

Following up on our commitments to the people.

# in session



Monthly magazine of the Parliament of the Republic of South Africa

Vol. 17 NO. 3 2017

Mourning  
a leader,  
celebrating  
a legacy



## Vision

An activist and responsive people's Parliament that improves the quality of life of South Africans and ensures enduring equality in our society.

## Mission

Parliament aims to provide a service to the people of South Africa by providing the following:

- A vibrant people's Assembly that intervenes and transforms society and addresses the development challenges of our people;
- Effective oversight over the Executive by strengthening its scrutiny of actions against the needs of South Africans;
- Participation of South Africans in the decision-making processes that affect their lives;
- A healthy relationship between the three arms of the State, that promotes efficient co-operative governance between the spheres of government, and ensures appropriate links with our region and the world; and
- An innovative, transformative, effective and efficient parliamentary service and administration that enables Members of Parliament to fulfil their constitutional responsibilities.

## Strategic Objectives

1. Strengthening oversight and accountability
2. Enhancing public involvement
3. Deepening engagement in international fora
4. Strengthening co-operative government
5. Strengthening legislative capacity





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**COVER:** Members of Parliament paid tribute to struggle stalwart and comrade, Mr Ahmed Kathrada, pictured on a visit to Parliament after his retirement.

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**OUR IDEALS**

**VISION** An activist and responsive people's  
Parliament that improves the quality of life  
of South Africans and ensures enduring equality  
in our society.


**STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES**

Strengthening oversight and accountability;  
enhancing public involvement; deepening  
engagement in international fora; strengthening  
cooperative government; strengthening legislative  
capacity.


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The Chairperson of the National Council of Provinces, Ms Thandi Modise

## MESSAGE FROM THE national council of provinces

**On** *this 20th anniversary of the formation of the National Council of Provinces (NCOP) we should take time to recall the negotiations that led us to this point. People from very diverse approaches, ideologies and cultures sat together at the negotiation table. Some wanted a federal country, the ANC was for a unitary country. The product of these negotiations, a unitary state with federal characteristics, was a political compromise that underpins our current principle of cooperative governance.*

The Interim Constitution had made provision for two houses of Parliament, the Senate and the National Assembly, but there was concern that the Senate would not be able to meet the needs of the envisaged people-centred, co-operative intergovernmental system.

The Senate was viewed as a product of old British constitutional thinking. It was the upper house, an idea that came from a political tradition that claimed that ordinary MPs, who represented the “common” people in the House of Commons, needed the House of Lords, the aristocrats, to keep a check on them.

The new South African constitutional landscape represented a fundamental shift from this tradition and clearly the Senate was not appropriate for the new imperatives of provincial representation, public involvement and cooperative government.

The NCOP was therefore created. Its mandate was to represent the provinces to ensure that provincial interests were taken into account in the national sphere of government. It would do this mainly by participating in the national legislative process and by providing a national forum for public consideration of issues affecting the provinces. The Constitution also made provision for the representation of organised local government in the NCOP, without voting status.

Only six out of the 10 delegates were to be permanent. The rest were to interact with the House while sitting in the provincial legislatures (as special delegates), which created a dynamic link between the provinces and the NCOP.

The NCOP would straddle the three spheres of government, playing a significant role in promoting cooperative government and intergovernmental relations. It was regarded as a unique institution, which added huge value to our democracy.

The then President of the Republic Mr Nelson Mandela noted that, among other things, the NCOP would preside over new forms of allocation of revenue from central to provincial governments.

Mr Govan Mbeki, the then Deputy President of the Senate, described the new NCOP as an opportunity “to carry out experiments on how we could bring all the people of South Africa together, on how we could get messages from the top to percolate through the human layers of South African society to the lowest layers”.

