

**WELCOME ADDRESS BY THE SPEAKER OF
WATERBERG DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY CLLR M.A.D.
MONAMA DURING THE LAUNCH OF THE DISTRICT
MPAC FORUM HELD ON THE 23RD JANUARY 2013 AT
WDM COUNCIL CHAMBER AT 11:00.**

**Programme Director, Waterberg District Chief Whip Cllr N.S.
Morumudi,**

All Councillors present,

Provincial Chairperson of MPAC Cllr R.P.Nkanyani,

Chairperson of the Waterberg District MPAC Cllr L.C. kganyago,

Members of the District Municipal Accounts Committee,

Chairpersons of MPACs from our local municipalities,

Representative from COGHSTA,

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and gentlemen.

Thobela, Avuxeni, Good morning.

It is a great pleasure for me to welcome you to this august gathering. It is really a pleasant day for our District as we are here today to launch the Waterberg District Municipal Accounts Forum.

Programme Director, the people of Waterberg are justifiably proud to host you in this mountainous region of South Africa. The beauty of the landscape and the culture of the people make this area one of South Africa's prime tourism and adventure destination.

Located just two hour drive from the giant metropolitan hub of South Africa's industrial heartland of Pretoria and Johannesburg, the Waterberg offers numerous investment opportunities for business, tourism and recreational development.

With the increased cost of travel, the Waterberg is strategically placed to attract many visitors who seek to escape from the pressures of the cities to enjoy the peace and tranquillity of this diverse wilderness destination. The people of Waterberg welcome you to this region with traditional warmth and friendliness.

Programme Director, Waterberg District Municipality has established the Municipal Public Accounts Committee (MPAC) in June 2011, a month after the 2011 Local Government Elections. In 2009 the then Minister of Corporative Governance , Human Settlement and Traditional Affairs, the late Sicelo Siceka nominated Waterberg District Municipality as one of the Ambassadors of the 2014 Clean Audit Campaign.

In 2006/2007,2007/2008 ,2008/2009, 2009/2010 financial years, Waterberg District Municipality has been able to receive Unqualified reports from the Auditor-General. We are pleased to announce to you that during the 2010/2011 and 2011/2012 financial years, we have managed to get a Clean Audit report from the Auditor- General. For 2011/2012 financial year we are the only municipality in Limpopo Province, out of 30 municipalities to receive Clean Audit outcome.

Programme Director, by launching the District MPAC Forum today, we want to reaffirm our commitment to assist our local municipality to emulate what we are doing as a Waterberg. We do hope and believe that by working together we can make Waterberg District a learning centre for financial management that can assist not only our locals but municipalities in the Limpopo Province.

Ladies and gentlemen, MPACs are established in terms of section 79 of the Municipal Structures Act (No.117 of 1998) and perform an oversight function on behalf of the Council. It is the committee established to hold the Mayoral Executive Council accountable for the use of public resources.

The idea is to promote transparency, accountability, good governance, effective financial management and quality service at municipalities. The forum to be launched today should be able to perform these functions. We therefore pledge our support to enable the forum to do its functions.

Programme Director, I am not here to make a political speech but to outline some of the challenging functions that the forum must perform.

Let me once more welcome all of you and wish you fruitful deliberation as you launch this structure in our District. Working together we can do more for efficient service delivery to our communities.

I THANK YOU.