers Exploration (Pty) Ltd (White Rivers Exploration) submitted a Prospecting Right and an Environmental Authorisation application to the Department of Mineral Resources (DMR) Free State Regional Office. The DMR Free State Regional Office accepted the Prospecting Right application on the 25th June 2018. If the application is granted, White Rivers Exploration will be enabled to ascertain if economically viable mineral deposits exist within the application area. The minerals of interest include: gold, silver, coal, cobalt, copper, diamond (alluvial), iron, manganese molybdenum, nickel, lead, platinum group metals, rare earths, sulphur, uranium, tungsten and zinc. It is anticipated that the following invasive and non-invasive techniques will be utilised during prospecting:

Surface mapping and sampling Geophysical survey (if required)

Geological modelling

The following NEMA listed activity under Listing Notices 1 and 3 of the NEMA 2014 EIA Regulations (as amended) will be triggered by this

of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act 28 of 2002), including (a) associated infrastructure, structures and earthworks, directly related to prospecting of a mineral or (b) the primary processing of a mineral resource including winning, extraction, classifying, concentrating, crushing, screening or washing; but excluding the secondary processing of a mineral resource, including the smelting, beneficiation, reduction, refining, calcining, or gasification of the mineral resource

. GN 327 (of 2017). Activity 20: Any activity including the operation of that activity which requires a prospecting right in terms of Section 16

 GN 324 (of 2017), Activity 12(b): The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation except where such
clearance of such indigenous vegetation is required for maintenance purpose undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management
plan (i) within any critically endangered or endangered ecosystem listed in terms of Section 52 of the NEMA or prior to the publication of
such a list, within an area that has been identified as critically endangered in the National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment 2004 and (ii) within critical biodiversity areas identified in bioregional plans

The application area covers 18 623.73 hectares over 90 farm portions and it is situated within the Vredefort Magisterial District approximately 20.3 kilometres west of Parys, in the Free State Province of South Africa.

Project Reference Name: Vredefort West Ext Prospecti

Approximately 18 623.73 hectares Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are provided a period of 30 days to register and comment on the proposed activity and application. Should

you wish to register as an I&AP for this project and submit any comments, concerns or objections you may have regarding the project, please submit your name, contact details, reason for your interest and issues/concerns, in writing or telephonically, to Shango Solutions, by no later than 31st August 2018. Please included the project reference name (Vredefort West Ext Prospecting Right) in all correspondence. Please note that only registered I&APs will be notified of further opportunities for involvement in this process.

Any queries, comments, or concerns with regards to this application can be directed to Shango Solution Contact person: Ms Zizo Siwendu

E-mail: zizo@shango.co.za

Fax: 011 678 9731

Fax: 057 357 6003 Contact person: Ms Nkateko Mhlarhi

DMR reference number: FS 30/5/1/1/3/2/1/10521 EM Postal address: Private Bag X33, Welkom, 9460

ent Directorate DMR - Free State Regional Office

Shango Solutions



OMGEWINGSKENNISGEWING: PROSPEKTEERREG EN OMGEWINGSMAGTIGING-AANSOEK

ring (OIA) 2014 Regulasies (soos gewysig) openbaar gemaak onder die We op Nasionale Omgewingsbestuur (Wet 107 van 1998) (WNOB) (soos gewysig), van 'n aansoek vir 'n Prospekteerreg en 'n Omgewingsmagtiging om te verken vir mineraalneerslae in die Vrystaatprovinsie van Suid-Afrika. Dit behels 'n Prospekte

White Rivers Exploration (Pty) Ltd (White Rivers Exploration) het 'n Prospekteerreg en Omgewingsmagtigingaansoek ingedien by die Departement van Mineralehulpbronne (DMH): Vrystaatse Streekskantoor. Die DMH het die Prospekteerregaansoek aanvaar op die 2 Junie 2018. Indien die aansoek toegestaan word, sal dit White Rivers Exploration in staat stel om te bepaal of daar ekonomies lewensyatbare mineraalneerslae binne die aansoekgebied bestaan. Die minerale van belang sluit in: goud, silwer, steenkool, kobalt, koper, diamante (alluviaal), yster, mangaan, molibdeen, nikkel, lood, platinumgroepmetale, seldsame aardelemente, swael, uraan, wolfram er sink. Daar word verwag dat slegs die volgende nie-indringende tegnieke gedurende die prospekteerwerk gebruik sal word

Verkryging, vaslegging en samevatting van historiese data Lessenaarstudies Terreinbesoek

Die volgende WNOB-gelyste aktiwiteit onder Lyskennisgewing 1 van die WNOB 2014 OIA-regulasies (soos gewysig) sal deur hie

• RK 327 (van 2017), Aktiwiteit 20: Enige aktiwiteit, ingeslote die bedryf van daardie aktiwiteit wat 'n prospekteerreg vereis kragtens artikel 16 van die Wet op die Ontwikkeling van Minerale en Petroleumhulpbronne, 2002 (Wet 28 van 2002), ingeslote (a) gepaardgaande infrastruktuur, strukture en grondwerk, wat direk verband hou met prospektering vir 'n mineraal, of (b) die primêre verwerking van 'n minerale hulpbron, ingeslote winning, onttrekking, klassifikasie, konsentrasie, vergruising, sifting of was; maai uitgeslote die sekondêre verwerking van 'n minerale hulpbron, ingeslote smelting, veredeling, reduksie, raffinering, kalsinering of

Ligging: Die aansoekgebied dek 12 422.1 hektaar wat strek oor 66 plaasdele en is geleë binne die Kroonstad-Magistraatsdistrik, 13 km oos van

White Rivers Exploration (Pty) Ltd

Kroonstad-Noord Prospekteerreg

Ongeveer 12 422.1 hektaar

Belanghebbende en Geraakte Partye (B&GPs) kry 'n tydperk van 30 dae om te registreer en kommentaar te lewer oor die voorgenome aktiwiteit en aansoek. Indien u wil registreer as 'n B&GP vir hierdie projek en enige kommentaar, bekommernisse of besware wil lug wat u dalk oor die projek het, moet u asseblief u naam, kontakbesonderhede, rede vir belangstelling en kwessies/bekommernisse skriftelik of telefonies voorlê aan Shango Solutions, teen nie later nie as die 31 ste Augustus 2018. Sluit asseblief die projek se verwysingsnaam (Kroonstad-Noord Prospekteerregprojek) by alle korrespondensie in. Neem asseblief kennis dat slegs geregistreerde B&GPs in kennis gestel sal word van verdere geleenthede vir betrokkenheid by hierdie proses.

A enige navrae, kommentaar of bekommernisse ten opsigte van hierdie aansoek kan gerig word aan Shango Solutions by: Kontakpersoon: Me Zizo Siwendo E-pos: zizo@shango.co.za

Tel: 011 678 6504 Faks: 011 678 9731

Faks: 057 357 6003

Shango Solutions

Projeknaam: Kroonstad-Noord Prospekteerreg Posadres: Posbus 2591, Cresta, 2118, Suid-Afrika Enige kommentaar of bekommernisse oor hierdie aansoek kan ook gerig word aan die Departement van Mineralehulpbronne (en

Kontakpersoon: Me Nkateko Mhlarhi DMH verwysingsnommer: FS 30/5/1/1/3/2/1/10520 EM Posadres: Private Sak X33, Welkom, 9460

Vir aandag: Myndirektoraat: Omgewingsbestuur DMH – Vrystaatse Streekskantoo



OMGEWINGSKENNISGEWING:

PROSPEKTEERREG EN OMGEWINGSMAGTIGING-AANSOEK

en Hoofstuk 4 van die Omgewingsimpakassessering (OIA) 2014 Regulasies (soos gewysig) openbaar gemaak onder die Wet op Nasior Omgewingsbestuur (Wet 107 van 1998) (WNOB) (soos gewysig), van 'n aansoek vir 'n Prospekteerreg en 'n Omgewingsmagtiging om vir mineraalneerslae in die Vrystaatprovinsie van Suid-Afrika. Dit behels 'n Prospekteerregaansoek ingevolge die WOMPH en 'n seringsproses soos per GN 326 (van 2017) van die WNOB

Mary van aktivities.

White Rivers Exploration (Pty) Ltd (White Rivers Exploration) het 'n Prospekteerreg en Omgewingsmagtiging-aansoek ingedien by die Departemen van Mineralehulpbronne (DMH): Vrystaatse Streekskantoor. Die DMH het die Prospekteerregaansoek aanvaar op die 25^{tee} Junie 2018. Indien die aansoek toegestaan word, sal dit White Rivers Exploration in staat stel om te bepaal of daar ekonomies lewensvatbare mineraleneerskae binne die aansoekgebied bestaan. Die minerale van belang sluit in: goud, silwer, steenkool, kobalt, koper, diamante (alluviaal), yster, mangaan, molibdeen, nikkel, lood, platinumgroepmetale, seldsame aardelemente, swael, uraan, wolfram en sink. Daar word verwag dat slegs die volgende indringende en nie-indringende tegnieke gedurende die prospekteerwerk gebruik sal word: Nie-indringende prospekteeraktiwiteite

Geofisiese opnames (indien vereis) Geologiese modellering en teikenontwikkeling Hulpbronskatting

artikel 16 van die Wet op die Ontwikkeling van Minerale en Petroleumhulpbronne, 2002 (Wet 28 van 2002), ingeslote (a) gepaardgaand infrastruktuur, strukture en grondwerk, wat direk verband hou met prospektering vir 'n mineraal, of (b) die primêre verwerking van 'n

minerale hulpbron, ingeslote winning, onttrekking, klassifikasie, konsentrasie, vergruising, sifting of was; maar uitgeslote die sekondêre verwerking van 'n minerale hulpbron, ingeslote smelting, veredeling, reduksie, raffinering, kalsinering of vergassing van die minerale sodanige uithaal van sodanige inheemse plantegroei vir onderhoudsdoeleindes, onderneem in ooreenstemming met die onderhoudsbestuursplan, nodig is (i) binne enige kritiek-bedreigde of bedreigde ekostelsel wat ingevolge artikel 52 van die WNOB gelys is, of voor die publisering van so 'n lys, binne 'n gebied wat as kritiek-bedreig in die Nasionale Ruimtelike Biodiversiteitsassessering 2004 geïdentifiseer is en (ii) binne kritieke biodiversiteitsgebiede soos in biostreeksplanne geïdentifiseer.

Ligging:

Die aansoekgebied dek 22 202.78 hektaar wat strek oor 88 plaasdele en is geleë binne die Kroonstad-Magistraatsdistrik, 13 km oos van Kroonstad, in die Vrystaatprovinsie van Suid-Afrika.

White Rivers Exploration (Pty) Ltd

Kroonstad-Suid Prospekteerreg

Ongeveer 22 202.78 hektaar

Belanghebbende en Geraakte Partye (B&GPs) kry 'n tydperk van 30 dae om te registreer en kommentaar te lewer oor die voorgenome aktiwiteit e aansoek. Indien u wil registreer as 'n B&GP vir hierdie projek en enige kommentaar, bekommernisse of besware wil lug wat u dalk oor die projek het, moet u asseblief u naam, kontakbesonderhede, rede vir belangstelling en kwessiesbekommernisse sitelik of telefonies voorlê aan Shango Solutions, teen nie later nie as die 31 sie Augustus 2018. Sluit asseblief die projek se verwysingsnaam (Kroonstad-Suid Prospekteerregprojek) by alle korrespondensie in. Neem asseblief kennis dat slegs geregistreerde B&GPs in kennis gestel sal word van verdere geleenthede vir

Enige kommentaar of bekommernisse oor hierdie aansoek kan ook gerig word aan die Departement van Mineralehulpbronne (en 'n afskrif

betrokkenheid by hierdie proses Enige navrae, kommentaar of bekommernisse ten opsigte van hierdie aansoek kan gerig word aan Shango Solutions by: Kontakpersoon: Me Zizo Siwend

Posadres: Posbus 2591, Cresta, 2118, Suid-Afrika

Faks: 057 357 6003

uur na Shango Solutions) Tel: 057 391 1385

Kontakpersoon: Me Nkateko Mhlarhi DMH verwysingsnommer: FS 30/5/1/1/3/2/1/10519 EM Posadres: Private Sak X33, Welkom, 9460

Shango Solutions

Vir aandag: Myndirektoraat: Omgewingsbestuur DMH - Vrystaatse Streekskantoo



OMGEWINGSKENNISGEWING:

PROSPEKTEERREG EN OMGEWINGSMAGTIGING-AANSOEK

White Rivers Exploration (Pty) Ltd (White Rivers Exploration) het 'n Prospekteerreg en Omgewingsmagtigingaansoek ingedien by die Departement van Mineralehulpbronne (DMH): Vrystaatse Streekskantoor. Die DMH het die Prospekteerregaansoek aanvaar op die 25 to Junie 2018. Indien die aansoek toegestaan word, sal dit White Rivers Exploration in staat stel om te bepaal of daar ekonomies lewensvatbare mineraalneerslae binne die aansoekgebied bestaan. Die minerale van belang sluit in: goud, silwer, steenkool, kobalt, koper, diamante (alluviaal), yster, mangaan, molibdeen, nikkel, lood, platinumgroepmetale, seldsame aardelemente, swael, uraan, wolfram en sink. Daar word verwag dat slegs die volgende indringende en nie-indringende egnieke gedurende die prospekteerwerk gebruik sal word:

Nie-indringende prospekteeraktiwiteite Verkryging, vaslegging en samevatting van historiese data Oppervlakkertering en toetsing Geofisiese opnames (indien vereis)

Geologiese modellering en teikenon

Indringende prospekteeraktiwiteite

Die volgende WNOB-gelyste aktiwiteit onder Lyskennisgewings 1 en 3 van die WNOB 2014 OIA-regulasies (soos gewysig) sal deur hierdie aansoe • RK 327 (van 2017), Aktiwiteit 20: Enige aktiwiteit, ingeslote die bedryf van daardie aktiwiteit wat 'n prospekteerreg vereis kragtens artikel 16 van die Wet op die Ontwikkeling van Minerale en Petroleumhulpbronne, 2002 (Wet 28 van 2002), ingeslote (a) gepaardgaande infrastruktuur, strukture en grondwerk, wat direk verband hou met prospektering vir 'n mineraal, of (b) die primêre verwerking van 'n minerale hulpbron, ingeslote winning,

White Rivers Exploration (Pty) Ltd

Ongeveer 18 623.73 hektaar

Projeknaam: Vredefort-Wes Uitbr Prospekteerreg Posadres: Posbus 2591, Cresta, 2118, Suid-Afrika nisse oor hierdie aansoek kan ook gerig word aan die Departement van Mineralehulpbronne (en 'n afskrif gestuu

Kontakpersoon: Me Nkateko Mhlarh DMH verwysingsnommer: FS 30/5/1/1/3/2/1/10521 EM Posadres: Private Sak X33, Welkom, 9460 Vir aandag: Myndirektoraat: Omgewingsbestuur DMH - Vrystaatse Streekskantoor



Faks: 057 357 6003



Don't turn land debate into election issue - Cronin

By: Martin Makoni

The Deputy Minister of Public Works, Jeremy Cronin, says the ongoing countrywide discussions on the expropriation of land without compensation should not be used as a political weapon for elections as the country might not achieve the anticipated results.

Cronin said the country should look into the

matter holistically in order to come up with longterm results that meet the needs of all people, particularly the poorest of the poor.

He said this during a panel discussion on the politics of land reform at the University of the Free State yesterday. This was the fourth panel discussion in the inaugural Thought-Leader Series hosted by the university.

"Let us not turn this (land debate) into an

election issue," said Cronin to a loud applause from the audience.

"Let's approach the issue as South Africans faced with a serious problem of land which must be resolved for the good of the country," added Cronin who said he was not participating in the debate on behalf of the ANC, but a South

Cronin said he did not find anything wrong with the country's constitution presently as it allowed for the expropriation of land without compensation by government as long as it was done in the interest of the people.

It was also wrong for people to say the country was sold during Convention for a Democratic South Africa (CODESA) as all negotiations were done in the interest of the country.

"We didn't sell-out at CODESA, but the for land expropriation without compensation as question remains, have we sold out on the constitution? I think that is the question. I don't think the constitution is wrong. I think... we have not implemented the constitution to the latter. So, as a result, land has now become a major focus of anger and frustration by the people. So, we need to understand that land is quite an emotive issue," said Cronin.