The role and contribution of the NCOP over the years has been a subject of constant reflection. During the Third Parliament, a panel that assessed Parliament asserted, among other things, that the NCOP oversees “the relationships between the spheres of

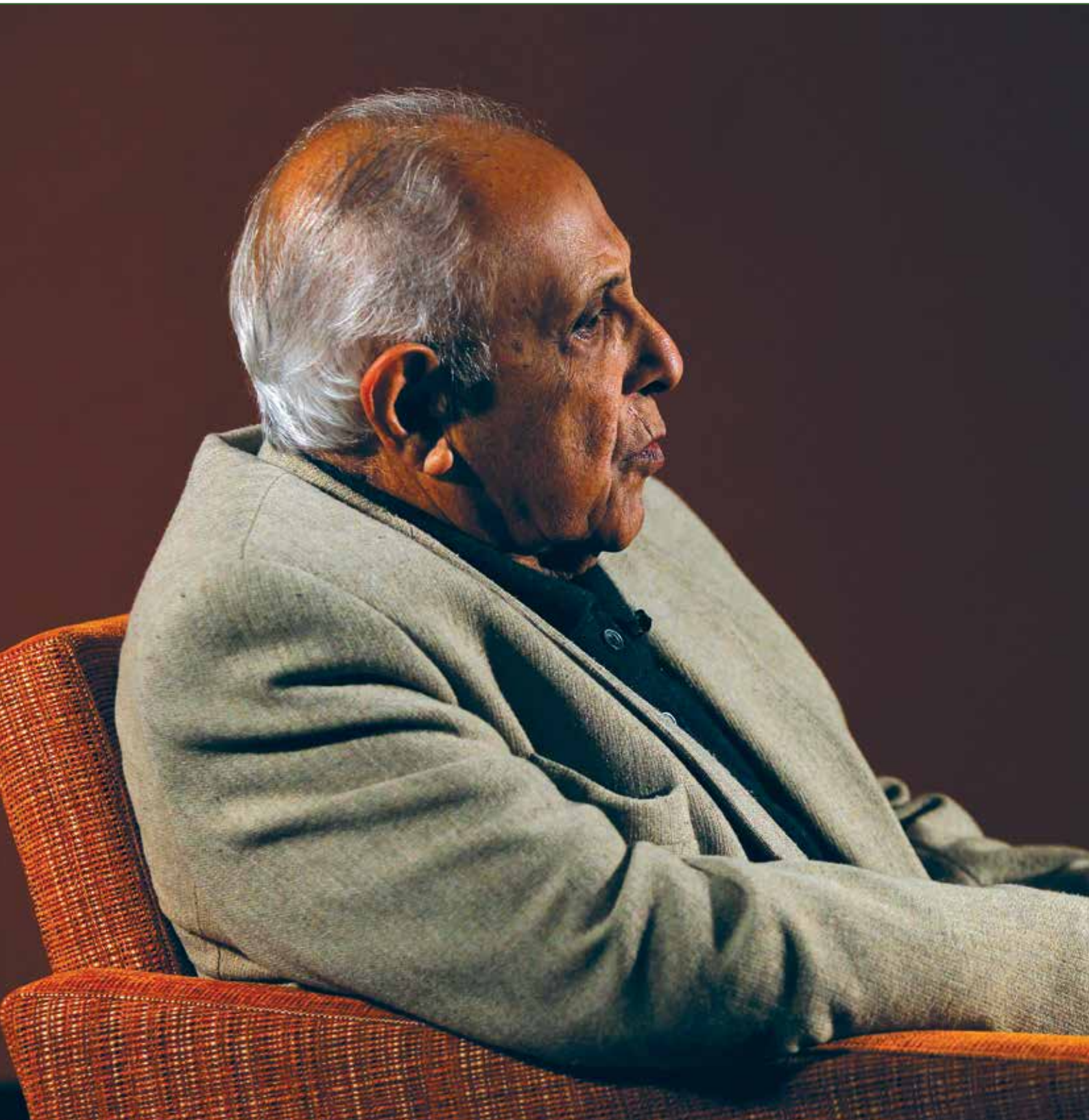
government and operates as a check on executive action that might threaten the integrity of another sphere of government”. This refers to instances where national government intervenes in a province or a province intervenes in a municipality and is one of the areas we are trying hard to strengthen in this Fifth Parliament.

