

Welcoming remarks by the Mayor of Collins Chabane Local Municipality, Her Worship Cllr Bila Tintswalo Joyce during the District IDP Review/Amendment and Budget Consultative Meeting at Malamulele Boxing Gym on the 18<sup>th</sup> of April 2018 at 09h00.

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Acknowledgements:

- **Programme Director,**
- **The Executive Mayor of Vhembe District Municipality, Her Worship, Cllr Radzilani FF;**
- **The Local House of Traditional Leaders, led by his royal-highness, Hosi BC Nxumalo;**
- **Honourable Speakers and Chief Whips from our municipalities;**
- **MMCs and EXCO Members present here;**
- **MPAC and Section 79 Chairpersons;**
- **Fellow Councillors;**
- **Ward Committee Members in our midst;**
- **The Collins Chabane Chamber of Business;**
- **Our Faith-Based Organisations;**
- **Representatives from Sector Departments;**
- **The Special Program Forums represented here;**
- **Collins Chabane Transport Forum;**
- **Community Development Workers;**
- **Members of SANCOs;**
- **Community Based Structures;**
- **Our friends from the media;**
- **Organisers and coordinators of this program;**
- **Distinguished guests;**

**Good morning!**

It is indeed a great honour and privilege for me to be given this opportunity to welcome you all during this District Draft IDP Review and Budget for the 2018 to 2022 financial years. We are meeting here today to engage ourselves in the 2018 to 2022 Draft IDP Review or Amendment and Budget for Vhembe District Municipality.

This IDP Consultative Meeting takes place just four (4) days after we put to rest one of our own, a Mother of the Nation and an Anti-Apartheid Activist, Manana Nomzamo Winfred Zanyiwe Madikizela-Mandela.

Winnie Madikizela-Mandela was the most prominent voice of dissent in the struggle against apartheid after leaders of the African National Congress – including her husband, Nelson Mandela – were jailed in Robben Island and some forced to flee the country.

She was affectionately known as “Mama Winnie” or “Mother of the Nation” in reference to the role she played in shaping the future of our country. Her remarkable impact was evidently clear to South Africa, its history, as well as its people.

For most of us as women, she was a guiding light who taught us to be defiant and fearless. To be powerful. To embody strength, fortitude, and conviction. May her inspiring life must serve as a figure from where we draw wisdom.

### **Program Director,**

This session also takes place when South Africa – particularly the African National Congress – is mourning the death of a struggle veteran and a Former Minister – Zola Skweyitya who passed away on the 11<sup>th</sup> of April 2018.

In Comrade Zola we have lost a paragon of political correctness and ethical leadership, a selfless servant of our people, and a distinguished diplomat. He was indeed a fountain of wisdom and a reservoir of organisational memory and knowledge. Both the

passing of Mama Winnie and Cde Zola leaves a very huge void which cannot be filled – and may their souls rest in peace!

In emulation of the good deeds of these egalitarian stalwarts, we must form a united front and confront the current enemy that torments our people every day – and that is poverty, unemployment and inequality. It is our collective responsibility to fight and defeat these nemeses of the present.

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Today is a very important day which will determine how our district municipality is going to conduct its service delivery mandate for the coming five years – with special focus on Collis Chabane Municipality.

We all know that Chapter 5 of Local Government: Municipal Systems Act requires a municipality to undertake a developmentally-orientated planning to ensure that it strives for the achievement of the objectives of local government as set out in section 152 of the Constitution, and give effect of developmental duties required by section 153 of the Constitution.

Together with other organs of state, the municipality is expected to contribute to the progressive realization of the fundamental rights that are contained in the Constitution.

**Program Director,**

As the ANC led government, we remain committed to the course of ensuring that our IDP addresses the needs of the people in the district as a whole, and take into account the existing conditions, problems and available resources for development.

Please feel warmly welcomed to Collins Chabane Local Municipality, and I wish you an enjoyable day. Our hospitality is at your service.

**I thank you!**