Other panellists on the debate were Democratic Alliance (DA) Shadow Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Anette Steyn, Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) Member of Parliament Kgotso Morapela, Congress of the People (COPE) leader Mosiuoa Lekota and Freedom Front Plus MP Wouter Wessels.

But Morapela disagreed with him saying matter that can stir emotions. the current state of the constitution made it impossible for government to speedily implement the land redistribution exercise as it only allowed

Supporting present constitution... The Deputy Minister of Public Works Jeremy Cronin during the land debate at the University of the Free State

a last resort.

He said if the land is not put under the custody of the state, it would be difficult for the state to acquire it for redistribution.

But Lekota disagreed with him saying he was prepared to support the present constitution because he finds it reasonable and just.

"I have no apology to make. I am firmly committed to the end of my life, to support this constitution. I have already lost over 30 years of my life supporting the struggle to achieve this constitution," said Lekota.

Wessels argued that the history of land ownership in South Africa should not be oversimplified as it remains a very delicate

He said it's important to establish, among others, whether the expropriation of land without compensation would address the plight added.

League says young people will ensure continuity

ANCYL wants generational mix

of the poor people of South Africa.

"What we need in South Africa is mutual recognition and respect amongst people and communities. That is essential for the peaceful, sustainable and prosperous existence for us all. If we are not interested in that, then we should be frank and say that to one another," said Wessels who is also a member of the Free State

"If we are interested... in a better future for this country, we cannot go on blaming each other for everything that is wrong. We should have this mutual respect for each other. It's very easy to talk about a better past, but it's not going to be easy talking about a better future. It's very easy to try and blame and to try and redress the past, but it's not that easy for anybody, especially for the government to create a better future by actually addressing the plight of the people," he





NALA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

RESOLUTION ON LEVING PROPERTY RATES IN TERMS OF SECTION 14 OF THE LOCAL GORVENMENT; MUNICIPAL PROPERTY ACT.2004. (ACT NO.6 **OF 2004)**

PUPLIC NOTICE

RESOLUTION LEVYING PROPERTY RATES FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 01 JULY 2017 TO 30 JUNE 2017

Notice is hereby given in terms of section 14(1) and (2) of the Local Government: Municipal Property Rates Act, 2004; that the council resolved by of council resolution number 15.1/30.05.217, to levy the rate on property reflected in the schedule below with effect from 1 July 2017

Category of Property	Cent amount in the rand determined for the relevant property
Residential property	0,01000
SS Residential property	0,01000
Business and commercial property	0,01999
SS Business and commercial property	0,01999
Industrial property	0,01999
Public organisation property	0,00250
Government properties	0,02999
Municipal properties	0,01000
Agricultural	0,00250
Education	0,02999
Guest House	0,01499
Crèche	0,01499
PSI	0,0250
Vacant	0,03998

Full details of the Council resolution and rebates, reductions and exclusion specific to each category of owner of properties or owner of specific category of property determined through criteria in the municipality rates policy are available on the municipal office during working hours from 07:30 to 16:15 Monday to Friday.

Regards,

Mr BC MOKOMELA **MUNICIPAL MANAGER**



By: Ramosidi Matekane

The ANC Youth League in the Free State has amplified its calls for more young people who are rooted in the party to be elevated into positions of responsibility both in government and the movement.

The youth league was however quick to caution against misusing such calls to create chaos and anarchy in the ruling party.

ANC Free State youth league spokesman Sello Pietersen said the call for more representation should be one of the messages members of the league carry with them as they attend different conferences in their respective provinces ahead of the national event.

"Generational mix in the structures of the movement is non- negotiable nor is it a favour to be granted to the products of the political training ground of the movement, it's a must," said Pietersen.

He noted that promoting the young members of the youth league into more affluent positions would ensure the continuity of the ANC and also help the party renew itself.

"The only certainty for the longevity and renewal of ANC is both the strengthening of its youth league as well as the ascendance to the leadership structures by those who have been politically trained and moulded by the congress'



Time for elevation . . . ANC Free State Youth League spokesman Sello Pietersen

youth league," he pointed out.

Pietersen further called on all members of the youth league across the province to contest "this space with vigour and ensure that the ideals of a leadership encompassing all generations including young people is achieved in both party and state".

He however cautioned against confusing calls to fight for generational mix in leadership to asking young members of the congress movement to engage in a generational battle with their seniors in the party.

"We are not seeking a generational battle at generational mix. If there is resistance from any political corner, young comrades must then make use of the political militancy and energy to emerge; this is not a call for anarchy but a call foraction." In all upcoming conferences of the ANC,

young people must act with the agility of a cat and the precision of a cornered bull in driving their demands home, Pietersen said. The league remains inspired by some

members who have raised their hands to signal their readiness to represent young people's interests. These needed support.

The spokesperson said the league understands that the younger generation is faced with myriad challenges which they did not create but are expected to provide solutions for.

He called on members to take the front line in advocating for the realisation of this quest.

The youth league goes to its national policy and elective congress from September 6-11 where a new leadership collective is expected to

QwaQwa radio taken off air

By: Ramosidi Matekane

QwaQwa Community Radio in Maluti-A-Phofung Local Municipality has been taken off air after it failed to comply with regulations to hold annual general meetings to elect new board members since 2012.

The spokesman for the Independent Communications Authority of South Africa (Icasa), Paseka Maleka, confirmed the development to The Weekly yesterday.

Maleka said the station was taken off air because of non-compliance with the standing rules and regulations of Icasa, chief among them the holding of general meetings as per constitutions of community radio stations to renew mandates of sitting board members or election of new ones.

"What I can confirm for sure is that indeed the station has been taken off air and this is largely because of issues of non-compliance," he

by the board of the station since 2012.

Maleka noted two weeks ago members of the community tried to save the station by holding a general meeting to elect a new board. However, honly an interim board was elected since the old board was not present at the meeting.

Maleka said Icasa would only review the decision to scrap the licence of the station once evidence of compliance is presented to the body.

"Information at our disposal is that all members of the board resigned from it and that only one board member remains. We will also await the interim board to hold a legitimate general meeting before considering issuing an operating licence to the station," he explained.

Meanwhile listeners of the station remain stranded as Icasa await the holding of a properly constituted general meeting.

The meeting to elect the interim board was held at the Phuthaditjhaba Multipurpose Hall on

Saturday July 17.

Selemane, has been accused of overstaying his term of office, having been at the helm for the past 10 years.

The new interim board chairman, Reverend Matebesi Lakaje, said in a separate interview they were going to work hard to restore the dignity and respect of the community broadcaster, which he claimed some people wanted to destroy.

He was also quoted as saying all suspended radio presenters would be asked to return as no evidence of wrongdoing was presented for their axing.

The interim board is comprised of Advocate Stanley Letshela, Attorney Motlotsi Molotsi, Kholeka Nzimande, Thite Titi, and Nhlapo Majozi.

The newly-appointed interim board and management are expected to report back to the community in the next month to present the state of the station's daily operations and to formally inform the previous board about the

Current chairman of the board, Mei community's decision dissolve it.

said, adding that no general meetings were held NALA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

Land can be legally expropriated now'

At the ANC Western Cape land summit in Stellenbosch last Friday, keynote speaker and ANC NEC member Ronald Lamola said there was no reason to wait for public hearings to end before expropriation without compensation could take place.

The ANC's youngest NEC member said the outcome of the party's national summit, held two months ago, was that President Cyril Ramaphosa would appoint a task team to assist with the land reform project.

Instances of expropriation would then need to be tested on a case-by-case basis in the Constitutional Court, Lamola added.

According to the politician, government departments and entities already had the means to test the Constitution by expropriating land within existing law.

Lamola, a lawyer by trade, sits on the party's subcommittee on economic transformation.

Clarifying his belief that expropriation of land could be carried out constitutionally, he said: "We don't believe the Constitution is a sellout document. What is needed is that the issue of land expropriation needs to be properly spelled out. We need to provide clarity."

"All those [state] institutions already have powers to expropriate, so they don't need to wait for the public hearings [to end].

"We can exercise that power now. Those who have the power to expropriate within the bounds of the Constitution, they can proceed," he noted.

According to Lamola, the ANC will now be attempting to finalise the passing of an expropriation bill that will properly clarify which land can be expropriated within existing law while also focusing on land restitution.

Lamola slammed what he saw as the bureaucratic nature of the registration and transfer process for land claims, and stated he believed various departments and state agencies already had the power to expropriate land.

"The departments of human settlements, expropriating powers, as well as various state agencies like [roads agency] Sanral and Eskom," said Lamola while briefing journalists outside a mixed economy. In a mixed economy, you

a Chinese-led fightback against Donald Trump's

protectionist agenda as it hosts counterparts of

economic powers, first identified by former

Goldman Sachs Asset Management Chairman

Jim O'Neill, is the 10th since its leaders started

meeting, and the first since the prospect of a full-

blown global trade war became a real threat. The

Chinese President Xi Jinping has already

used his visit to the country to forge friendships

and consolidate influence with multi-billion

dollar investments in Africa, including South

Africa, which counts China as its biggest trading

Xi's country has the most at stake in a

The annual summit of the coterie of emerging

the so-called Brics group of nations.

China and South Africa.



Time is now . . . ANC NEC member Ronald Lamola

the Western Cape event.

"The challenge has been the use of marketrelated prices, which is not what the Constitution demands when you want to expropriate."

Lamola added cooperative governance and traditional affairs minister Zweli Mkhize would also hold a summit to inform municipalities and mayors that they could expropriate land based on the current provisions.

Lamola also disputed the commonly held view that the ANC wanted all land transferred to the state, stating the party instead preferred joint

"There must still be title deeds, to secure basic education, public works - they have private deeds. Our policy is a mixture of ownership.

"The fact is the economy of the country is

SA gives China platform on trade

"I expect to see a bold, sweeping statement

protectionism and de-globalization with an

intent to keep the global trading regime intact

and predictable," Martyn Davies, managing

director for emerging markets and Africa at

"Access to the global economy through trade

O'Neill coined the Bric term in 2001 to

describe the four emerging powers he estimated

would equal the US in joint economic output

by 2020. Brazil, Russia, India and China invited

South Africa to join the group in December 2010. The five countries' GDP is now more than 90%

the size of US output. While they have combined

\$17trn that BRICS represents.

Deloitte, said by phone.

the past 2 1/2 decades."

BRICS group encompasses Brazil, Russia, India, has underpinned China's economic success over

potential trade conflict, accounting for the bulk foreign-exchange reserves of \$4trn, the group's

cannot have all the land of the country owned by the state," he said.

According to another speaker at the summit, WA Mgodi, who served on the land reform commission from 1998 to 2003, there is already a precedent for the expropriation of public land legally seen to be a "commonage".

Mgodi noted that partial tracts of a golf course in Durbanville, Cape Town, had been used to build roughly 15 houses.

Most golf courses are owned by the municipality, and so approval from the City was given, and a deal was struck, allowing the homes to be built.

According to Mgodi, commonages by definition already belong to the state, and therefore expropriation can be carried out lawfully. -Citizen

Treasury announces inquiry into PIC

is one step closer to learning his fate, as finance minister Nhlanhla Nene informed the board of the government-owned investment vehicle of an that Nene had met with the PIC board of independent inquiry into the PIC's "governance

Treasury announced earlier this week that Nene had completed his review of evidence and allegations against the PIC and its CEO and that he would before the end of the week announce the decisive steps aimed at addressing the PIC's governance issues and allegations against the PIC CEO.

Nene earlier said he would not cave in to pressure to preemptively suspend Matjila without a fair and due process after Matjila, in recent weeks, came under attack from United Democratic Movement leader Bantu Holomisa.

However, while Matjila has rejected allegations of impropriety and the Public Service

Public Investment Corporation CEO Dan Matjila Association defended him, the matter escalated

Treasury said in a statement on Wednesday directors and informed them of "the next steps in dealing with the governance issues at the stateowned fund manager and the allegations against certain PIC executives".

The steps are:

The institution of an independent inquiry into the affairs of the PIC; and

The directive by the Minister to the board of the PIC to commission a proper forensic investigation into the allegations against certain PIC executives.

Further details on the independent inquiry, including the name of its head as well as its terms of reference, will be announced in due course, the statement read. -Fin24å

SADC won't endorse sham Zimbabwe poll

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) observer mission says it will not endorse a bogus election in Zimbabwe.

The 63-member SADC team, led by Angola's secretary of state in the External Relations ministry, Tete Antonio, said after meeting political parties in Harare at the weekend that they would not endorse a sham election as their mandate was to witness a fully democratic process.

Political instability in Lesotho, skirmishes in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) Madagascar - where elections are due in November - and Zimbabwe's military-engineered removal of Robert Mugabe have cast a bad light on the region in recent years.

"We spoke (to the parties) about consolidating democracy and we understood that democracy is a process and elections are only a part of the process. With the issue that was raised regarding reforms, we understand that steps South Africa is likely to provide a platform for of the combined gross domestic product of about currencies, stocks and bonds took a hit from the were undertaken and we have taken note that 13 changes were done," Antonio said.

The MDC Alliance is leading protests over issues such as the design of the ballot paper and security around the ballot papers. These issues of the population was visually impaired. were raised by the SADC team at a meeting with -Timeslive

the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission (ZEC). Protests by the alliance were scoffed at by

President Emmerson Mnangagwa who said that the July 30 poll would be the most transparent election in the history of the country. He urged the opposition to approach the courts with their grievances. "Government has no role in controlling or influencing ZEC at all.

They are guided by the Constitution and Electoral Act of the country. Those who feel that the ZEC has not complied with the law or constitution, our courts are open to deal with such issues," he said.

So far, grievances brought before the courts in relation to the polls have been thrown out, including the latest by visually impaired voter Abraham Mateta who sought an order to have the electoral body print a braille version of the ballot paper.

High Court Judge Charles Hungwe said according to law, a visually impaired person was allowed to bring a trusted assistant when casting

A 2014 report from the University of Zimbabwe said at the time that nearly 10%

METRO MUNICIPALITY

METRO MUNISIPALITEIT

LEKGOTLA KA MOTSE





PUBLIC NOTICE

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Notice is hereby given in terms of the provisions of Section 18(2) read in conjuction with Section 29(1) of the Local Government: Municipal Structures Act, 1998 (Act No 117 of 1998), Rule 6.1 of the Council's Standing Rules and Orders that an Ordinary Meeting of the MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE MANGAUNG METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY will be held as follows:

DATE: Tuesday, 31 July 2018

TIME: 10H00

VENUE: Council Chamber, First Floor

Bram Fischer Building

COUNCILLOR MXOLISI SIYONZANA

SPEAKER

the continent and establish a regional market as it gets hit by a developing trade war instigated by the US, trade and industry minister Rob Davies

Deeply worried. . . Trade and industry minister Rob Davies

South Africa needs to strengthen its ties within has said.

US trade-war collateral

damage hits SA: Davies

There is "great skepticism against multilateralism" developing in the US, "which is not good for any of us because it means we don't

"China is the most important trade country led by the Chinese side that will condemn in this coalition, and is likely to offset the negative impact from greater US protectionism through

increased domestic stimulus," Madhur Jha, head

trade war and Fed policy tightening.

of thematic research at Standard Chartered Bank, said in response to emailed questions. The BRICS nations would "reiterate their own domestic agendas at this meeting as well as

commit to more trade and investment among these countries," she said.

On Tuesday, China pledged to invest \$14.7bn in South Africa and grant loans to its state power utility and logistics company. The rand gained on the back of the announcement, and traded a further 0.2% stronger at R13.25/\$ at 08:55 on

Wednesday. –*News24* have a set of rules we can rely on and leaves us exposed to the full power relations in the world economy," Davies said on Wednesday in a panel discussion at the 10th annual Brics summit in

"For a small economy like ours, it's not a good place to be in. It means we need to find a solution to this in the African continent and in strengthening regional integration," he noted.

Johannesburg.

In June, the Trump administration imposed a 25% duty on steel and 10% levy on aluminum from South Africa, the European Union, Canada and Mexico, after refusing their calls for permanent exemptions.

The US says the tariffs are needed to protect its industry and national security. The government of Africa's most-industrialised economy is concerned that the US is considering a new wave of tariffs that could be extended to the auto industry, which is one of the cornerstones of South African manufacturing. Escalating trade tensions are threatening

to derail a global upswing that's already losing momentum amid weaker-than-expected growth in Europe and Japan as financial markets seem complacent to the mounting risks, the International Monetary Fund warned on July 16. "South Africa is not a major protagonist but

we are being hit by collateral damage," Davies said. - Fin24

Manana has shown remorse: Mthembu

ANC chief whip Jackson Mthembu says former MP Mduduzi Manana's resignation from Parliament indicated that he was someone who took full responsibility for his actions and that he showed remorse.