The panel’s view was that the NCOP should not mirror the National Assembly’s oversight mandate of overseeing all of national government, but should exercise oversight over the national aspects of provincial and local government. In other words, the NCOP must ensure that provincial and local concerns are recognised in national policy-making.

When we commemorated 10 years of the NCOP in 2007, some of the critical challenges identified included the need to strengthen support to local government, given its importance in development. Another central task was the rigorous interrogation of the allocations made available by national government to sub-national governments. This year we will examine whether the NCOP has achieved this goal.

Since its establishment, the NCOP has introduced important initiatives and programmes in pursuit of its mandate, including Taking Parliament to the People, Provincial Weeks and Local Government Week.

While celebrating 20 years of the NCOP, we may want to propose that we revisit the manner in which we bring delegates to the NCOP and the efficacy of some provisions in the Constitution on the operations of the NCOP. 🌱



# Parliament pays tribute to Ahmed Kathrada

**Members** *of the National Assembly (NA) paid tribute to the late Mr Ahmed Kathrada in Parliament. They concurred that his passing marks one of the painful moments of the collective consciousness of South Africa. Furthermore, they said South Africa has not only lost a gentle soul, a selfless being, but a beacon of wisdom whose moral compass helped to steer our country to a peaceful transition against all odds, writes Mava Lukani.*





ON A VISIT TO PARLIAMENT:  
Ahmed Kathrada after his retirement.

One NA MP after another said Uncle Kathy, as he was affectionately known, will always be remembered as an embodiment of the ideals and values that today constitute the tenets of South Africa's political freedom and democracy that are enjoyed by all.

"The death of Comrade Ahmed Kathrada marks the saddest moment in our country's political history. He left an indelible footprint that cannot be erased

and he will remain a source of wisdom," said the Chief Whip of the Majority Party, Mr Jackson Mthembu.

He said Parliament recalls that Mr Kathrada was elected as an MP in 1994 and became the parliamentary councillor of the first democratic President, the late Mr Nelson Mandela. "Comrade Kathrada became politically active at the age of 17. He was later imprisoned, banned and faced countless house arrests. In 1956 he was among the treason trialists who were sentenced to life imprisonment at Robben Island in 1963."

Speaking during the debate for the African National Congress, veteran MP Mr Charles Nqakula said that to preserve the legacy of those who contributed to South Africa's democracy, "we must hold a mirror to ourselves and determine whether we have managed to emulate their efforts".

Mr Nqakula added: "We must commend Comrade Kathrada for fighting side by side with the masses to free not only the oppressed but also the oppressors. Our struggle was long and hard. It is pleasing to remember that he was among those cadres such as OR Tambo, Sisulu, Govan Mbeki, Mandela and others who fought for our liberation. He was a giant."

Mr Nqakula reminded MPs that Mr Kathrada was the only Indian among the Rivonia trialists and described him as someone who "had a sharp tongue and an engaging personality. He was a doer, not a theoriser. He held to views that were at variance with others and he defended them when pushed to do so. He was always willing to support the majority view," said Mr Nqakula.

Mr Kathrada had misgivings about the current state of the ANC, which he raised openly and without fear, Mr Nqakula said. "We have had our miscalculations that led to the growth of opposition

parties. I want to say, let's remember things we need to do to truly provide service delivery to the people to ensure they enjoy a better life."

We must use Mr Kathrada's political consciousness and resolve to unite the people of this country and address our common enemies, such as unemployment, poverty and inequality, he said.

Leader of the Inkatha Freedom Party, Prince Mangosuthu Buthelezi, said Mr Kathrada's voice will never be silenced. "We shared a love for South Africa in the pursuit of its liberation. His legacy will influence those willing to learn. There are few leaders like him. May Uncle Kathy rest in peace."

Mr Willie Madisha of the Congress of the People said: "If we truly want to pay tribute to him, we must go back to the principles and values enshrined in the Freedom Charter. What we see in this country today is not what our forefathers fought for."

Through the passing of comrade Kathrada, Mr Madisha added: "We are coming closer to the end of an era of integrity, honesty, decency and truthfulness." He pointed out that Mr Kathrada had said to the President that if he had eyes to see and ears to hear, he would step down.

