

**WELCOME REMARKS BY HIS WORSHIP CLLR
MORRIS MATABOGE DURING THE 2017
STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION HELD ON THE
2ND MARCH 2017 AT THE PARK HOTEL IN
MOGALAKWENA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY AT 09H00.**

Facilitators, Mr. Matla and Dr. Malahlela

The Speaker of the District Cllr. Sara Lamola

Chief Whip of the District Cllr. Staff Tsebe,

*The Chairperson of the Local House of Traditional
Leaders, Kgoshi Taueatsoala*

MMCs

Councillors present

*The District Municipal Manager, Mr. Mabotja and the
Management Team,*

*Representatives from Office of The Premier and
COGHSTA,*

Representative from SALGA

Presenters,

Officials from sector Departments and Municipalities,

Distinguished Guests

Ladies and gentlemen.

Thobela. Good morning.

It is a great pleasure for me to welcome you all to this grand occasion. On behalf of the people and political leadership of Waterberg District, I want to take this opportunity to welcome you to our vibrant District in the Western part of Limpopo Province.

Ladies and gentlemen, in August 2016 South Africa held its fifth Local Government Elections. This is the first Strategic Planning Session of the elected leadership of the district after those elections. For the next four years we shall be gathering in this manner to come up with developmental objectives to push back the frontiers of poverty and create a better life for all our people.

We need to appreciate the foundation that was laid by our predecessors in the execution of their duties. They left a legacy that could only be defined as a splendid opportunity for the current leadership as we use it to execute a great leap forward.

However, in any revolutionary programme that seeks to redress many challenges that were created by the past skewed system, we will continuously encounter stumbling blocks that may impede progress for the complete service delivery programme for the community of the district.

In this regard, much as we appreciate the foundation laid, as we take the baton from them, we need to be certain about the mandate given at that moment for the next generation of leadership.

We have invited sector departments and our social partners so that our planning should be integrated to deliver quality services to our communities. Our interest is that the Vision 2030 Strategy will assist all of us to synergise our planning and to put resources together to achieve better results.

Vision 2030, as the preamble to South Africa's National Development Plan (NDP) paints a picture of a flourishing South Africa, where citizens live and work together in harmony for the common good, where leaders in various sectors lead with humanity and integrity, where we are truly one nation, one community, united in our diversity and celebrating the richness of our heritage. Our planning should be well informed

Facilitators, the Integrated Development Plan (IDP) is a management tool for assisting municipalities in achieving their developmental mandates. Every municipality is required to develop and adopt its IDP following the legal framework documents as provided in various pieces of legislation.

Section 51 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, provides for developmental local government to make provision for a democratic and accountable government for communities.

Communication between the leadership and its electorate should be regularised and enhanced in an endeavour to correct perceptions and close any vacuum that could be created as a result of muteness.

It should become a habit and hobby to constantly communicate with the people and highlight all challenges that we may have encountered in the execution of our mandate, and further elucidate on our achievements as government at whatever sphere of government. No vacuum should be allowed in the course of duty, be it the political representatives or public servants. We should never be shy to explain.

By us being here, we confirm our resolved to service delivery and furthermore, subscribe to the notion that **“Success is realised when preparation and opportunity meet”**. We are here to prepare and plan and we hope that opportunities will present themselves so that we can see a municipality that is performing and ultimately successful in all its required functional areas.

We need to push good values of the organisation to our employees. We need to introduce change that is founded on good principles and culture. We have to excel in what we do.

Ladies and gentlemen, let me once more welcome you with the traditional warmth and the friendliness of the people of the Waterberg. I wish this gathering fruitful deliberations and declare this session officially opened.

I THANK YOU.