The embattled former deputy minister announced his voluntary resignation in a statement on Tuesday afternoon and said that he felt "exonerated" by the National Prosecuting Authority's (NPA) decision to not prosecute him for alleged abuse.

Manana was accused of attempting to push his domestic worker Christine Wiro down a flight of stairs in May, and later of attempting to bribe her – allegations he denied.

On Wednesday, Mthembu said the party received Manana's resignation letter late on Tuesday and it was effective immediately.

"His voluntary resignation from Parliament, coupled with his resignation from the executive in 2017, is indicative of someone who has taken full responsibility and has shown remorse for his actions relating to his involvement in a genderbased violence case, where a court of law found



Alleges political smear campaign. . . Former MP Mduduzi Manana

him guilty," Mthembu said in a statement.

"We further note his public statement to the effect of actively participating in campaigns and initiatives to fight any form of genderbased violence and these initiatives have our full support," he noted.

"We wish Comrade Manana well with all his future endeavours."

On Tuesday, Manana claimed the charges against him were part of a "political smear

However, on Tuesday, DA chief whip John Steenhuisen said Manana's resignation was a tactic to avoid full accountability.

Manana was supposed to appear before Parliament's Joint Committee on Ethics and Members' Interests on Wednesday - an appearance he will no longer have to make.

"Now he seems to have jumped before being pushed, resigning less than 24 hours before having to face the ethics committee," Steenhuisen

In a separate incident, Manana was convicted of three counts of assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm in September 2017.

Video footage emerged of Manana assaulting a woman at Cubana in Fourways, Johannesburg, on August 6, 2017, which went viral on social media and sparked demands for his arrest.

He admitted during court proceedings that he also assaulted two others, saying the women had called him "isitabane", a term used to derogatively refer to gay people.

The Randburg Magistrate's Court ordered Manana to pay a R100 000 fine, or face 12 months in jail for the Cubana incident.

He was also ordered to complete 500 hours of community service, complete a rehabilitation programme and pay the victims a total of R26 680.46. -News24

Mbete going nowhere says Parliament

Parliament says media reports that National tenures of its Presiding Officers and other Assembly Speaker Baleka Mbete may be resigning are false.

This follows comments Mbete made at the ANC's land summit at the weekend, which Parliament says some reporters misinterpreted.

Speaking in Stellenbosch on Saturday, Mbete said that she would continue serving her constituency in Khayelitsha, as well as the general public, in any capacity after the 2019 elections.

According to Parliament, Mbete's "comments were made as Parliament nears the end of its 5-year term, including the contested race for the ANC presidency. - IOL

elected public representatives, ahead of next year's elections. Regrettably, some reporters misinterpreted her to suggest that Ms Mbete intends resigning as Speaker or departing from

Mbete has been the National Assembly Speaker since May 2014. She is one of the longest-serving Members of Parliament since the first democratic elections were held in 1994, and has survived numerous skirmishes with opposition parties over the years.

She was also a candidate in last year's hotly



Urging firearms amnesty ... Police minister Bheki Bheki Cele

Police minister requests firearms amnesty in Sept

Parliament's portfolio committee on police says He emphasised that the South African Police it will formally consider a request by police minister Bheki Cele to have a firearms amnesty in September.

Committee chair Francois Beukman said the process followed on from a letter Cele had sent to the speaker of the National Assembly requesting that the portfolio committee on police consider

"The proposed amnesty could potentially assist in the reduction of firearms in circulation in the republic. The biggest challenge is still, however, to address the matter of illegal firearms in circulation, and to prevent legal firearms being stolen and getting lost in the pool of illegal firearms," Beukman said.

Service (SAPS) had to ensure that strict control measures were in place when members of the public handed over firearms during the amnesty.

"The portfolio committee needs to be assured that strict protocols will be put in place for the storage, testing and destruction of the said firearms. The proposed amnesty should be an effective mechanism to ensure that unwanted firearms are removed from the streets."

Following the committee's consideration of the Cele's request, the matter would be forwarded to the National Assembly for approval, Beukman said. The amnesty will run for six months. -BusinessDay

Cabinet ups committee meetings attendance

President Cyril Ramaphosa's Thuma Mina (Send me) call apparently includes his ministers' attendance at parliamentary committee meetings and now the Parliamentary Monitoring Group (PMG) documented a rise in ministers' attendance at these meetings.

Comparing the first six months of 2017 to the same period in 2018, PMG noticed a 9.7% increase in attendance in 2018.

"Both these periods had their shake ups: the 'midnight reshuffle' in March 2017, and President Ramaphosa's Cabinet announcement in February 2018. A comparison shows a 9.7% increase in executive attendance in 2018.

"Of the 11 ministers and deputies with no recorded appearances, six were relieved of their duties on 15 February 2018," reads a statement from the PMG.

According to the PMG's records, the member of the executive who most diligently attended committee meetings was the minister of water

affairs and sanitation Gugile Nkwinti, who attended 10 meetings.

Agriculture, forestry and fisheries minister Senzeni Zokwana attended eight meetings, and social development minister Susan Shabangu and police minister Bheki Cele each attended six.

"Attendance of Cabinet members in committees has been historically underplayed, but with the assertion of the oversight role of parliamentary committees, the pressure on ministers to attend key committee meetings has seen a rise," reads the PMG's statement.

"This was highlighted by the furore caused by the lack of appearances by then social development minister Bathabile Dlamini and her home affairs counterpart, Malusi Gigaba, during parliamentary committees' efforts to get clarity on the Sassa debacle and the Gupta family naturalisation."

On March 8 this year, not a single member of Cabinet was present in the National Assembly for members' statements - one of the ways in which Parliament exercises oversight over

Furthermore, the only deputy minister (deputy ministers are not members of Cabinet) present was Zanele kaMagwaza-Msibi, who is a National Freedom Party member.

Opposition MPs were outraged and the ANC asked Speaker Baleka Mbete to take the matter up with deputy president David Mabuza. The situation later improved.

According to the PMG, Mbete indicated earlier this year that she had written to Mabuza, to "complain about the absence of ministers during question time in the National Assembly".

"The deputy president responded in April 2018, announcing measures to deal with nonattendance including an attendance roster, and three ministers appointed to monitor their contemporaries. We hope that the attendance roster will be made public," reads the PMG's statement.

"Unknown to the public, a 2014 joint rules committee decision requires House attendance to be published once a year. But four years on, Parliament still has not once achieved this. The Parliamentary Monitoring Group (PMG) has been chasing this up for years without success." -News24

DA panel ruffles feathers

The DA has remained adamant that Western Cape Premier Helen Zille's spot on its selection panel to choose party representatives in Parliament is not in contravention of her suspension agreement.

Zille was suspended from all party activities last year following a series of tweets in which she defended aspects of colonialism.

The City Press on Tuesday quoted DA spokesperson Solly Malatsi saying they would not have signed off on it if it contravened the agreement.

DA Federal Executive chairperson James Selfe told the Cape Times to refer to Malatsi's response. When pressed, Selfe said: "We are making use of her experience."

This, however, was in stark contrast to DA leader Mmusi Maimane's statement when announcing the sanctions imposed on Zille following her tweets.

Maimane had said it was clear Zille did not share the same attitude about the DA's mission for 2019, adding: "Zille's social media commentary and public utterances in connection with colonialism undermine our reconciliation project.

"There is no question that Zille'a original tweets and subsequent justification have damaged our standing in public," he noted.

Approached for comment, Zille said: "Membership of the selection panel is bound by clear criteria and key indicators in ranking candidates in the 'pool' elected by the electoral

"Everyone knows that I do not allow any other issues to get in the way of proper processes. I have prevented people trying to hijack selection panels for their own agendas in the past."

Maimane's spokesperson, Portia Adams, referred questions relating to the selection panel

"The leader of the DA is here to build a strong, diverse leadership, not argue about the same thing to Maimane.



past," Adams said.

ANC provincial secretary Faiez Jacobs said Zille was brought in through the back door.

Her being allowed on the panel was a show of the DA's default setting, "that black people are good enough to vote, but not to lead". He said Zille was "ruling from the grave".

"They are all scared of her, and the white 'baasskap' mentality still exists within the DA." Black people must stop being fooled; they

don't care about the people on the Cape Flats,

The latest controversy follows statements by former DA MP Lindiwe Mazibuko who reportedly told a gathering last week Zille had often failed at nurturing new leadership, that Zille had undermined her and was doing the

Adams did not respond to a request for comment on Mazibuko's remarks.

Following Mazibuko's statements, Zille said in a radio interview she had told Mazibuko she wasn't ready to lead the party.

Zille went on to say she herself should not be on the party's federal executive.

"I said to them, 'peak late', and when Lindiwe wanted to stand as the leader of the caucus after only two years on the caucus, I said I think it's a bit early. I think it's wrong that I should be sitting, for example, on a federal executive

""It is a bit difficult when you're trying shape your own vision and your own direction and give your own leadership, to have the former leader sitting there. I completely understand that, and that's one of the reason why I stepped back."

Activities lined up for Shenge's birthday

With IFP leader Inkosi Mangosuthu Buthelezi celebrating his 90th birthday next month, those close to him say his leadership is still needed in the country's political arena.

Buthelezi's political awakening can be traced back to the 1930s when he was active in

He later joined the ANC Youth League alongside former president Nelson Mandela. Anton Lembede was the president of the youth league at the time.

Mandela became the league's first secretary-general.

With the blessings of the ANC's longest serving president, Oliver Tambo, Buthelezi left the ANC and formed the IFP in 1975.

Buthelezi has been IFP president since its Celebrations have begun weeks before his

actual birthday on August 27. Congratulatory messages have been flowing

in for the leader of the Buthelezi clan. Baleka Mbete, Speaker of the National

Assembly, described him as a leader who spoke sense when other MPs veered out of line.

"He is one of the MPs who rescues our Parliament when chaos erupts. He is full of respect and he respects everybody regardless of who they are. That is the kind of leadership we need in this country," Mbete noted.

Bantu Holomisa, leader of the United Democratic Movement, said Buthelezi has played a father figure role in local politics and in Parliament.

"We say happy birthday to the old man; may

Birthday man . . . IFP leader Mangosuthu **Buthelezi turns 90 next month**

he see many more years to come," he said. Holomisa lauded Buthelezi for his unwavering support for democracy and nurturing young

members of Parliament including him.

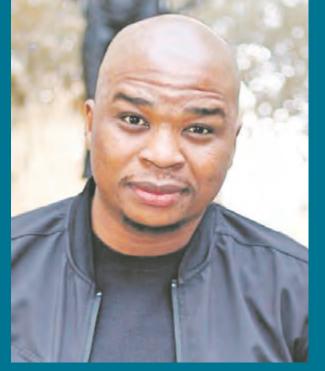
Festivities are lined up for Buthelezi, culminating in the main celebration at Ulundi Regional Sports Complex on August 27.

His son, Prince Zuzifa Buthelezi, said the festivities for Buthelezi were the family's way of saying thank you to him. -SundayTribune



CONVERSATIONS

WE ARE BLESSED TO BE A **BLESSING: DR TUMI**



PAGE 12

I'M NOT MZANSI'S SHADE **QUEEN: ZAHARA**



PAGE 12

ONE ON ONE WITH **TLOU RAMARU**



PAGE 16



Listening attentively . . . An active crowd listens as speakers engage at the UCT Graduate School of Business last Friday

A DAILY STRUGGLE: THE BUSINESS OF BEING BLACK

f you are black in South Africa's world of work, it is a daily struggle against a system that constantly alienates you, aiming to exclude and sideline you. If you are black, you are never good

extract from Wiseman Magasela's The Invisible Black Professionals, published in 2000 in the Mail & Guardian, formed the inspiration behind a discussion called The Business of Being Black, at the weekend at the UCT Graduate School

Professor Shadrick Mazaza, the founder and CEO of the African Consciousness Institute (ACI), which hosted the event, questioned why is it that black people in South Africa still feel alienated, excluded and taken for granted in the workplace over 20 years into democracy?

Why is it that black people in South Africa can still relate to Magasela's article?

Mazaza is an associate professor at the University of Cape Town's Graduate School. He currently teaches on authentic leadership and personal transformation.

"The work that I do is self-knowledge. Being you where your power lies, whatever you want to do in life."

Mazaza believes that the key to black people taking their power back in the workplace is to take back "personal powers" first. He says that black people should be rooted in themselves and be confident in their African identity.

He used the analogy of a tree and the fruits that it bears to describe business organisations and the many arguments that people have had against affirmative action unequally benefiting black people.

"If you see things such as BEE (Black Economic Empowerment) and Affirmative Action as fruits, and yourself as a tree, no one can take your power away from you. People can take the fruits, but they cannot move the tree."

Mazaza said that it is important that black people see themselves for who they really are and not for who people have said they are for over 400 years. "Let's look at what contribution we've had in the world, where did the US and Europe get their wealth from? Us. Minerals, education, principles, even religion, most Western religions are founded on Egyption religions, it dates all the way back to Egyptians. We are powerful," he said.

Mazaza said that it was important that Africans unite, regardless of which part of Africa they come from. He argued that national boundaries are not real. "I like to joke and say they (national boundaries) were drawn by some drunken Europeans in Berlin years ago. They're not real."

The four panellists were Andile Nomlala, Aisha Jackson, Phumelele Ndzuta and Christine Qunta.

Nomlala, who is Black Management Forum (BMF) Chairperson for the Western Cape and founder and CEO of Ngwayibanjwa

Consulting Services. Nomlala, spoke about how black people often feel suffocated in the workplace.

"You are overlooked, taken for granted, and when you point that out you look ridiculous. Don't ever make the mistake of pointing out an individual white person as racist, you will look ridiculous, Point out the system. Let's attack the system," he said.

Nomlala said that black people often tolerate mistreatment and racism, and such conformist attitudes have a spillover effect, affecting the next black person.

"The dispossession of black people has always been linked to legislation and it is important that black people reverse the same system via a legislative element," he said.

Nomlala announced that BMF currently in the process of setting up a litigation fund, where they will open offices around the Western Cape so workers can consult legally if they feel that they are being mistreated.

Nomlala was followed by Aisha Jackson, one of Mazaza's students, who shared notes on her Master's thesis, which is based on being an African woman in the workplace and experiencing bias based on appearance.

At her last corporate job, Jackson decided to go natural, a moment she described as life-changing because she has been relaxing her hair since she was 12 years old.

Jackson was working for black womenowned business and surprisingly her boss told her that she did not like her natural hair. "She said the clients won't like it, she told me to take it off." Jackson then decided to braid her hair because she felt that was more socially acceptable and because she had been forced to conform.

This inspired her to base her thesis on black women's experiences in the workplace and the prevalance of appearance bias.

Jackson's study contained interviews with creatives and corporates, most who had spent time in africa or were African. The study found that based on these black women's experiences, gender and race bias existed, and that black women were affected

The bias was more prevalent in conservative and european environments. There was a perception bias, where certain stereotypes were attached to black women with natural hair. These stereotypes implied that the black women with their natural hair were more "ghetto" or unclean, that they lacked ability and intelligence and that they were likely to be more aggressive.

Jackson said that there was also bias based on attire, skin tone and body shape and black women were often subjected to looks of disapproval.

The black professional women interviewed said that they were expected to look as close to white women as possible, and if they did not assimilate, most would at times end up being made to doubt their own ability and intelligence.

"A lot of these women that I spoke of place, because her colleagues were only

to said that they often felt the need to be over-prepared, to work harder, some even explained it as a continued nightmare... I saw myself in their identities," she said.

Jackson said that the study concluded that appearance bias does hinder opportunity.

Phumelele Ndzuta, the third panellist, founded the Black Organisational Culture Connection (BLOCC). BLOCC aims to organise spaces where black people can interact and connect in African working environments where they can be themselves.

"If you put someone who is used to driving a manual car into an automatic car, they will struggle even if the performance of that car is better. It is about the environment that you are put in. It's the guy who is used to interacting with that car will be the better driver, he's used to it," Ndzuta said.

Ndzuta used this example of a manual versus an automatic car to explain how black people can sometimes feel out of place in the workplace. He said that interactions in the workplace often affect performances.

"When we (black people) are back home, we greet everyone but when you get to the office people don't. Have you ever sat in a meeting and felt uncomfortable, and thought that maybe if you had walked in and greeted everyone you would feel better? White people's interactions in the office are usually more transactional. I only speak to you when I need something. There's a lack of emotional connection."