The Minister of Science and Technology, Ms Naledi Pandor, asked assembled MPs to reflect on Mr Kathrada's contribution to South African liberation and democracy. "Mr Kathrada was a midwife to our Constitution and other laws that contributed to addressing our education and social services."

We have a lot to learn from him, she said. "We must ask ourselves: have we done enough to deserve to be the heirs of the mantle of this house. We can multiple his greatness or muddle it." 🙏



## Land issue the main focus of High Level Panel's national public hearings

A meeting of the Speakers' Forum held in Gauteng heard the preliminary report from the High Level Panel on the Assessment of Key Legislation, which is chaired by former President Kgalema Motlanthe. It emerged in the preliminary report that land was the main focus during the public hearings in all the country's nine provinces, writes *Sibongile Maputi*.

Addressing the second quarterly Speakers' Forum, which was a gathering of the Speakers of all the nine provincial legislatures as well as the Speaker of the National Assembly and the Chairperson of the National Council of Provinces, Mr Motlanthe said there were gaps in the legislation with regard to land redistribution.

He told the Speakers' Forum that until a land audit is done, redistribution will be nearly impossible. This was one of the first findings to emerge from the High Level Panel's "mammoth task" of assessing the impact key legislation has had since the start of democracy.

"The land question would not be addressed unless a land audit is done, otherwise one will have to rely on percentages. How does one phrase the question of land hunger as an accumulative effect on the poor? This needs expertise on land surveying which is quite an expensive undertaking, and not like giving RDP [Reconstruction and Development Programme] houses," said Mr Motlanthe.

The High Level Panel on the Assessment of Key Legislation was established in 2016 by the Speakers' Forum. Mr Motlanthe gave an outline of its methodology and how the panel

was constituted. Mr Motlanthe told the Speakers' Forum that the panel was hoping to table its final report at the end of July.

"We are at a stage now where we are discussing the tons of information received during the engagements with South Africans. The task facing the panel is to ensure that all the information is included in the report. We had to work out an approach of tackling this mammoth task by dividing it into four focus areas: inequality and unemployment; redistribution of wealth; land redistribution and tenure of security; as well as social cohesion," he said.

"Then we had to put together all relevant legislation that spoke to the four areas. It was decided that plenary sessions would not be helpful, and the group divided itself into three working groups focusing on the land question,





**LEADERSHIP:** Speakers and their deputies from provincial and national legislatures as well as High Level Panel members gather for the Speakers' Forum. Back row (L-R): Mr PJC Pretorius (Deputy Speaker, Western Cape), Mr G Mgidiana (Secretary, National Parliament), Ms V Siwela (Deputy Speaker, Mpumalanga), Ms J Manganye (Deputy Speaker, North West), Dr A Classens (High Level Panel member), Mr U Moiloa (Deputy Speaker, Gauteng), Mr L Tsenoli (Deputy Secretary, National Parliament), Ms B Tunyiswa (Deputy Speaker, Eastern Cape), Mr SI Mbalo (Deputy Speaker, Free State), Judge N Pillay (High Level Panel member), Ms O Shisana (High Level Panel member)  
Front row (L-R): Mr K Mmoiemang (Speaker, Northern Cape), Ms L Johnson (Speaker, KwaZulu-Natal), Ms S Fernandez (Speaker, Western Cape), Ms N Kiviet (Speaker, Eastern Cape), Mr K Motlanthe (Chairperson, High Level Panel), Ms B Mbete (Speaker, National Parliament), Ms SP Boshielo (Speaker, Limpopo), Ms SR Dantjie (Speaker, North West), Ms BT Shongwe (Speaker, Mpumalanga), Mr RJ Tau (Deputy Chairperson, National Parliament)

He also said there was an issue with land-use management systems in rural areas. Sociologists have found that the most economically depressed areas of the country are in the former homelands of the apartheid government. These areas continue to be the hardest hit by poverty.

The Speaker of the National Assembly, Ms Baleka Mbete, who is the Chair of the Speakers' Forum, said the meeting was timely in that the most important issues being dealt with were the specific areas that needed to be looked at in order to improve services to the people.

