

**WELCOME ADDRESS BY HER WORSHIP, THE MAYOR OF
LEPELLE-NKUMPI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY COUNCILLOR
MODILE IVY PHAAHLA ON THE OCCASSION OF DISTRICT
WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS FAIRE AT LEBOWAKGOMO CIVIC
CENTRE**

24 AUGUST 2012

PROGAMME DIRECTOR/ MOSEPIDISHI WA MODIRO

EXECUTIVE MAYOR CLLR MAKGABO MAPOULO

OUR SPEAKERS CLLRs NAKEDI LEKGANYANE AND NAKEDI SIBANDA-KEKANA

OUR CHIEF WHIPs CLLR HLENGANI BALOYI AND VETERAN LEGORA MOLABA

MEMBERS OF MAYORAL COMMITTEE AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

REPRESENTATIVE OF SEDA

REPRESENTATIVES OF OUR DEPARTMENTS

REPRESENTATIVES OF BUSINESS, FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS AND CIVIL
SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS

WOMEN, YOUTH, PEOPLE LIVING WITH DISABILITIES AND COMMUNITY
LEADERS PRESENT

OFFICIALS

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

GOOD MORNING!!!

Let me take this opportunity to welcome everyone who has sacrificed other commitments to come and be part of this important gathering, District Entrepreneur's Faire, organised by our Municipality in partnership with Capricorn District Municipality and Small Enterprise Development Agency (SEDA).

Re kopane mo lehono, mengwaga e 56 ka morago ga ge baswarathipa ka bogaleng bja naga ye ba ile ba gwantela kua Union Buildings maikemisetso e le go ipelaetsa le go bontsha go kwatiswa ke melawana ka moka ya go gatelela bana ba thari e ntsho.

Lehono ge re kopane fa, re ja dikenywa tsa boikgafo bja bona ge re humane tokologo. Re rata go lebogisha Mma Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma ge a kgethilwe go ba Modula-Setulo wa African Union Commission.

This District Entrepreneur Faire takes place during a significant year, the celebration of 100 years of selfless struggle. It was a struggle in which women played a pivotal role to bring about freedom and a society free of poverty, inequality and injustice.

We pay tribute to many generations of women for their sacrifices, patriotism, hard work and commitment.

We salute Charlotte Maxeke, the founder of the Bantu Women's League, a precursor to the ANC Women's League, a woman of substance who was a pioneer in many fields- science, education, missionary work, social work and leadership.

She led the first campaign against pass laws in Bloemfontein in the Free State, as early as 1913.

We honour women who followed in her footsteps, the 20 000 women who marched to the Union Buildings against pass laws on the 9th August 1956.

Among the group was one of our own Mama Lillian Masediba Ngoyi, Helen Joseph, Sophie Williams-De Bruyn and Mama Albertina Sisulu.

Mama Lillian Ngoyi eloquently described the pass laws as "a badge of slavery in terms whereof all sorts of insults and humiliation may be committed on Africans by members of the ruling class".

Compatriots,

We welcome you in Lepelle-Nkumpi by saluting all women for their resilience against pass laws, severe repression, the internecine violence that engulfed

our townships during the 80s and 90s, arrests, torture and all sorts of violation of human dignity.

We honour the women who joined Umkhonto Wesizwe, taking up arms in defence of their country and in the quest for freedom.

Today we look back at what we have achieved since the attainment of the freedom they fought so hard for, especially with regards to promoting gender equality.

However, we cannot complete the emancipation of women, without promoting economic emancipation. We encourage women to play a meaningful and direct in key industrial sectors as articulated in the Industrial Policy Action Plan. The sectors include chemicals, advanced manufacturing, green energy, agro processing, metals, and the automotive sectors.

There are number of programmes as vehicles of supporting women-led and women-owned enterprises, run by the Department of Trade and Industry amongst others. Today we are having various sectors for presentations.

There are other programmes promoting women in farming and women in construction. The ultimate goal is to enable women to contribute to economic growth, job creation and the fight against poverty and inequality.

Compatriots,

Once more, you are welcome. Our invited guests and experts, I trust that you will enjoy your engagement. We are confident that this partnership will take our country to higher level.

**WORKING TOGETHER WE CAN DO MORE IN PROMOTING
WOMEN ECONOMIC EMANCIPATION!!!!!!**

I THANK YOU!!!

KE A LEBOGA!!!