Ndzuta said that the Western system of work is very different from the African system of work, and that the well being and emotions of the worker should become more of a priority.

'The Western system is not necessarily a good system because look how many of us it has left outside. That's why we as black people should try and incorporate more of our culture in the workplace," he said.

Ndzuta also said that the Western system is built to make black people compete against each other and to shoot each other down to get to the top, but at the end of the day, everyone in the workplace is trying to achieve the same goal. He said that it was important that people remember that in the workplace, you are a team and not competition to the next person.

"Last week I was back home and we were trying to move a truck as the men of the family and the mission was achieved by helping each other, by laughing and working together. And at the end, there was the reward of beer, but no one said, I deserve two sips because I did most of the work."

Christine Qunta, who is an author, lawyer and former anti-Apartheid activist, said that these kinds of spaces that the ACI had created are important, especially in Cape Town and Johannesburg as there is a huge sense alienation among black people in the bigger cities.

After returning from exile in 1993, Qunta worked at Sanlam Law. She often felt out used to interacting with black women who were domestic workers. Qunta authored the book, Who's afraid of affirmative action? A Survival Guide for Black Professionals in which she speaks about her experience in the professional world, and how, for example, she felt alienated when her colleagues would speak Afrikaans in meetings.

Qunta spoke about 1994 and how she believes that it was not complete liberation for black people, but a removal of apartheid legislation. Even though some things have changed and 1994 has brought some relief, she believes that South Africa was given the form of democracy but not the substance of it because the middle-class black people are still indebted and the white minority is still in control of the country. Qunta said that there needs to be more trade unions for the middle class.

"The limited power of government is constrained by the economic power of the minority. The problem is the system. I looked this up the other day and 68% of white people make up top management but only 14% of black people make up top management. I think the solution is for black people to start their own businesses. Let's think strategically."

Qunta said that companies often only hire black people because they have to comply with Employment Equity legislation. These companies will have a majority of white people in top management positions because they assume that white people are more experienced.

"The first wave of BEE had a lot of white top management because those were the people who knew and had experience, but that was true in 1994 not now," she said.

Qunta said that we cannot move forward as a nation if there is not an emphasis on justice.

"The emphasis was placed more on forgiveness and not justice in 94. It was a compromise because they did not want more of our people dying. But I think that the 94 settlement did not stop what will eventually happen. People's anger, humiliation, white arrogance, exclusion, their 'investors won't come if you touch the land' comments will lead to an upheaval, and it will be a racial one," she said.

She added, "You can't use unscientific, irrelevant concepts like rainbow nation, reconciliation, how do you forgive people who have not asked for forgiveness? People who have not acknowledged their wrongness?'

Qunta said that black people need to start their own businesses to address the flaws in the corporate world. They need to think strategically and fight the unequal system of this country at a legal, political and social level.

The Business of Being Black was held to challenge the ideology of black people who find themselves in alienating workspaces and to suggest solutions on how corporate South Africa can be more transformative. -DM



Changing people's lives . . . Dr Tumi

We are blessed to be a blessing

Normally when people celebrate their birthdays The host for the night, Lesedi FM's Seipati they expect to be dined and wined, to go away on holiday or be showered with gifts.

Not Tumishang Makweya, popularly known

The popular gospel artist decided to host a charity concert on his 37th birthday on Tuesday, where he received donations for a charity of his choice as his birthday gift.

The intimate concert was held at the Rockwood Theatre in Pretoria.

Dr Tumi gave away 400 free tickets to his supporters, but the catch was they had to donate something to the less privileged.

"We are blessed to be a blessing, not to just drive fancy cars. I never celebrate my birthday, so I thought if I am going to do it I will have people come celebrate and it is going to be for a good cause," he said.

It was a wonderful concert, with a great atmosphere for any gospel music lover. The audience enjoyed performances from musicians such as the energetic Lucas Maloma, Joyous Celebration's Sbu Noah, Breathe, Lebohang Kgaphola, Pastor Lungi Ndala and the marvellous Jesse Priestly, who was loved by the crowd so much that he had to perform twice.

'Twasa' Seoke performed her turn-up gospel song, Busy, which had a house music touch to it.

The fire song got everyone dancing; even the little children were off their seats.

The atmosphere changed from hyper to a calmer one when Dr Tumi graced the stage and performed songs from his albums - Love and Grace, Heart of a King and his latest offering, The Gathering of Worshipers.

Songs such as Nothing Without You, You Are Here, Speak A Word, Because Of Jesus and There Is No Other Name had the most impact on

With the help of the audience, the musician and Universal Music managed to raise more than R55 000, which was donated to Matshidiso Sekuwe, the owner of Refilwe Legae Home that is based in Alexandra. The one-roomed home supports 18 children with no funding.

Dr Tumi also offered to take Sekuwe away on a holiday, just to relax.

It is clear that him being a medical doctor and a musician was not by accident; Dr Tumi was meant to spend his life changing people's lives. -Channel24

Are Babes, Mampintsha really back together?

Babes Wodumo and Mampintsha's controversial relationship has had the entire country confused for the last two months.

Now, it looks as if the former lovebirds may be back together.

Some of the latest reports in local tabloids seem to be suggesting that Babes and Mampintsha are back together. These claim that the two have put their differences aside after discovering that Babes is pregnant.

Durban-based newspaper Isolezwe claims that Babes is currently four months pregnant; a development which has seen the two West Ink musicians give their relationship another shot.

One of the newspaper's sources claims that Babes and Mampintsha have been visiting a gynae in Durban.

Babes's manager was contacted for comment and although he could not confirm the speculation around the singer's pregnancy,

he did confirm that both his client and Mampintsha meet up frequently for business purposes.

"I don't know if Babes is pregnant. Therefore I cannot say much on that topic. As far I know, she is not pregnant. I do know that both Babes and Mampintsha are still business partners and they still meet each other for that; they have never been enemies."

While we have no confirmation of Babes and Mampintsha giving their relationship a second try, we have been following the rumours of the singer's pregnancy with interest.

More and more people are noticing that her body has grown over the last few months, leading to increased speculation that she could be expecting.

If she and Mampintsha are back together, would it be fair to assume that he is the father?

Mazwai daps back at troll

Musician Thandiswa Mazwai has made it clear that her name will not be used to bash other women

Better known by her stage name King Tha, she has always been vocal in her advocacy for women empowerment and it's no wonder that the songstress did not take lightly to a troll using her name to bash other women.

In the tweet, a Twitter user wrote about missing the late afro-pop singer Brenda Fassie and her ability to produce music that would inspire the masses.

The writer added the only thing that the current female musicians had learned from Brenda Fassie was 'how to get naked' rather than her music content.

The tweep then concluded the tweet by commending Thandiswa for still 'holding it down' and not allowing 'greed' into her heart.

The 42-year-old musician who celebrated her birthday in a womxn-only event, did not take kindly to the tweep's words and in a heated response wrote, "I would rather you didn't use me to bash other women. Interesting also that you don't put men to the same standard! Shouldn't they also be making music to uplift the masses! Shouldn't you also be looking at your own self and what gifts you have that you could use to uplift people?"

Many fans agreed with the musician's response and the troll later went on to apologise for the statement and all the women it offended.

"My apologies if my statement if itmade any female feel less of who she is but I realised, women are the only creation that can change man, a world full of good women automatically grows man full of good. You give life you correct it it's your birth power!"

I'm not Mzansi's shade queen: Zahara

Music superstar Zahara is not about that throwing shade life, but she isn't gonna just sit around and watch her career get disrespected.

The singer had the internet in a stir earlier this month when she responded to a fan questioning whether she was still relevant by bringing the receipts of her successful

Zahara's fans were quick to hail her the Queen of Shade for her comments and told the follower not to come for their idol.

Speaking to TshisaLIVE, Zahara said she had to put the person straight and would not tolerate people coming for her career.

"They can say things about me and I really don't care. I have heard it all and I know it is not true. But they mustn't say that I am not relevant or don't sell music. I am one of the most successful artists in the country," she noted.

Zahara has spoken out before about the "lack of respect" she sometimes got from fans in Mzansi, saying that she often travelled overseas where she was more appreciated.

"I have taken my music across Africa and I have won many awards. I have done everything I could here and now people have started to tear me apart. They focus on my private life instead of my music and they don't give me the same respect," she said late last year.



In self-defence . . . Zahara

convinced her that some people are still People both her and overseas love me and listen listening, even though the hate really hasn't

She said the success of her latest album has "I have to be loved if I went gold in six hours. to my story. That is enough for me to be happy."

Ms. K Unrestricted 9

Reasons long distance relationships fail

Does distance make the heart grow fonder

even the strongest couples, so it's no surprise that many LDRs end prematurely - but yours shouldn't have to. Here are the most common reasons long distance relationships fail - and how to make sure yours doesn't.

1. Regular communication starts feeling like a chore. When attempting an LDR, many couples immediately set up an intense communication schedule involving a phone call every night, texting all through lunch and chatting on social media during office hours. That's a lot of contact, even for couples that live in the same city.

How to fix it: Talk when you want to talk. Don't hold each other hostage over an 8pm phone call when you both have lives outside of each other. Make communication something you want to do, not something you have to do.

2. Jealousy gets in the way. It can be insanely difficult to know that your partner's social life involves, well, not you. And if it often includes someone you have serious difficulty trusting? Well, that's a recipe for disaster. Being apart can make anyone feel insecure, even when you have no reason to be.

How to fix it: Instead of worrying, talk about it.

3. You have to deal with differing social lives and schedules. It's one thing if you're both studying at different varsities and your lives are

entirely if you're working an exhausting nine-to-Long distance relationships (LDRs) are a five every day while he completes his Masters in common. challenge, even when you and your partner are another city, hitting student night at 10 different easily result in resentment.

How to fix it: Remember that your partner can't be punished for the fact that you feel lonely. It's nobody's 'fault' that your lives are so different. Just be honest about your feelings and remind yourself that he's not doing anything wrong, and neither are you.

4. There's no set reunion date. Long distance dating is the absolute worst when there's no end in sight and neither of you are willing to compromise on it. You both have a life you love in different places, and you can't see either of you leaving that behind. You want to be together... but you also want to stay where you are.

How to fix it: Try to reach a consensus. Be honest with yourselves about whether this relationship is going to work. Are you serious enough about the relationship to uproot your lives for each other? If not, is there any point continuing?

5. You feel yourselves growing apart. Chances are you're doing long distance because you're at different stages in life. Now, both of you are growing... but in opposite directions. You can't make anyone change, and you can't stop anyone from changing.

How to fix it: Discuss your future. Establish exactly where you see yourselves going to know if you're still on the same page. Try to remember

following similar structures. It's another thing why you fell in love with each other in the first place, and exactly what it is you have in

6. Your sex life becomes non-existent. Being totally and completely in love. Distance tests bars after every study session. Different lives can in a sexless relationship for months on end can be rough. If you're in a healthy relationship with a great person, you both crave not only sex, but any sort of affectionate, romantic touch. It's awful to feel lonely even when you're with

> How to fix it: Don't pretend it's an issue that doesn't exist. Talking about it may feel awkward, but you have to address the issue of sex instead of adopting a don't-ask-don't-tell policy when the two of you are apart, but this is the worst thing you could do. Remember, you don't have to agree to anything that makes you feel uncomfortable when you're apart. But the lack of physical contact isn't something you should pretend doesn't exist.

7. Financial strain is very real. Dating someone who lives far away is expensive. There's the phone bill, the fuel and the flights that need to be taken care of. You aren't living together, so there's no rent split. It can be seriously tough on your pockets to love someone who doesn't live down the road.

How to fix it: Find more inexpensive ways to stay connected. Don't resent your partner because your long distance love is depleting your bank balance. You don't have to be flying up and down every few weeks to stay in a successful relationship. There are endless ways to stay in touch, and not all of them cost upwards of a grand.









AMUSING AND IDIOCY... THE ORDER OF THE DAY

Without a doubt, Windburg offered a night a lot of Bloem's entertainers will remember for years to come. The humility, fun and craziness was out of this world. But damn, for a small dorpie, you sure know how to party!



Forver on point... Dj Glenstar-International rocked the boat this past Friday much to the delight on patrons.



KING OT THE GECK... Ever since his departure from Though'ts Lounge, Show D has kept a rather low profile. The drama we've come to know him of has been swept under the carpet. But thing he has not done is surrender his drive when it comes to the deck. Showing up at Windburg, he proved that he remains one of the most consist disc-jockeys the game has ever seen. With his charm looking-but!



King's birthday... The King, alongside DJ LeGoody have vowed to bring the City of Roses to a standstill this coming weekend. Well, never has the King failed, and with LeGoody right next to his curve and the City's top crop DJs, hell will break loose.

Getting younger... Dj Finzo and Victor Mokgosi at Cappello

during his birthday celebration.





Man of the moment... DJ Hlethe and Kibiti Ramotsehoa had a super awesome night. Man of the moment Mr. Ramotsehoa was happier than a three year-old who's just got a new toy. Goodness

Looking the part... Mpho Misslouw Makomo and Pertunia Boity Sehume looked the

part at this year's fund-raising party in held in HaMshonza, Windburg. Girls were extremely hot

and owned the night so much their own hubbies were

left drooling.



Killer sleepiest... Well, he might have infected a lot of entertainers when it comes to sleeping after sipping a few beverages, but Bushveld is not to be outplayed with when it comes the deck. Love and respect this man!

"Generational mix in the structures of the movement is non-negotiable nor is it a favour to be granted to the products of the political training ground of the movement, it's a must."

ANC Free State youth league spokesman Sello Pietersen calling for more representation of young people in both government and the party.

"We have since adopted a road map to guide us through the regional conferences and part of it states that regions where leadership terms have expired or about to expire will be turned into task teams for those regions."

ANC provincial spokesman Thabo Meeko commenting on the party's preparations for regional conferences in the Free State, in an interview with The Weekly

"HIV is not just a health issue, it's also a behavioural and cultural issue. People should not be complacent even when they are on medication. They should continue protecting themselves and their partners from possible infections."

HSRC executive director for the HIV/AIDS, STIs and TB (HAST) Research Programme Dr Khangelani Zuma following the launch of the fifth SA National HIV Prevalence, Incidence and Behaviour Study findings

The Weekly

Editorial

15 million ANC votes in 2019 not far-fetched

While the ANC continues to make positive strides in inculcating a sense of political maturity and acceptance of conference leadership outcomes among the rank and file, this sort of education is long overdue, and has cost the movement dearly in

Case in point is the recent hotly-contested electoral battle between President Cyril Ramaphosa and Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma in December.

It was rather shocking, as well as discomforting to see members of the same organisation get so deeply divided over personalities than policy, gender than prowess and sentiment over reason.

The only conclusion one could draw from the highly charged emotions that preceded this conference, where Ramaphosa emerged victorious, is that there is still a long way to go in terms of helping ANC members appreciate democratic practices and the political contexts within which these leadership contestations take place.

For starters Ramaphosa and Dlamini Zuma belong to the same glorious movement and have both through time proven their commitment to its ideals, and not their own personal inclinations. Both leaders, however, could only be the drivers of the larger ANC consensus that comes from the conference resolutions as mandated by members to implement, create or repeal any legislation acting as stumbling block for meaningful change to happen.

Far from false opinions expressed therein, there was just no way in history that either of the two leaders could have come up with their own policy positions which are foreign to the dictates of the movement that deployed them into office, and try to implement same.

Given the centrality of the ANC, there is virtually no room for any president of the organisation to act in an individualistic manner, disregarding the national executive of the party and its counsel on what needs to be done.

There is no way any leader of the ANC could abandon founding principles of equity and justice which are its founding

Given the above, it is pure fallacy for campaign managers of different leaders prior to conferences - to project their preferred candidates as islands who can act on their own without expressed

It is also dangerous politicking to incite supporters of one candidate over the other in an antagonistic manner, in a manner that that seeks to portray political opponents as reactionary forces out to derail the national democratic revolution.

The danger here is that while the ANC-on-ANC attacks may work to achieve set agenda in the short term, their long term effects are devastating in that they risk sinking the entire ship under sea, and drowning everyone irrespective of faction.

Pathetic tricks such as painting each other with dirty brushes during leadership contests, and hanging each other's linen in public for all to see, plays right into the hands of anti-progress forces hell-bent on using everything to twist the truth and project the ANC as a movement at war with itself.