"This should be about policy engagement and whether it is necessary to revisit policy and mechanisms that are in place and legislation that has been passed in the past 20 years. But also whether these have a desirable impact on creating a better life for our people, and if not – why not," she said.

The forum heard that issues such as inequality and land redistribution were hindrances to social cohesion and nation-building. Also, some legislation, although well-intended, might have a negative impact and result in job cuts and the obliteration of the small business sector.

Ms Mbete said the report had awakened her to the real challenges of poverty. She said the panel needed to advise the forum on where to start when dealing with the land issue and whether there was a need to revisit legislation and the Constitution. "This to me is a do or die situation," she said.

The Speaker of the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Legislature, Ms Lydia Johnson, said from the presentation it was clear that inequality had widened. Ms Johnson asked if this was as a result of poor policies or poor implementation.

"Since 1994 we came up with good policies. Has the panel begun at looking at what could be done to strengthen implementation?" she asked.

She was concerned that when it came to land redistribution, there were areas where there was no law at all, and she said it would be helpful to get specific recommendations from the final report of the panel with regard to required legislation and/or perceived changes in the current legislation.

The Speaker of the North West Provincial Legislature, Ms Sussana Dantjie, said communities and public participation were essential when it came to the issue of land ownership and mining rights. "The affected communities should be part of decision-making, whether they want this or not. Sometimes we [hold] the public hearings but at the end of the day decisions should be informed by what communities are saying."

The Speaker of the Eastern Cape Provincial Legislature, Ms Noxolo Kiviet, welcomed the report. "Our area of interest is where to start. The tone of the report seems to be too diplomatic in confronting the real issues. For example, when one talks [about] equity on employment patterns, you find that in the public sector, departments are made to account, but the private sector, where money is, it's difficult to make them account. All they do is submit reports to the Department of Labour, and that's it," Ms Kiviet said.

Mr Motlanthe said the panel had observed during the outreach programmes that most issues raised could only be resolved if provinces, entities, government departments, and government ministers are made aware of how the issues affect communities. 🌍

social cohesion and the other two issues were combined," he said.

The panel held public hearings throughout the country and invited written submissions from various sectors and individuals. It also organised round-table discussions on specific aspects on the focus areas of the working groups.

"Over and above these, we also had outreach programmes through the support we got from provincial legislatures. The outreach programmes yielded good results, as people were able to share with us their living experiences of how legislation impacted on their lives," Mr Motlanthe said.

The panel had discussions with Microsoft for assistance with translation of all submissions. "We are now getting to the process of interpreting the data. It was important that we come and share with the Speakers' Forum what had come out of the provinces," Mr Motlanthe said. He said the consistent message from all provinces was that people do not believe that traditional leaders are owners of the land.

# Taba ya mobu e dutse e ntse e le e ka sehlohlolong nakong ya Moifo o Phahemeng wa dimamelo tsa maikutlo se tjhaba

**Kopano** ya Foramo ya Dipikara e tshwaretsweng Gauteng e utlwile tlaleho ya mantlha ho tswa ho Moifo o Phahameng ho tsa Tekolo ya Melao e ka Sehlohlolong, eo modulasetulo wa yona e neng e le Mopresidente wa Mehlang Kgalema Motlanthe. Ho ile ha hlahella tlalehong ya mantlha hore mobu e ne e le ona tabakgolo nakong ya dimamelo tsa maikutlo a setjhaba diprofenseng tsohle tse robong tsa naha, ho ngola **Sibongile Maputi**. E fetoletswa ke **Chris Phafuli**.

Ha a bua Foramong ya Dipikara ya kotara ya bobedi, eo e leng phutheho ya Dipikara tsa makgotla a ketsamelao a diprofensi tse robong kaofela mmoho le Sepikara sa Seboka sa Naha le Modulasetulo wa Lekgotla la Naha la Diprofensi, Monghadi Motlanthe o ile a re ho na le dikgeo molaong mabapi le kabo ya mobu.