The only real contest that there is during conference is a contest about who will be the best driver to implement a package of ideas called 'resolutions' in government, and ensure they become real, live programmes that can be used as instruments to turn the tide against poverty and inequality.

While it is an open secret that the ANC is blessed with a large pool of credible, tried and tested cadres that are forever ready to take on leadership roles when called upon, it is still not everybody in the organisation that view this with appreciation. Some choose to frown upon leaders they did not prefer - and engage in all sorts of mudslinging and costly litigation in courts trying to subvert democratic conference outcomes over leadership.

It was hence refreshing to listen to President Ramaphosa over the weekend at the occasion of the Gauteng ANC provincial elective conference where he made it clear that he and Dlamini Zuma were inseparable allies rooted in the same movement and that their working and personal relationship was at its best.

Ramaphosa who endorsed the newly-elected provincial executive of the ANC in Kwazulu Natal made it clear to any confused soul out there still clinging to the CR17 and NDZ17 divide that they are living in the dark ages since the policy conference is now done and over with.

"Me and Nkosazana sit together in cabinet meetings. She sits right next to me, and we hold hands, under the table, while in the meeting"... Ramaphosa joked educationally told the Gauteng policy conference is an effort to bring members on board regarding the noble ideals of unity and renewal as captured by the 54th elective conference that elected him President.

With this trajectory which goes to the heart of the need for intense political education among members in surviving pre conference mobilising and campaigning, it will be sooner than later that members of the ANC come to a realisation that change in leadership does not mean change in the direction that the organisation is taking.



Cartoons by Zapiro from https://www.zapiro.com



The question Mandela would not answer

OPINION

SUNTOSH R PILLAY

At the recent 15 year anniversary celebration of the Mandela Rhodes Foundation, the guest speaker, Graça Machel spoke about the corrupting effects of power, and urged the audience of youthful African leaders to remain rooted to their values and stay close to their communities. This idea of power and how power ought to be used responsibly, took my mind back to 10 years ago, when I first had the opportunity to meet Nelson Mandela. He taught me, indirectly, an important lesson about power.

Imagine the scene. The Mandel

one of 23 young post-graduate students from across Africa to receive a scholarship to further my studies. We were christened Mandela Rhodes Scholars and had the honour of meeting the living patron of this controversially named organisation.

It was 4 March 2008, and my family's domestic worker for over 20 years had just passed away. She was so excited at this opportunity I had been given, so it was a bitter-sweet morning as I boarded the plane from Pietermaritzburg to Johannesburg for the much-anticipated meeting in Madiba's Houghton home. The 23 of us waited in the

force. Cameras went crazy as the former president walked in, as if he'd not already been photographed a million times over

Thankfully, due to my surname, I was lower down the alphabetical list in terms of the order with which we'd be called to have our few minutes of conversation with the global icon. I rehearsed a couple hundred possibilities of how I hoped this dialogue would go when my turn arrived, but they all melted into the ether as the moment morphed into a slightly dissociative and surreal space. After all, Madiba's famed hype had turned him into the stuff of legends and, despite his protests, his socially-sanctioned saintliness certainly created the expectation that one would Rhodes Foundation had selected me as small auditorium and the media was in full be in the presence of a supernatural force.

Perhaps I'm overstating it, but I was only 22 and had only just begun my Masters' degree - so the privilege of this meeting felt like the ecstatic climax of my young

So far, he'd been quite casual to my peers. He asked jokingly whether Robert Mugabe was still president of Zimbabwe, asking that his regards be passed to Ugandan President Museveni, reinforcing the importance of education and studying hard ("Don't stop at one PhD", he said), and asking one scholar whether she was related to a boxer with the same surname.

However, beyond my own encounter, it is that of Lindokuhle Nkosi, a scholar from the University of Zululand, that remains

Continues on page 17

Why talking about TRC is still important

Twenty years have passed since the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) presented its condemning report of the politically motivated atrocities and gross human rights violations perpetrated between 1960

What was hailed as an international benchmark for restorative justice is now harshly criticised retrospectively by many. The commission has been lambasted for its failings to adequately address the systematic structural violence perpetrated by the apartheid regime. The painfully slow process of monetary reparations for a shocking minority alongside the almost immediate freedom enjoyed by those who were granted amnesty through the process, adds further insult to injury.

An important criticism levelled against the commission is that the process failed in sufficiently raising and addressing the inherent, deeply racist nature of the apartheid system of oppression and neglected to highlight how the effects thereof informed and continue to inform life chances, access to resources and decision-making power of the majority of South Africans. It failed to address the various forms of everyday violence experienced by many South Africans.

During the time of the commission and in the years that followed, national government has through various messaging, unfailingly linked reconciliation with national unity, nonracialism and the negotiated settlement. Even though there have been some pro-poor social policies geared toward addressing certain dimensions of poverty, the ANC government's economic policies post-1994 have neither been sufficiently oriented towards, nor laid the foundations for, fundamentally addressing inequality. Since the transition direct social and economic change has come to be viewed as

merely a component of reconciliation and not a core pillar thereof.

And this is where the feelings between youth and their parent generation about the commission and its processes diverge. Despite the numerous criticisms against the TRC process, the majority of the parent generation and those who lived through the years of the commission, still recognise why such a process was important at that historical point. Many understand why certain compromises, however difficult, needed to be made to facilitate a peaceful transition and the choice to build a new democracy on a foundation of reconciliation rather than retribution.

Many youth, however, have come to regard the TRC as a process that served only to appease those who had benefitted from apartheid and an exercise that served to maintain existing power imbalances with only cosmetic changes.

So why then are we still talking about an imperfect process that clearly has many shortcomings? It is necessary that we do so because it has become an interesting point of generational disjuncture.

Many young people associate the TRC process with the failings of the current government and prevailing notions of reconciliation are often limited and hinged on misguided assumptions which have been informed by the delinking of reconciliation and social justice. This has dire consequences for any efforts of nation building that promotes a shared future.

It is also important that we reflect on the legacies of the TRC and explore its generational dimensions because despite the criticisms, it signified an important moment in the history of this country, and offered a beginning to a process of healing not only for individuals who had been victims of gross human rights violations, but for the whole of South Africa.

It created a space which did not exist

OPINION

before in this country; a space where diverse and agonising narratives of suffering could emerge, allowing greater understanding between South African society, fractured by the brutalities of apartheid.

The TRC, for all its short-comings and despite the numerous criticisms lodged against it, leaves a model of healing that we as South Africans should try and emulate in our homes. It teaches us that the process of reconciliation is not an easy one. It necessitates an opening up and exposes the awfulness, the abuse, the pain, the degradation and the truth.

False reconciliation can only ever bring false healing and that reconciliation without material change and access is empty. It teaches us that through talking, telling of stories and sharing of memories, we can get closer to healing. But if we want to change the view that reconciliation is merely passive peace or a unity without cost, then this talking must also result in addressing exclusionary economies and disproportionate wealth.

This telling of stories and sharing of truths mirrored to South Africans, gradually, the reality of our collective past. As difficult as this process was, and still is, it is important because a healthy new country cannot be built on a denial of the past. As James Baldwin so poignantly said, "Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until

Younger people who are understandably disillusioned by failed promises must hold society to account when their generation cannot prosper. At the same time not being there when the TRC was happening means a significant context eludes many. Intergenerational dialogue therefore offers a space where their parent generation can offer insights into the context that informed the decision to go the TRC route and to engage in discussion on what the alternatives would have been.

This is particularly important at this point in our history where fear mongering has become the order of the day and where people are retreating to enclaves of difference because of fear, prejudice

The purpose of the TRC was to promote reconciliation and not to achieve it. And in this promotion of reconciliation, there are still many stories that need to be told. Stories of our time which that of children who head up households because of the ravishes of HIV and Aids, of women who continue to live in fear of sexual assault, of models of toxic masculinity that continue to inform the life choices of many young men on the Cape Flats and of fellow African brothers and sister who cross our borders only to be met with violence and Xenophobia.

It is up to us, ordinary South Africans, to continue this work of promoting reconciliation in our homes, schools, places of employment and places of worship.

Eleanor du Plooy runs the Ashley Kriel Youth Desk at the Institute for Justice and Reconciliation





"We are faced with the challenge that companies do not comply; they do not pay the annual return of earnings which is intended to be the pay-out for employees in the case of an injury or a disease."

Department of Labour provincial spokesperson Josial Ramokoena explaining that the Compensation Fund's

"I'm pleading with you, both black and white farmers to join forces and work together to deal with challenges faced in your sector, I'm confident your partnership will help grow your businesses as well as the economy of the province."

Free State Premier Sisis Ntombela making a passionate call at a meeting with farmers at the Glen Agricultural College in Bloemfontein



ANC looks to PIC to stabilise Eskom

mandate at a meeting



MARIANNE MERTEN

OPINION

If there is something the ANC Top Six officials talk about in their regular Monday meetings, it's getting the economy going, according to ANC treasurer-general Paul Mashatile:

"It's top of the agenda at Luthuli House... We have to get the economy right and be able to create the necessary employment, particularly for young people".

But exactly how to do so, is the question. Government is cash-strapped, in no small way by the under-collection of approximate R50billion in tax revenue by the South African Revenue Service (Sars). And so the governing ANC, in government offices and Luthuli House, is getting innovative - with equity stakes

"If you look at Eskom the debt is seriously high. So we need to look at other approaches, including possibility of changing some of the loans in Eskom in to equity particularly by the PIC (Public Investment Corporation). Those are the discussions happening," Mashatile told the Cape Town Press Club.

"We don't think (Eskom debt) can be resolved through increased tariffs. The price of electricity is already very high... Our view is that if you change (PIC exposure) into equity then it will make better the balance sheet of Eskom to raise more money... Many corporates in South Africa listed on the stock exchange in fact have PIC money. So why not Eskom?"

Mashatile responded to questions, adding that breaking up Eskom into production, transmission and distribution entities would make what currently was "an elephant that is too big to walk", more manageable.

"Some people might resist this, but it's certainly the view from Luthuli House. If we are the strategic centre of power, you must listen to us. That's is the direction."

Effectively, by converting repayable debt into equity, the power utility's battered balance sheet would improve, and this would allow it a better chance to raise loans and financing in the markets. Commercial loans, rather than

government under-written debt, would ease the pressure on South Africa's national purse. In February's Budget, Eskom was described as one of the biggest risks to the economy.

Eskom spokesperson Khulu Phasiwe on Tuesday referred inquiries regarding any PIC equity stake to Public Enterprises as "they are the ones who will make any decision on equity partners". The department told Daily Maverick "such a proposal has not yet reached government". PIC Corporate Affairs Head Deon Botha responded similarly in writing:

"No decision has been taken to convert this bond exposure into equity. Such decision, including any request for additional funding, will made in line with the investment mandates".

The PIC manages some R2-trillion of assets from government pensions and savings and cannot change its investment mandates without the consent of its clients, like the Government Employees Pension Fund (GEEPF) that accounts for some 88 per cent of PIC assets.

And the PIC may well be a bit gun-shy - its R5-billion short term loan to Eskom in February 2018 was sharply criticised, even if Eskom repaid in time, and according to Fin24, with some R30-million interest. The corporation has come under renewed scrutiny for how it has dealt with the allegations of impropriety against its CEO Dan Matjila, dismissed as smear campaigns, and its investment decisions in companies like Steinhoff, that crashed last year amid accounting irregularities, and VBS Mutual Bank, now under curatorship.

Finance minister Nhlanhla Nene in a statement on Monday said he'd received the documents and reports related to governance matters, and others, and would meet the board before announcing "decisive steps" by end of week to address governance issues and allegations against Matjila. "I believe that the measures I will announce this week will ultimately strengthen the PIC's governance and restore public trust in this important public

The ANC senior leader's touting of the PIC on Tuesday to help the Eskom balance sheet by turning loans into equity - and suggesting the power utility should be broken up into production, transmission and distribution entities - is curiously timed.

But none of that means the governing ANC is not getting an increased appetite for private equity stakes as a way to generate monies for State-owned Entities (SOEs), particularly Eskom and SAA, in what remains South Africa's tight financial and still limited economic growth environment. Economic growth, and investment, is what President Cyril Ramaphosa has put centre-stage in his administration. But investments are difficult to raise, although not impossible, as the US\$20-billion pledges following his recent visits to United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Saudi Arabia demonstrate.

And as the ANC treasurer-general told the Cape Town Press Club, while privatisation is not on the cards, engagement with the private sector regarding equity investment definitely is.

"We are fairly open to equity investment in our SOEs," said Mashatile. "We've steered away from privatisation. Equity investment will be minority stakes rather than complete outsourcing, except when a particular government agency has no chance of being

It's unclear whether any such government agency has been identified. But clearly, even the cash-strapped national airliner; SAA, according to Mashatile, may be one of those to receive a capital injection to make it attractive to equity

After more than a year of just talk, the search for a strategic equity partner now is finally on for SAA, which was kept afloat last year with a series of bailouts of billions of rand. Eskom is also in a tough position. It has drawn down most of its R350-billion government guarantees, and its financial statements released on Monday show R2.3-billion net loss for the 2017/18 financial year - and R19.6-billion of irregular expenditure dating back to 2012.

"This was a result of us shaking the cupboard so hard that so many skeletons came tumbling down," said Eskom board chairperson Jabu Mabuza on Monday in the financials announcement broadcast by eNCA.

It turned out at this financials announcement that Eskom has had a curious interpretation of determining the value of deviations, or changes to contracts, that meant these were underreported to National Treasury. The power utility has been central to State Capture, as emerged in #GuptaLeaks, and subsequent parliamentary Eskom State Capture inquiry.

But SOEs remain central to boosting economic growth and creating jobs. And with some R2-trillion in assets, the PIC may seem like low hanging fruit to provide for that which the national coffers can't, particularly in the months ahead of an election. In many ways the pressure is on.

Another beginning, another election to be fought

OPINION

Newly-elected ANC Gauteng chair David Makhura is determined that the outcomes of the provincial conference held this weekend sets the party on the right path. It was not unexpected that he would be elected to the top position unopposed while the choice of the rest of the four top leaders was a result of intense lobbying and deal-making.

Makhura closed the ANC Gauteng conference on Sunday evening by reassuringly saying he will not purge his detractors. He said no MEC serving in his cabinet in government will be removed from their position even though they "held different views at the conference".

"In this province we don't deal with those who held a different view on leadership. Those of you who came from beaches and regions if anyone wants to deal with you because you disagreed with leadership, you must come back to us because we don't allow our members who held different views to be punished," he said.

This remark was aimed at economic development MEC Lebogang Maile who contested to be deputy chairperson and lost and those who were on his slate. It was a tight race between him and Panyaza Lesufi, and in the end, a 22-vote difference made Lesufi the new ANC provincial deputy chairperson.

that position as former mayor Parks Tau was for you," he said. nominated by branches. A deal initiated by the ANC Joburg region, where Tau is from, saw him declined nomination for the deputy chairmanship and accede to being nominated as treasurer.

Tau was successful in his bid but the other candidates for other positions fielded by this slate were not victorious. Jacob Khawe, who campaigned alongside Maile, was elected to the powerful position of provincial secretary and his deputy is Nomantu Nkomo-Ralehoko – someone also featured on Maile's slate.

An ANC staffer said it best as soon as the elections were released: "No slate won. This Zebra thing is a trend started at Nasrec".

He was referring to the concept of having leaders elected from both sides of the factional divide. Like the outcomes of the ANC national

conference in Nasrec last December, leaders who had campaigned against each other will now have to work together.

While Makhura has promised not to purge any of his political opponents, he was quiet firm against ill discipline - especially people who take the ANC to court.

"They go to court and we go there and win cases now... we are now winning cases. We are no longer insulting judges. If you take us to court, we will meet there - we have good lawyers," he said. The ANC triumphed in court last week after

attempts to stop the Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal conferences through the courts were

Makhura became emotive on this issue, saying people are being used to fight the ANC.

"We have to fight poor ANC members who are funded elsewhere. When they lose a case, the courts say (pay) the costs. Those who are funding them run away. This is painful, it is not nice because poor people in our ranks are being used," he said.

This was the message similar to the one by ANC secretary-general Ace Magashule when he addressed the closing of the conference.

"We tolerate differences. But if you use your At first, there were three people up for differences to do wrong things, we are coming

> Makhura's main challenge going into the election campaign is to continue in his bid to root out corruption in the province. It doesn't help his cause that he has instituted corruption investigations against some of his political opponents, like Maile, and if he acts on that he would be seen to be purging them. On the other hand, if he does nothing, that won't sit well with the electorate.