O ile a bolella Foramo ya Dipikara hore ho fihlela ho etswa tlhahlobo ya mobu, ho ka etsahala hore kabo e se etsahale. Sena e ne e le e se seng sa diphumano tsa pele tse hlalileng ho tswa "mosebetsing o moholo" wa Moifo o Phahameng wa ho lekola sekgahla seo melao e ka sehlohlolong e bileng le yona ho tloha maqalong a demokerasi. "Taba ya mobu e ne e ke ke ya bolelwa ntle le haeba tlhahlobo ya mobu e etswa, ho seng jwalo motho o tla tshwanela ho itshetleha ka diperesente. Na motho a ka e beha jwang potso ya tlala ya mobu jwalo ka kgahlamelo e phaelletseng ho bafumanehi? Sena se hloka boqhetseke phuputsong ya mobu seo e leng tshebetso e boima, e sa tshwaneng le ho fana ka matlo a di-RDP (Lenaneo la Kahobotjha le Ntshetsopele)," a rialo Monghadi Motlanthe.

Moifo o Phahameng wa ho Lekola Melao e ka Sehlohlolong o thehilwe ka 2016 ke Foramo ya Dipikara. Monghadi Motlanthe o fane ke sesupo sa hore e sebetse jwang le kamoo moifo o theilweng kateng. Monghadi Motlanthe o boleletse Foramo ya Dipikara hore moifo o tshepa hore o tla teka tlaleho ya ona ya ho qetela mafelong a Phupu.

"Jwale re mohatong oo re buisanang ka lesedi le le ngata leo re le fumaneng nakong eo re neng re kopana le Ma-Afrika Borwa. Mosebetsi o shebaneng le moifo ke ho netefatsa hore lesedi kaofela le kentswe tlalehong. Re ile ra tlameha ho fumana mokgwatshebetso wa ho tobana le mosebetsi o moholo ona ka ho o arola ka dikarolo tse nne tsa ho tsepamisa maikutlo: ho se lekane le tlhokeho ya mosebetsi; kabobotjha ya leruo; kabobotjha ya mobu le tshireletso ya bodulo; mmoho le momahano ya setjhaba," a rialo.

"Yaba re tlameha ho kopanya melao yohle e amehang e bua ka dikarolo tsena tse nne. Ho ile ha nkwa qeto ya hore kopano ya moralo e ke ke ya thusa letho, mme sehlopha sa ikarola ka dihlopha tse tharo tsa tshebetso

tse tsepameng ho taba ya mobu, momahano ya setjhaba mme ditaba tse ding tse pedi tsa kopantshwa," a rialo.

Moifo o ile wa tshwara dimamelo tsa setjhaba naheng kaofela mme wa mema le ditlahiso tse ngotsweng disekthareng le bathong ba fapaneng. Hape o ile wa hlophiswa kopano ya dipuisano ka dintlha tse itseng ka ho tsepamisa maikutlo ditabeng tsa dihlopha tsa tshebetso.

"Ka hodima tsena, hape re ile ra ba le mananeo a ho ya bathong ka tshehetso eo re e fumaneng ho tswa ho makgotla a ketsamelao a diprofensi. Mananeo a ho ya bathong a ile a hlalisa ditlamorao tse ntle, ka hore batho ba ile ba kgona ho re phetela kamoo ba phelang kateng ka moo melao e bileng le sekgahla kateng maphelong a bona," a rialo Monhadi Motlanthe.

Moifo o ile wa tshwara dipuisano le Microsoft bakeng sa ho thuso ka diphetolelo tsa ditlahiso kaofela. "Jwale re se re fihlile mokgwatsamaisong wa ho hlalosa lesedi lena. Ho ne ho le bohlokwa hore re tle re phetele Foramo ya Dipikara se hlalileng diprofenseng," a rialo Monghadi Motlanthe. O ile a re molaetsa o tshwanang o tswang diprofenseng kaofela ke hore batho ha ba kgolwe hore baetapele ba setso ke banga ba mobu.