> Makhura was quick to warn those who would use the post-conference "peace" to do wrong, thinking they will be untouchable. He said while they won't act against their political opponents who did nothing wrong, they won't hesitate to act against delinquents in the party.

> While Makhura runs the party in Gauteng as well as the state, the factional position should

> > **Continues on page 17**

Letters to the Editor

WRITE TO: newsroom@theweekly.co.za

The Editor reserves the right to edit and reject letters. Pseudonyms may be used, but must be clearly marked as such. All correspondence, including emails and SMSes, must include your name, address, and a phone number. Preference will be given to shorter letters.

Mediclinic sees positive recommendations in HMI report

Mediclinic Southern Africa (Mediclinic) takes note of the Provisional Findings and Recommendations Report released by the South African Competition Commission's Health Market Inquiry ("HMI") on July 5, 2018. Mediclinic is currently reviewing the underlying data, information and analyses and their potential impact on the South African private healthcare industry in detail and will provide considered feedback and a submission to the HMI before the deadline of September 7, 2018. The company supports the process and sees numerous positive recommendations in the provisional report.

The HMI recommends the establishment of a uniform clinical quality outcomes measurement system. Mediclinic supports the introduction of such a system which is in line with international practice. An independent governance structure is proposed and much of this proposal is aligned with Mediclinic's HMI submissions. Mediclinic already measures clinical performance and manages quality of clinical care as a key aspect of its core business.

In addition, Mediclinic's patient experience is measured independently by Press Ganey an internationally recognised expert patient experience measurement and improvement. These results are published on the Mediclinic website. Furthermore Mediclinic uses the services of the Council of Health Services Accreditation of Southern Africa to independently assess and accredit its hospitals. Mediclinic can therefore contribute significantly towards shaping the proposed uniform quality standards and outcome measures.

Mediclinic supports recommendation that the Health Professions Council of South Africa's ethical rules be reviewed to allow for greater collaboration between providers. The creation of multidisciplinary teams and rules to allow for value based reimbursement such as global billing will assist in addressing the current levels of fragmentation within the private healthcare market in South Africa. It should be noted that Mediclinic already has Alternative Reimbursement Models in place that support

our value proposition to patients.

The HMI's recommendation that bilateral tariff negotiations be maintained between medical schemes and hospital groups is supported by Mediclinic. The company maintains its position that these negotiations are robust and concurs with the HMI that regulated price determination between these groups would preclude strategic purchasing and stifle much needed innovation within the industry.

Mediclinic is also positive about the introduction of Health Technology Assessments as a standard to ensure independent assessments regarding the efficacy of new technology. In addition, Mediclinic supports greater collaboration between the public and private sectors and agrees with the HMI's recommendation that the public sector could purchase healthcare services from the private

In principle, Mediclinic also supports the establishment of a Supply Side Regulator for Healthcare with its various functions, provided

that the body is independent and functions in a are due to an increase in utilisation and not transparent manner. This body could add value in clarifying the current uncertainty in the hospital licensing regime.

We note that the HMI has raised preliminary concerns around concentration within the private hospital market and has requested submissions on possible divestiture and moratoriums on licensing. Mediclinic does not agree with these findings and will be engaging further with the HMI on this topic.

In addition, Mediclinic does not believe that the proposed remedies are appropriate and this will also be canvassed further with the HMI. Hospital groups are able to leverage on economies of scale, enabling the provision of high quality, cost efficient care to the benefit of the patient. Mediclinic is of the opinion that there is robust competition between the four major hospital groupings including Mediclinic, Life Healthcare, Netcare and the National Hospital Network.

Mediclinic agrees with the HMI finding that above CPI increases in healthcare expenditure

due to excessive tariff increases. The increased utilisation can be attributed to various factors such as the increasing burden of disease, ageing population and new technology.

Mediclinic, however, disputes the HMI's view that Supply Induced Demand also plays a significant role in increasing utilisation. Mediclinic's economic and actuarial experts do not support the accuracy of the calculations and data underpinning these findings. Mediclinic supports cost-effective quality care and does not condone any treatment that is not in the best interests of the patient. In addition, Mediclinic does not condone any relationships between hospitals and doctors that does not meet our high ethical code of conduct.

Mediclinic remains committed to constructive participation in the inquiry to achieve a positive resolve for the private healthcare industry in South Africa.

Mediclinic Southern Africa

One on One

with Tlou Ramaru

The Department of Environmental Affairs in collaboration with the Department of Economic, Small Business Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs recently hosted the Free State provincial stakeholder engagement workshop on the National Climate Change Bill in Bloemfontein. The purpose of the Bill is to build an effective climate change response and ensure the long-term, just transition to a climate resilient and lower carbon economy and society. The Weekly's Martin Makoni asked the Department of Environmental Affairs Acting Deputy Director General for climate change Tlou Ramaru how the proposed new laws were likely to affect people and businesses and if the country was ready for the changes. Excerpts:

How important is this Bill to South Africa and how it is likely to impact on people's lives and businesses?

Everyone in this country, particularly the poorest of the poor are affected by extreme events such as heatwaves, flooding, droughts and other extreme events related to climate change. So, when we implement the Bill, it will assist at a local level for mayors and other authorities in building a response plan to counter some of the extreme weather conditions. Such plans could include early warning systems so that residents can be prepared for any extreme changes. People will also be taught, for example, to stay indoors if there is extreme heat and the system can also inform the building materials that can be used in a particular area.

What would you say are the major contributors to climate change and is South Africa facing any significant danger?

The major factor that contributes to climate change are is greenhouse emissions. This is because once you change the composition of the atmospheric gases, it affects the climate. And I think what should be understood is that climate change has a global effect. These greenhouse gases are not just from South Africa, but from across the world. That's why the international community has to come together and address

South is presently discussing land redistribution, did you get any contributions as you went around the country, which pointed to the likely effect of climate change on agriculture and land redistribution in

As you know, the two processes are run differently. The process of land is being run by parliament and climate change is the responsibility of the department of environmental affairs. In relation to the Climate touching on the land issue. The focus was on climate change. However, the impact of climate change has a direct impact, not just on land but on the various sectors of the economy. Climate change will impact on our agricultural sector. We have been experiencing drought in the western parts of the country, the Northern Cape was hit hard and it's still struggling as well as this province. Limpopo was also affected as well as the North West. So, this has affected the agricultural sector in terms of the yield as well as the timing for harvesting the next planting season. It has an inherent impact in terms of our ability to meet the food security requirements. That's why this Bill is important so we can address the issue of climate change so that people might start also consider moving towards smart agriculture. And if the early warning systems are in place, farmers can be warned upfront and



adequately prepare for the weather and climatic changes. It's important for them to know how the season will look like. Such information is very important for our farmers.

Are you not worried that these issues are not being raised in your meetings yet most people are saying they want the land, they want to farm. Do you think people know about the threat of climate change and its impact on agriculture?

I think they do because people mostly focus Change Bill, we haven't had contributions on the material impact of climate change than the land question which is managed by a different process. People are talking about how we are affected by climate change. We have a number of projects on the ground. We have a fund called the adaptation fund. We have a projects in Limpopo that are currently being implemented around climate smart agriculture. These look at things like taping into rainwater harvesting and link it to agriculture, sustainable livelihoods and drought resistant planting and others. We also have some small scale projects in the Northern Cape addressing the issue of drought. You will see a lot of people participating and becoming the beneficiaries of some of these projects.

> How are you going to ensure that once passed into law, the new measures aimed at preserving the environment are adhered to both at the provincial and municipal level?

There is an institutional mechanism that is

proposed in the Bill. At provincial level, there will be a structure that you have the relevant MECs and mayors participating in that set-up and taking the lead. There will be certain things that the province will be expected to do, such as the risk and vulnerability assessment and the climate change response plan that will be in place. Similarly, at a local level, the mayors will be expected to do the risk and vulnerability assessments and the response plans. That will help in facilitating the implementation. They will also be expected to report on a four year basis to provincial and national structures in order to evaluate progress.

Does South Africa have adequate equipment and expertise to study climate change and issue early warnings when necessary?

Well, we do. We have done what's called long term adaptation scenarios. This is research work in which you work with universities and people who are able to model and tell you what the climate will look like in the foreseeable future like in 10; 20 and 30 years' time. They can also tell you the sectors that will be most affected by the anticipated climatic changes and the ideal adaptation responses required. We are working with the South African Weather Service and they have a number of radars across the country as well as weather stations. These radars are helping in putting together this information to

allow us to develop the early warning systems. They are able to warn use before extreme weather conditions come. We are having quite some significant

changes to the seasons. The rains are coming late and winter periods are not as cold as people anticipate and at times the cold spells come late, are we on track in terms of reading these changes? All those changes have been projected in

the long term adaptation scenarios. We have projected that our region will become a bit warmer. The weather service are able to tell us on a daily basis that there will be a cold front and we need to keep ourselves warm and maybe indoors. They also warn us if a storm is coming

and so forth.

environmental affairs

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Geography is not very popular in most schools, yet the issues you are referring to are taught in this subject, any plans to have geography being more available in schools?

It's important that we have more people taking environmental courses as well as geography at school. As a department, we have been providing bursaries to enable more people to go and study in the environment field and eventually contribute to the sector. But we are also working, through our capacity building programme in the department to share quite widely, with key stakeholders such as the department of education to ensure some of these issues are more widely known.

SA plans to sue US over import tariffs on

US, arguing that proposed US tariffs on South African motor car imports will violate South Africa's rights under the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA).

Trade and industry Minister Rob Davies said that "interested groups" planned to challenge this latest US move in a growing global trade

Davies told journalists at the BRICS Forum in Sandton that the international trade war, launched by US President Donald Trump, was "no longer a phony war. The first shots have already been fired."

And he added that though South Africa was a "non-combatant" in that trade war, it was already suffering "collateral damage". He referred specifically to the large tariffs on steel and aluminium imports which the US has imposed, mainly directed at large economic competitors such as China and the European

Union. These had also, however, impacted on South Africa, even though its exports of steel and aluminium to the US represent a tiny percentage

of US imports. And now, Davies has explained, the US is planning to open a new round in the war by

South Africa is to launch a lawsuit against the imposing new tariffs on vehicle imports. He said he had met US Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross in Washington recently to urge him not to impose these tariffs on SA car imports, explaining that those constituted only about 0.4% of total US auto imports.

And he said one of the SA companies that had been exporting cars to the US had recently stopped doing so, because it had changed the models it was making in SA. He did not say which company but it has been reported that it

Davies did not say what Ross's response was but he evidently did not respond positively as Davies indicated that the dispute was still continuing.

He pointed out that when South Africa gave quotas to the US in 2015 for exporting chickens and other meat products to this country, it was on the basis that South Africa would be allowed to continue exporting cars and other products to the US duty free under AGOA.

Davies said he had told Ross that "interested groups" in South Africa would be launching a legal challenge to the car import tariffs on the

basis that they would breach SA's AGOA rights. "We'll have to see what the court rules," he said, without specifying who the interested

Earlier he had indicated to Daily Maverick that the South African government would consider terminating chicken and other meat import quotas if the US went ahead with the car tariffs regardless.

The BRICS Business Forum which Davies co-chaired on Wednesday, bringing together about 1,000 business leaders from the five BRICS countries, is part of the wider 10th BRICS summit which South Africa is hosting.

President Cyril Ramaphosa and Chinese President Xi Jinping were due to address the business leaders later. Apart from Ramaphosa and Xi, these include Russian President Vladimir Putin, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Brazilian President Michel Temer who will participate in the core BRICS summit.

Today the five BRICS leaders are due to meet invited African and non-African leaders in two outreach sessions. Most of them represent various regional organisations.

At Wednesday's briefing, Davies said the BRICS countries had decided to increase their co-operation to help them mitigate the effects of the growing trade war. One way it would do this would be to increase their coordination of policy positions in international

trade negotiations, such as at the World Trade

Organisation. These positions would be in favour of trade decisions being made by all nations, not just the big powers, and in favour of developing countries. He noted that the WTO Doha round of trade negotiations, which was meant to help developing nations and which started in 2001,

had still not been completed. He added that one way South Africa was trying to insulate itself against the hazards of a global trade war was to broaden its trade base by accelerating the formation of regional free trade areas in Africa, especially the African Continental Free Trade Agreement, (AfCFTA) which Pretoria recently signed.

Davies said South Africa hoped the AfCFTA and other African free trade deals would help African countries establish regional supply chains for manufacturing goods. South Africa now sold about one-quarter of its exports to Africa and about 56% of these were finished

But South Africa wanted other countries to increase their production of manufactured goods, especially intermediate goods, which could be traded within the free trade areas to jointly produce manufactured goods. He noted that about two-thirds of global trade was now

in such intermediate goods.

South Africa intended to increase its investments in African countries to boost these value chains, based on the principle of investment-led trade rather than vice versa. This would also boost industrialisation, especially manufacturing, in Africa.

And Davies said he would like the same investment-led trade to increase among the

Despite SA being by far the smallest of the BRICS economies, it has accumulated investment in those countries of some \$60-billion, while they have only invested a combined \$18-billion in SA.

However, he welcomed Xi's announcement on Tuesday that China would increase its investment in SA by \$14.7-billion, though he said it was not yet clear how this total would be comprised, apart from the \$2.5-billion loan from China Development Bank to Eskom which was announced after the meeting between Ramaphosa and Xi on Tuesday.

Eskom officials said this would help complete the huge Kusile coal-powered electricity plant.

Other Chinese loans and investment agreements signed at the same time include:

A \$297-million loan from the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China to Transnet, and the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China Limited Facility Agreement;

Why the crooks will fail to get rid of Cyril

OPINION

I am often asked why I'm passionate about or negative outcomes to these questions. politics. I don't like the power games politicians play and despise the lies and corruption that are so often part of the political fabric. I'm passionate about politics. Listening to Barack Obama last week at the Wanderers I was reminded why.

He reminded us that politics answer and determine some of the most fundamental questions that people ask. Every day, people all over the world want to know one thing and that is whether they are going to be OK.

They want to know if they will have somewhere to live, if they will be able to secure food for themselves and their children, if they will be able to get medical services when they are sick and if their children will be able to get an education. They want to know if their lives will be OK and, if not, whether they will be made better in future.

When it comes to these fundamental questions people look towards politicians for the answers. This is because politicians, through their actions, determine the positive

So, the first duty of politicians through their words and actions is to give people hope.

Secondly, politicians - and in particular, top political leaders - have a responsibility to help nations create and define their collective identity. Why is this important? Because collective identity holds enormous power.

If the right identity is created it mobilises nations to do the right things the right way it even allows nations to speak to the world and mobilise them in some way. Cultivate the wrong identity and things go very wrong - think Rwanda, apartheid South Africa and even the United States at the moment.

In South Africa in 1994 we experienced a titanic shift in our nation's history during which our collective identity changed almost overnight from a divided, racist nation to one that embraced and celebrated being the rainbow nation.

We believed we could be the best of the best, that we shared a common humanity, that we were going to behave differently from those who moral and ethical as a nation. With that identity shift we not only became a symbol of hope in the international community but also individually $and \, collectively \, felt \, enormous \, hope \, for \, the \, future.$

That was largely (although not exclusively) thanks to the extraordinary leadership of Nelson Mandela, who embodied so much of these values.

But a lot has changed since then and to put it mildly, not all for the better. Particularly during the Zuma era our collective identity started to change again and like a thief(!) in the night the idea of a racially fragmented nation took hold yet again. The moral fabric of our nation also started to deteriorate once more as politicians and citizens started to follow their leader's example.

Just as we got to the cliff and stared into

of hopelessness we thankfully pulled back and a new leader was elected.

For the first time in almost nine years we again have a leader who believes in humanity, compassion and justice and someone who

came before us and that we were going to be can be in the company of Barack Obama and not embarrass us. Someone who demands that things should change again and that we should re-knit the moral fabric of our nation.

> Yet, many of his detractors in the ANC and opposition want to get rid of him. They exploit the needs of the poor to argue that he doesn't care and is in the pocket of big capital. They are trying to set him up to fail when it comes to reforming some key policy issues (such as land), hoping that in their never-ending hunger for power and corruption the masses will support them in getting rid of the president.

I hope that Cyril Ramaphosa's detractors were watching the event at the Wanderers last Tuesday. It was extraordinary to experience the people's reaction to him. When he came on stage the crowd of 15 000 people went crazy and gave him a lengthy and very loud applause. Every time his name was mentioned during the event it happened again. When he finally got up to speak, the crowd burst into song and it took a long time before he could continue with his speech. Yes, Obama was the main event of the day, but what became very clear is that if those trying to move against Ramaphosa think they will be allowed to do so by the majority of people in the country, they will be making a big mistake.