O boetse a re ho teng bothata ka mekgwatshebetso ya taolo ya dibaka tsa mahae. Ditsebi tsa ditaba tsa kahisano di fumane hore dibaka tse ngata tse





**O TEBISITSE MAIKUTLO:** Spikara sa Ntlo ya Seema ya Naha, Mof. Baleka Mbete.

futsanehileng naheng ke tsa mahae a mehleng a mmuso wa apartheid. Dibaka tsena di ntse di futsanehile haholo.

Sepikara sa Seboka sa Naha, Mofs Baleka Mbete, eo e leng Modulasetulo wa Foramo ya Dipikara, o itse kopano e bile ka nako e ntle hobane e shebile ditaba tse bohlokwa haholo tse dibakeng tse itseng tse hlohang ho shejwa hore ho ntlafatswe ditshebeletso bathong.

“Tsena di tshwanetse ho ba ka dipuisano tsa leano le hore na ho a hlokahala ho sheba botjha leano le mekgwa e teng le melao e entsweng dilemong tse 20 tse fetileng. Le ho sheba hore tsena di na le kgahlamelo e lakatsehang ya ho etsa maphelo a matle a batho ba rona, mme haeba ho se jwalo – hobaneng ho se jwalo.”

Foramo ena e utlwile hore ditaba tse kang ho se lekane le kabobotjha ke ditshita tsa momahano ya setjha le kaho ya sona. Hape, melao e meng, le hoja e na le dipheo tse ntle, e ka ba le kgahlamelo e mpe, mme ya baka ho kgaolwa ha mesebetsi le ho fela ha lekala la dikgwebo tse nyane.

Mofs. Mbete o itse tlaho ena e mo

hlokomedisitse diphephetso tsa sebele tsa bofuma. O itse moifo o hloka ho eletsa foramo hore e qale kae ha e sebetsana le taba ya mobu le hore na ho teng tlhokeho ya ho sheba botjha melao le Molaotheo. “Sena ho nna ke maemo a ho etsa kapa ho shwa.

Sepikara sa Lekgotla la Ketsamelao la Profensi ya KwaZulu-Natal, Mofs Lydia Johnson, o itse nehelano e hlakisitse hore ho se lekane ho eketsehile. Mofs. Johnson o botsitse hore na sena ke sephetho sa maano a mabe kapa ho kenywa tshebetsong ho hobe.

“Re tlile le maano a matle ho tloha ka 1994. Na moifo o ka sheba hore ho ka etswang ho matlafatsa ho kenywa tshebetsong?” o botsitse.

O ne a ngongorehile hore ha ho tluwa ho kabobotjha, ho teng dibaka tse se nang molao hohang, mme a re ho tla thusa ho fumana dikgothaletso tse tobileng tlahong ya bofelo ya moifo mabapi le melao e hlokehang le/kapa diphetolo tse lemohilweng melaong e teng.

Sepikara sa Lekgotla la Ketsamelao la Profensi ya North-West, Mofs. Sussana Dantjie, o itse setjhaba le seabo sa sona

di bohlokwa ha ho tluwa tabeng ya thuo ya mobu le ditokelo tsa ho rafa. “Metse e amehang e lokela ho ba karolo ya ba nkang diteqo, hore na ba batla sena kapa tjhe. Ka dinako tse ding re etsa dikopano tsa setjhaba empa qetellong diqeto di lokela ho latela se buuwang ke setjhaba.

Sepikara sa Lekgotla la Ketsamelao la Profensi ya Kapa Botjhabela, Mofs. Noxolo Kiviet, o amohetse tlaho. “Thahasello ya rona ke hore re qala kae. Tlaho e utlwahala e sa tobe ditaba tsa sebele ka kotloloho. Mohlala, ha motho a bua ka tekano ya dipaterone tsa khiro, o fumana hore lekaleng la setjhaba, mafapha a etswa hore a ikarabele, empa lekaleng la poraefete, moo tjelele e leng hona teng, ho thata ho ba etsa hore ba ikarabele. Seo ba se etsang feela ke ho fana ka ditlaho ho Lefapha la tsa Mesebetsi, ebe ba qetile,” Mofs Kiviet o boletse.