Some would argue that the audience at the Obama event was a fairly selected audience. That might be true of the VIP section, but certainly can't be said of all the people filling the stands. Even if it is true, opinion polls tell us that Ramaphosa's personal approval ratings are around 76-79% numbers that only Madiba had reached before.

It is clear that Ramaphosa, as a good politician should, has given the majority of people a flicker of hope for a better life again and has stirred the memory of how we can once more aspire to be moral and principled. Which is why the crooks who want to defeat

him will increasingly find themselves isolated from the majority of people in this country.

* Melanie Verwoerd is a former ANC MP and South African Ambassador to Ireland.

On the road back to Nelson Mandela's progressive values

The recent celebration of Nelson Mandela's 100th birthday and former US president Barack Obama's address at the occasion brought warmth to my heart, but also caused me to ask with Obama: Were we who believed in a progressive vision of tolerance, a common humanity, a caring, open society and social justice naïve? Is this vision dead?

"Progressive" is the key word here. Many associate it with left-wing political thinking, others with liberalism, yet others claim the title said he not only needed Afrikaners to buy into but are anything but progressive.

To me a progressive political ethos simply means a desire and agitation for continuous progress towards a better and more caring society with the emphasis on openness, social justice, human dignity and solidarity rather than populism or identity politics. These values were not a mirage in Mandela's world.

Five days after his release in February 1990 he invited me for tea at his humble Soweto house. He was a world famous 68-year-old Xhosa speaking man, a revolutionary who had

just been released from prison after 27 years; I was a middle class white Afrikaner more than 40 years younger.

Mandela spoke to me in Afrikaans after apologising for what he called his Xhosa accent. It was just him and me and he made and poured the tea - far too much milk and sugar to my taste, but I would have drunk a cup of bile with a smile that day just to be in his presence.

He gave me a lesson in Afrikaner history and his vision of a new society, but he thought they would make good allies and eventually feel at home and be active in a new, inclusive nation. If only they could remember their own struggles with British imperialism and overcoming poverty, he added.

But more importantly, Mandela shared some of his ideas of a more loving, compassionate society where all citizens, especially young people, would have the possibility to live to their full potential.

I remember finding it astonishing that this human being who was so fresh out of an

apartheid prison could talk to me about love and compassion. He wasn't an ideologue, he was a progressive humanitarian.

In the years after this meeting, Mandela practiced and preached these ideas and ideals; and in the process inspired many millions of people all over the world, including a young American lawyer who would become the president of his country in 2009.

But over the last decade or so, South Africa has regressed into an erosion of our democracy, cheap populist politics, a culture of entitlement, selfishness and corruption, ethnic nationalism, polarisation and intolerance.

It wasn't much different in other parts of the world. Obama speaks of the "politics of fear and resentment and retrenchment, of growing authoritarianism, the undermining of free speech, the contempt for truth and facts and of strongman politics.

In South Africa the narrative of black emancipation was abused to cover up the abuse of power, maladministration and corruption and to mobilise people around

OPINION



narrow ethnic chauvinisms.

On the side of the white minority there were far too many who chose to remember Mandela's forgiveness and reconciliation but to forget his insistence on social justice and redress. They started withdrawing with the self-pity of a newly discovered victimhood into their privileged ethnic trenches from where they are firing shots at the rest of society.

The world's most prosperous and successful societies, says Obama, the ones with the highest living standards and highest levels of satisfaction among their people, happen to be "those who have most closely approximated the liberal, progressive ideal that we talk about and have nurtured the talents and contributions of all their citizens".

He adds: "The fact is that countries which rely on rabid nationalism and xenophobia and doctrines of tribal, racial or religious superiority as their main organising principle, the thing that holds people together - eventually these countries find themselves consumed by civil war or external war."

I agree with Obama that the road back to progressive values would be a tough and possibly long one, but one that has to be tackled with courage and perseverance.

says Obama, and do a lot more to promote lasting economic opportunity for all. He favours an "inclusive market-based" system but warns against "unregulated, unbridled, unethical capitalism". I agree.

Obama quotes from Mandela's teachings that the most important universal principle is that we are bound together by a common humanity and that each individual has inherent dignity and worth.

Embracing our common humanity does not mean that we have to abandon our unique ethnic and national and religious identity -Mandela himself never stopped being a black African South African of Xhosa heritage.

I think Obama would have understood what we meant when we embraced the principle of non-racialism in the 1980s.

I hope we South Africans will use this year of remembering Nelson Mandela to ponder how we could see beyond the thunder and lightning and imagine a better future for our society.

I can recommend reading matter for this purpose: The Founding Principles and Bill of Rights of the South African Constitution.

The question Madiba would not answer

Continues from page 14

etched in my mind.

Lindo was mesmerised by the moment and could not contain her bliss. She then asked Madiba directly to give her "a mission" that she would carry with her for her entire life and make it her life's singular goal.

Wait. What?!

We were all on tenterhooks due to the enormity of her question - was she really going to take what Madiba says and make it her raison d'etre? And what exactly would Madiba say - "go build 1,000 new schools!" or "End poverty" or "Cure cancer" or "Raise a billion dollars for my charities"? And would we all feel obligated by association to help Lindo in this new mission thrust upon her? Did Madiba have a whole lot of missions just waiting for the asking and was he going to answer with razor precision? Did Lindo have the right to refuse or change the terms and conditions? Madiba paused thoughtfully and made us wait for his response.

I've shared this story many times at talks I've been invited to give, and I always throw it back to the audience: "What do you think Madiba said?" Before reading ahead, what do you think he said?

Nobody has ever given me the correct answer. I've used this as evidence that his emotional intelligence and generosity of spirit was indeed difficult to emulate.

Madiba gave the most morally honest answer one could imagine. He told Lindokuhle that he did not know her well enough to answer that question.

We were horrified! Give us a mission, dammit! We had all, in those few seconds he took to consider his response, become so emotionally invested in his reply, that at the time it was wholly unsatisfying and a massive anti-climax. I remember thinking that he'd just passed up a new opportunity to change the world – 23 times over if we all took up the challenge!

In hindsight, Mandela modelled one of the most valuable lessons I have learnt in leadership: humility and empathy will ensure that you use your power maturely.

Sure, Madiba could have urged Lindokuhle to spend her life working for an NGO back home in rural KwaZulu-Natal. He could have told her to do a myriad of things that, given the moment, would have unfairly burdened this young woman

with somebody else's crown. Instead, he displayed enormous humility by being honest: he neither knew her well enough nor was he egotistical enough to give her a life mission. How could he? What were her values, her political beliefs, her intellectual pursuits, her family background, her own dreams, fantasies and desires? To answer such a question glibly would have been a gargantuan display of arrogance.

And that is where the rub of power lies - in the interpersonal.

Power corrupts when we fail to consider our fellow human beings as humans being in the world, figuring out life, pursuing dreams rooted in intimate personal histories that nobody can know fully unless they have empathetically entered into that person's world.

To have given an answer to Lindokuhle would have been a denial of her own humanity, her own personhood, her sense of self and selfdirection, her agency and ability to develop mastery over her own dreams. Instead, Madiba read the moment with emotional, intellectual and moral honesty, and showed a singularly unique display of humility and empathy. He honoured Lindokuhle and he honoured us 23 bright-eyed young people, on the cusp of our careers, by refusing to answer a question unfairly asked of him.

As we remember Mandela in his 100th year, this is what stands out for me.

*Suntosh R Pillay is a clinical psychologist working in the public hospital sector

Another beginning, another election to be fought by the ANC

Continues from page 15

not be ignored. Khawe, the new secretary, is notorious for failing to turn things around in the troubled Emfuleni municipality. He was firmly in the slate that opposed Makhura and Lesufi and he would be the person who determines the intra-party dynamic going forward.

The ANC in Gauteng was criticised because only one woman was elected to its top leadership structure but the conference itself didn't seem too fazed. At the same time, results of who made the 30-member provincial executive committee was not announced at the closing of conference as the elections took longer than expected.

Makhura concluded by telling delegates that the focus onwards is the 2019 general elections which he believes, given the outcomes of conference, the ANC has a strong chance of securing the majority in the province. When

Magashule addressed the conference he said the ANC in Gauteng has a huge responsibility to recover lost ground.

"If we do not work together the ANC will loose the whole of Gauteng and therefore entrust the leadership role of this metropolis into the hands of the forces of reaction and doom," the secretary-general said.

Some polling data has predicted that the party is on the rise in the province but President Cyril Ramaphosa warned at the start of the conference that they shouldn't be complacent as

It's not the need of the fight for Makhura and those around him - and he knows it because the election campaign is dependent on a complete turnaround within the party.

Qaanitah Hunter is an EWN reporter.



Fruitful engagement . . . Chinese President Xi Jinping and SA's President Cyril Ramaphosa greet each other at the Union Buildings in Pretoria on Tuesday

China to invest nearly R200 billion in SA

China will invest \$14.7bn in SA, President Cyril China is ready to invest and work with SA in Ramaphosa said on Tuesday, after talks between

The news led to the rand firming 1%.

At 2.15pm the rand was 0.95% firmer against the dollar, at R13.3324 from R13.4595. It was at R15.6075 to the euro from R15.7356 and at R17.5027 to the pound from R17.6332.

At that exchange rate, the Chinese investment is worth R195.9bn.

Speaking at the same event, Chinese President Xi Jinping said the world's secondbiggest economy would take active measures development in Africa's most industrialised

Ramaphosa said that "Xi has indicated that important emerging economies with similar

Eskom, which reported a swing into a full-year loss on Monday, received a \$2.5bn (or R33bn) loan from the China Development Bank.

Ramaphosa has focused on revitalising Eskom, Africa's largest public utility, which was embroiled in corruption scandals under former president Jacob Zuma and narrowly avoided a liquidity crunch early this year after banks halted lending.

to expand imports from SA to support as well as other sectors of the economy, Emirates combined, mainly in energy and

officials said. Xi said China and South Africa were

perspectives on many global issues hence the need to strengthen cooperation.

Ramaphosa has set a target of attracting \$100bn in new investment in SA over five years, from local and foreign investors, to spur growth in an economy that is in danger of teetering

He returned from a trip to Saudi Arabia two weeks ago and announced SA had clinched the first R12bn of a promised \$10bn in investment from the kingdom.

As the Financial Mail noted, he has raised Transnet also received a cash injection, \$20bn from Saudi Arabia and the United Arab tourism; R850m from the UK; and R10bn from Mercedes-Benz to expand its East London manufacturing plant. -BusinessDay

Inflation contained, say analysts South African consumer inflation reached its Meanwhile, retail sales have also pointed to

fastest pace so far this year in June, after higher fuel prices stoked transport costs, limiting room for the Reserve Bank to consider cutting its benchmark rate on Thursday last week.

The annual inflation rate was 4.6% compared with 4.4% in May, Statistics SA said the previous

The rand had its worst month in more than two years in June as the US and China exchanged tariff blows at a time when the prospect of rising American rates also weighed on emerging market assets. The weaker currency and higher oil prices added upside risks to inflation.

The inflation rate has exceeded the 4.5% midpoint of the Bank's target range of 3%-6% for the first time since December. The monetary policy committee has made it clear it also prefers to see expectations for future inflation close to 4.5%.

But, despite the acceleration, inflation remains well contained in the target range, and analysts expect rates to remain unchanged at 6.5% at Thursday's announcement.

The JSE was flat ahead of the Bank decision, with interest rate-sensitive stocks, including banks and retailers, mixed. Banks were firmer, despite a slightly weaker rand.

a weaker economy, which will also discourage the Bank from embarking on interest rate hikes.

May's retail sales growth recovered to 1.9% from April's sharp slowdown. However, the three-month seasonally adjusted figure, used to calculate GDP, for May came to a negative 0.1%.

This has further fuelled arguments that SA is headed for its first recession since the start of the

"The data is still extremely weak against the backdrop of high wage settlements and well-contained inflation, and it seems hopes of a consumption-led economic recovery are fading," said FNB senior economic analyst Jason

He said inflationary pressure was coming from the exchange rate and the oil pricesensitive component. This saw the Bank adopt a more hawkish tone at the last meeting of the monetary policy committee.

There is also an inability to pass costs on to the consumer. An interest rate hike would put additional pressure on the economy, Muscat

Weak economic data released over the past few weeks signals that there are limited demand-driven pricing pressures that have

resulted in lower inflation, said NKC economist Elize Kruger.

"The tone of the statement is likely to be more hawkish, given recent exchange rate developments," she said.

However, Absa senior economist Peter Worthington said the overly hawkish policy expectations were contributing to the weakening currency along with falling global risk appetite and the strengthening dollar.

The rand has depreciated by about 7% since the last monetary policy committee meeting.

"Underlying economic activity remains subdued, which would tend to support either steady to lower interest rates," said Nedbank economist Johannes Khosa.

term as inflation is likely to pick up in the coming months on the back of higher fuel prices and a weaker rand."

Khosa added, however, that inflation was expected to remain in the target band for the next three years.

In the context of weak economic data, analysts also expect the Bank to revise down its growth forecasts for the year from 1.7% - Bloomberg

Eskom inks R33.4 billion loan deal

government-backed loan with the China Development Bank, which will be used for construction of Kusile power station.

The loan agreement was signed on Tuesday following bilateral talks between the Chinese President Xi Jinping and President Cyril Ramaphosa.

During the address by the two heads of state, Ramaphosa announced that China and South Africa also signed a number of trade agreements totalling \$14.7bn (about R196bn at current exchange rates).

said the loan was part of the cash-trapped power utility's funding requirement for the financial year, which is currently at 62%. He said the loan demonstrated confidence in

Eskom chief executive Phakamani Hadebe

Eskom's new leadership since the appointment of a new board in January. "This is a normal loan, effective as from the

day of the signing... the loan would help us ease some of the liquidity challenges we are facing,"

"What has been happening is that as up until last year, Eskom was under a lot of pressure when it comes to funding.

From the beginning of January when a new a new board was created, we began to see an increasing appetite in investors. This loan is just in line with that," he added.

Once complete, the coal-powered Kusile power station - which has been under construction since 2008 - will have an output of 4 800MW.

The loan comes as global financiers such as the World Bank had said they would no longer be funding coal power projects, as they have shifted their focus to renewable energy.

Hadebe said he was comfortable that the power utility would in two months' time be able to reach up 80 to 90% of its funding requirement.

"We are in a better position than before."

On Monday, Eskom announced a net loss of R2.3bn for the financial year ended March 31, with R19bn in irregular spending since 2012.

Xi's visit to South Africa came ahead of the Brics summit, which starts in Johannesburg on

Prior to coming to Pretoria, Xi visited Senegal and Rwanda, as part of a whistle-stop tour to cement relations with African allies. -Fin24



Supporting women's emancipation . . . Social development minister Susan Shabangu

SA hosts women's

South Africa is next month set to host the first Women Economic Forum in South Africa, targeted at entrepreneurs and senior managers from sectors such as education, health, agriculture, natural resource management, and financial services.

The WEF is a global conference which aims to foster empowering conversations and connections among women committed to constructive change, and its vision is to inspire every woman to become a businesswoman.

The theme of the Sun City meeting will be Women and Technology".

Social development minister Susan

Shabangu said the participation of women in the economy was essential if we are to achieve universal development and social justice in communities.

"I am personally passionate about overcoming barriers to women emancipation such as comparatively low investment in female health, education and SMME's (Small, Medium and Micro-sized Enterprises)," Shabangu said.

She added: "I look forward to engaging firsthand with women who are at the forefront of changing the tide in the business world."

Forex trickling back into onomist Johannes Khosa. "Policy easing is unlikely in the medium" board market: analysts board market: analysts

After nearly three months of unabated selling, foreign investors are making a cautious return to South Africa's bond market.

Non-residents were net buyers of the country's government debt for the second week running last week as emerging-market sentiment improved and inflation in South Africa fell short of analysts' estimates.

The inflows have been small: about R1.6bn since June 9, compared with almost R60bn of outflows in the second quarter, according to Johannesburg Stock Exchange data. But it marks a turnaround from 11 straight weeks of outflows sparked by a stronger dollar and rising US Treasury rates.

"StabiliSation of sentiment has led to a reversal of flows back into bond markets" across most developing nations, said Richard Segal, a London-based senior analyst at Manulife Asset Management.

"In South Africa, though, the lower-thanexpected June inflation data was a positive and bullish surprise. Assuming the news flow remains relatively quiet then probably yes, inflows will continue."

While the threat of more tariffs between two of the largest economies in the world still lingers, South Africa's yields are high enough to compensate for the uncertainty in global markets. Among major emerging markets, only Brazil and Turkey, both rated sub-investment, offer better returns. South Africa's localcurrency bonds are rated Baa3, the lowest investment level, at Moody's Investors Service.

The second-quarter sell-off saw foreign ownership of South African bonds dwindle to 40.2% in June, from as high as 42.8% in March, according to National Treasury data. Benchmark yields climbed about 85 basis points in that period as the debt lost 17% for dollar investors.

So far this quarter, the country's bonds have earned a 3% return, the fourth-best after Argentina, Brazil and Mexico among 19 emerging markets tracked by Bloomberg Barclays indexes. Those gains could accelerate in coming months, with Standard Bank Group forecasting the yield on benchmark 2026 bonds at 8.3 % by year-end, from around 8.75% on Monday. -Fin24

Economic prospects looking brighter

The investments sought by South Africa through President Cyril Ramaphosa's special investment envoys is intended to support inclusive growth and increase actual productive capacity in

The president's economic adviser Trudi Makhaya said in the past few months South Africa had seen a significant revaluation of South Africa's economic prospects.

economy has performed beneath its potential and now we have a unique opportunity to ensure that we reach that potential, given the many opportunities that exist for investment and for taking this economy forward," said Makhanya at the BRICS Business Council Annual meeting in Durban on Monday.

"It is no secret that in the past few years the

BRICS Business Council chairperson Dr

Iqbal Survé said South African business people and citizens tended to be unusually critical about the country's conditions. He noted, "We do not fully appreciate the

value proposition we hold which included political and macroeconomic stability, favourable government construction, deep capital markets, world class transport and strong regulatory institutions among others." -IOL

Celtic deal off, says Augousti

The Weekly - Free State Province



Deal called off.... Bloemfontein Celtic chairman Max Tshabalala refuses to budge as talks collapse.

By: Thapelo Molebatsi

Attempts by the Augousti brothers to rescue the troubled Bloemfontein Celtic are officially off.

This comes after current Celtic chairman Max Tshabalala and the brothers failed to agree terms during negotiations which were officially concluded over the weekend.

Tshabalala has been looking for a local buyer for some time to avoid a situation where he is forced to sell the club to someone outside the province, which at the moment is high possible.

This triggered interest from the Augousti brothers, Jimmy and Ikie, who sold Celtic to Tshabalala four years ago.

Speaking to *The Weekly* on Monday, Jimmy

confirmed that the proposed deal had been called off after unfruitful discussions behind closed doors.

"We won't be getting involved. There were discussions, but the deal didn't materialise,"

"We couldn't agree terms, bottom line."

Ikie declined to give reasons for the failed deal but said they would reconsider if the two parties find common ground.

However sources close to the negotiations said money led to the talks collapsing. "Max refused to accept anything less than R65 million," said the source. The proposed offer from the brothers was R50 million, not anything more."

It has been reported that Tshabalala bought the club from the Augousti brothers for between R50-million to R60-million and he's apparently looking for a similar deal, but the brothers are unwilling to meet his demands.

"Max felt the offer was too little for a team in the premier league and called off talks as the brothers made it clear that the club was a liability as it comes with no prominent sponsorship," added the source.

Celtic's financial woes hit a new low last month when seven players were not paid on time, which resulted in the whole team absconding from training.

SA Football Players Union (Safpu) intervened and a meeting was held earlier this month between the parties concerned, paving the way for the players to resume training under new coach Steve Komphela.

Tshabalala, however, apparently told the players during the meeting that he was hit hard in the pocket last season and had to spend R21million from his own money after the main sponsors, MTN, pulled out of their contract with Celtic.

It remains to be seen if Celtic will honour all players' salaries this month and more importantly, whether the team would remain in the City of Roses. But with time not on their side, chances of Celtic remaining in the province are highly unlikely.

Onfire Virginia scoop **Engen Knockout** Challenae 'La Décima'



Total dominance.... Virginia Sports Academy bagged their 10th Engen Knockout Challenge title on Sunday.

By: Thapelo Molebatsi

Virginia Sports Academy won their 10th Engen Knockout Challenge title dubbed 'La Décima' a tense final in Bloemfontein.

As expected, the Engen Knockout Challenge Bloemfontein leg produced extremely competitive football, before hosts Grey College on Sunday after accounting for Grey College in and pre-tournament favourites Virginia locked

horns in the final.

Grey College went into this year's competition having upped the ante in their football department by recruiting former Bafana Bafana and SuperSport United skipper Ricardo Katza as their director of football.

The move seemed to have brought the desired results as Grey went through the group stages unbeaten. They faced their first real test in a quarterfinal against Jumentro FC, who they defeated 4-3 on penalties.

In the semi-final, the Katza-coached team overcame fancied Bloemfontein Celtic, again via a penalty shootout following a 1-1 stalemate at full time.

With scouts from top professional clubs such as SuperSport United, Mamelodi Sundowns, Bloemfontein Celtic and Ajax Cape Town in attendance, favourites Virginia lived up to their early billing.

After breezing through the pool stages of the competition, Virginia edged a stubborn Brebner High School 1-0 in the quarterfinals. Like Grey, Virginia needed penalties to win their semifinal against Thota Gauta Secondary.

The final had the spirited supporters on the edge of their seats as Grey led 1-0 at the break and appeared on track for their second-ever Engen Knockout Challenge title.

Virginia, however, had other ideas, netting an equaliser under dubious circumstances. The goal followed a break in play due to the on-field treatment of a Grey player. Miscommunication amongst the Grey defenders after the referee's drop ball resulted in the ball hitting the back of the net to level the scores.

Virginia went on to win the resulting penalty shootout 2-1 to clinch a record 10th title to once again become the Free State representatives at the 2018 Engen Champ of Champs later this year.

Their mentor, Pitso Mokoena made sure the boys didn't rest on their laurels going into the tournament.

"We have seen improved performances at this tournament from all the teams," said Mokoena. "I told my players that we will have to keep shape and that mental strength will be key factors in succeeding at this year's Engen Knockout Challenge."

The field for the Engen Champ of Champs is close to completion, with just the Johannesburg winners still to be decided.

The Johannesburg leg of the 2018 Engen Knockout Challenge takes place at Wits Marks Park Emmerentia from Friday 27 to July 29.

Individual Awards	
Referee of the tournament	Malefa Moholo
Defender of the tournament	Moeketsi Dlamini (Thota Gauta Secondary)
Midfielder of the tournament Molimooarabetse	Molimooarabetse Moeti (Virginia Sports Academy)
Top goal scorer of the tournament	Tumelo Monyanda (Virginia Sports Academy)
Goalkeeper of the tournament	Lesedi Mokwena (Grey College)
Coach of the tournament	Ricardo Katza (Grey College)
Fair Play team of the tournament	Uptown Football Academy
Player of the tournament	Lesedi Mokwena (Grey College)

Stars seek funds CAF safari

By: Thapelo Molebatsi

Ahead of their debut in the CAF Confederation Cup, Free State Stars are pondering how to carry the financial burden that comes with participating in the continental club competition.

Stars boss Mike Mokoena told The Weekly that Ea Lla Koto have approached the Free State government with a proposal for financial assistance.

"We are speaking to the provincial government to at least help us with flight tickets and accommodation. If they can't, it will be difficult for me," said Mokoena, whose side qualified as the Nedbank Cup champions.

Kaizer Chiefs are South Africa's other representatives in the second-tier competition after they finished third in the Absa Premiership

With the CAF competition unfamiliar territory for Stars, Mokoena could not commit

on expectations, saying only: "We'll see when we get there."

He, however, said he was relying on coach Luc Eymael's continental experience to help Stars to swim with the sharks.

"Luc has the knowledge but we can't go all out if we don't have enough depth. This is one of the areas we are looking into to make sure we have the players who can survive playing in the PSL and in CAF. I still need a Bunene Ngaduane type-of-a-striker," said Mokoena in reference of his star striker of the late 90s from the then Zaire, now DR Congo.

In his eight-year spell in Africa since arriving from Belgium, Eymael guided unfancied clubs like Kenya's AFC Leopards, Rayon Sports (Rwanda) and Al-Merrikh (Sudan) to Champions League and Confed Cup

His best run was progression to the second round in the 2016 Champions League with Al-

So far, Orlando Pirates and SuperSport United are the only South African clubs to have reached the Confed Cup final.



No excuses from **Kevin Anderson** as he earns his spot amongst the giants

Sport can be cruel, sometimes. It is one of the few, gloriously infuriating pastimes in our lives, capable of lifting our spirits, and inspiring millions with a kick of a ball, a swing of the shoulder, or the swiftness

Kevin Anderson won't care about all of that when he rises, somewhere in London this (Monday) morning. He might not even care about the unforgettable Wednesday and epic Friday that he had on the way to the Wimbledon final. He won't even try to use the heavy mileage accrued in those two titanic tussles as some sort of excuse for the slow start that compromised him against Novak Djokovic.

At this level, they don't believe in excuses. Certainly not in a sport where the best women's player, and possibly the greatest ever, survived childbirth, and then willed herself to a Wimbledon final just 10 months later. Djokovic himself has suffered plenty of misery and setbacks over the last two years, and there has been little in the way of excuses. It is a measure of the small margins that exist that both men were so generous towards each other in the speeches. Just as Anderson was to John Isner after the semi-final and, indeed, how gracious Roger Federer was in defeat on Wednesday.

Rather than excuses, respect is the currency of choice at the highest level. And, over the past week, and indeed over the past few years ever since he dedicated himself to being the best Kevin he could possibly be, Anderson has certainly been earning it by the fistful. He has added subtlety and style to his repertoire, supplementing the sledge-hammer serve that has always been his trademark. To be sure, Anderson lost to one of the greatest returners in the game. There is no shame in that, even if he might have winced as the first two sets whizzed by before he could say, 'Askies'.

The final was tough to watch, if you took it in isolation. But, observed alongside Anderson's body of work, it was, perhaps, understandable. In any other year, climbing back from match point down to the King of SW19 and then defeat him would be enough to just about seal the championship. But, we are in the midst of one of the most competitive ages of men's tennis, dripping with quality and character. Anderson now sits at No 5 in the world rankings, firmly in that conversation. Respected, if not quite revered.

You would hope, upon reflection, that Anderson's disappointment is assuaged by the knowledge that he has climbed even higher than most optimists thought he might. His feats have fully vindicated his decision to go solo and, on the back of this latest run, his balance in international respect is rivalling the dollars that his endeavour has been rewarded with. What is more, he made a sporting nation prouder still, lifting our spirits and inspiring many a tennis braai. He even made a tennis connoisseur out of Morne Morkel



Celtic deal off, says Augousti

Attempts by the Augousti brothers to rescue the troubled Bloemfontein Celtic are officially off.

Page 19



Virginia scoop Engen **Knockout Challenge 'La Décima'**

Virginia Sports Academy won their 10th Engen Knockout Challenge title dubbed 'La Décima' on Sunday after accounting for Grey College in a tense final in Bloemfontein.

KARATEKERS DRAW POSITIVE LESSONS FROM TOURNAMENT

Positive learning curve KSA senior head coach applauds his team after engaging tournament in Japan.



Positive results... KSA senior head coach Shine Banyane along side the team in Kobe, Japan.

By: Thapelo Molebatsi

arate South Africa (KSA) national coach Shine Banyane has given his team a pat on the back despite their unsatisfactory showing at 11th edition of the FISU World University Karate Championship recently held

University Karate Championship ended on a high for hosts Japan, especially in the two events that they will also make their debut appearance at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics: Kata and Kumite.

Day one's schedule included elimination and repechage until the semifinals in the individual Kata male and female categories. Later the Kobe Municipal Central Gymnasium witnessed the start of the Kumite event, with fights in The 11th edition of the FISU World the lighter weight categories of -60 kg and -67

kg for men, and -50 kg and -55 kg for women

respectively. After five consecutive days of compelling action at The Kobe Municipal Central Gymnasium, the individual competition gave way to the highlight events of the tournament the team competitions.

Perhaps along expected lines, hosts Japan managed to make it to the finals in three out of the four team events. In the Kata Team contest,

Japanese men took on Austria in the final, while the women took on Spain.

Spain did really well to also make it to the final of the women's Kumite Team event, in which they were pitched against France. The women's Kumite Team event was the only one in which the Japanese fighters did not reach

In the end, it was gold in Kata Team for both the Japanese men and women, and also gold for

Team Japan's men in the Kumite Team, where they beat a strong challenge from Iran. It was France that took the honours in the women's Kumite Team.

Despite falling short on expectations, South Africa's head coach Shine Banyane said their expectations were more than just winning medals, but improving the quality and ability to compete at high levels amongst the best in

Following his arrival in the country, the Botshabelo-born coach expressed appreciation for his troops, despite a disappointing tour.

"I am extremely happy by the performance of these young athletes. They have proven that they are ready to be considered for the KSA senior team and I hope this competition helped them to gain the necessary experience needed for Olympics," said Banyane.

He noted the performance by the team was outstanding as they featured in the tournament for the first time. The only experienced athlete on Team SA was Michiel Du Plessis, who is also is in the Karate South Africa (KSA) senior national team and has competed in these kind of competitions previously.

"Against the best in the world, the team showed dedication, commitment and am proud to have led them in the battle," he added.

Banyane said the tournament also afforded him an opportunity to sharpen his skills before the Olympic qualifications event to be held in Rwanda.

"This has come and gone; we're now preparing for the Olympic qualifying games."

It was without doubt a special week for Japan to be hosting the best student athletes from the world of karate, a sport that is intertwined with the Japanese identity. The last time Japan hosted the World University Karate Championship was in 2000. Nearly 300 athletes from 32 countries and regions had been welcomed, in a run up to the biggest sports festival - the Olympic Games - to be held in Tokyo in 2020.

14 fixture released

By: Thapelo Molebatsi

Wales will host the opening night of the new Guinness PRO14 season on August 31 when the first of 152 international club rugby games take place in Cardiff and Swansea.

The Welsh capital will play host to a clash of European Champions as Cardiff Blues (Challenge Cup winners) welcome defending Guinness PRO14 title holders and Champions Cup winners, Leinster Rugby, to the Cardiff Arms Park as Premier Sports and eir sport screen Championship action live for the very first time on their channels (Premier Sports 2 & eir sport 1 & TG4).

The second game on August 31 will see Ospreys open the campaign with a visit of Richard Cockerill's Edinburgh, who reached the Guinness PRO14 Final Series for the

Sports 1 & eir sport 2).

Round One sees a full set of terrific matchups with two clashes of former champions when Connacht Rugby host Glasgow Warriors (live on TG4 & eir sport 1 & Premier Sport 1) while Scarlets, 2017 title winners and last season's beaten finalists, travel to Kingspan Stadium to face the 2006 Celtic League winners Ulster Rugby (live on Premier Sports 1, S4C and

Munster Rugby will take on the Toyota Cheetahs (live on eir sport 1, Premier Sports 2 & Super Sport) while the Cheetahs' South African compatriots, the Southern Kings start their season in Parma, Italy when they tackle Zebre Rugby Club (live on Free Sports, SuperSport & eir sport 1).

Finally, Dragons fans will have high hopes to see what the region can achieve in season very first time just two months ago (Premier two of Bernard Jackman's tenure as they face

a challenging opener against Benetton Rugby (live on Premier Sports 1 and eir sport 2). Dragons are aiming to build on last season's record number of wins to make a real push for the Guinness PRO14 Final Series.

For the first time ever the Championship has also been able to announce Kick-Off times and dates for the first 17 rounds of the Guinness PRO14 which is a big win for clubs and their supporters.

This year's opening round marks a brand new era for the Championship where every single game will be broadcast live across the UK by Premier Sports & Free Sports - a true first for the Guinness PRO14. In Ireland, eir sport will bring coverage of the Championship to new levels while Super Sport will continue to give South African fans a real taste of the Guinness PRO14 every weekend.

GUINNESS PRO14 DRAFT FIXTURES **SEASON 2017/18**

Additionally, PRO14 Rugby is proud that games (Wales) to ensure Free-To-Air access among two channels TG4 (Republic of Ireland) and S4C from the outset.

will still be broadcast live on native language stations that have supported the Championship