Mong Motlanthe o itse moifo o hlokometse nakong ya mananeo a yang setjhabeng hore mathata a mangata a ka rarollwa haeba diProfensi, mekgatlo, mafapha a mmuso, le matona a mmuso ba ka hlokomediswa hore ditaba di ama setjhaba jwang. 🙏



Hon Khunou  
APAC Chairperson





# Apac to migrate to Speakers' Forum

**The** *Speakers' Forum heard about the Association of Public Accounts Committees' (Apac) move to the Speakers' Forum from 1 April 2018, writes Sibongile Maputi.*

Apac is the association of the nine provincial Public Accounts Committees and Parliament's Standing Committee on Public Accounts. It was established in 1997. The association is modelled on the Canadian and Australian public accounts associations. Presenting the report on Apac's move to the Speakers' Forum, Apac's Chairperson, Ms Nthabiseng Khunou, emphasised Apac's strategic plan.

Ms Khunou said the plan has been aligned with the Speakers' Forum imperatives to ensure effective oversight, facilitate the exchange of information and best practices, and to discuss issues of mutual concern. She assured the Speakers' Forum that a records management project has begun which will ensure that the electronic and physical migration of Apac's records happens smoothly.

During the presentation, Ms Khunou proposed a joint workshop of Apac and the Legislative Sector Secretaries to discuss Apac's plan of implementation of migration to the Speakers' Forum.

"This joint venture with the Speakers' Forum will strengthen governance structures in order to enhance transparency, accountability and oversight in the public sector, engaging the public [and] civil society organisations, as well as

building capacity for both Apac and the Speakers' Forum for effective and efficient oversight in the public sector," said Ms Khunou.

This is to enable the sector to effectively deliver on its mandate of oversight and accountability. She said the decision was also necessitated by the fact that the Auditor-General was providing support for the body, something that raises a conflict of interest, as the Auditor-General reports to the structure.

Among the current objectives of Apac is to improve the quality and performance of South Africa's Public Accounts Committees and the capacity of their individual members. Ms Khunou said after Apac's migration to the Speakers' Forum in 2018, it is expected that, together with the Speakers' Forum, Apac will liaise with the Auditor-General to improve the effectiveness of the public audit service.

The Speaker of the National Assembly, Ms Baleka Mbete, had earlier said the Speakers' Forum was considering ways of improving services to the people.

The Speakers' Forum also heard a report from the Public Protector, Adv Busisiwe Mkhwebane, on the complaints that the Office of the Public Protector has to deal with.

These complaints relate to systemic issues that the office is neither capacitated nor mandated to deal with.

Adv Mkhwebane briefed the Speakers' Forum on how the legislative sector's programme will determine the Public Protector's mandate and described what the new Public Protector had done in her first 100 days. She informed the forum of the initiatives, programmes and roadshows that her office had undertaken throughout the country in an attempt to broaden access to her office.

"The common issues that keep arising in most of our roadshows in all the provinces include land claims delays by the Land Claims Commission, evictions, electricity problems, water and sanitation, and road infrastructure," she said.

"Another issue that is a challenge is the lack of consultation between municipal officials and traditional authorities on projects. As a result, the office had thought of a systemic approach to resolving problems associated with these projects without having to receive them as complaints," she said.

She said her office has started sending public outreach officials (not investigators) to take part in public participation processes where they listen and interact with government departments and entities in trying to elevate concerns of communities before they become complaints.

The Office of the Public Protector has conducted a number of engagements with communities in various provinces and wishes to work closely with the legislatures. She also said the delays in finalising cases also resulted from lack of cooperation from various government departments. 🌐

**WORD FROM APAC CHAIRPERSON:** Ms Nthabiseng Khunou

# Apac e išwa go Foramo ya Sepikara

**Foramo** ya Sepikara yeo e swerego kopano kgauswinyana e kwele gore Mokgatlo wa Dikomiti tša Diakhaonte tša Setšhaba (Apac) e išwa go Foramo ya Sepikara go tloga ka la 1 Aporerele 2018, Sibongile Maputi ke yena a ngwadilego ditaba tše. E fetoletšwe ke Mapule Moswane.

Apac ke mokgatlo wa Dikomiti tša Diakhaonte tša Setšhaba le Komiti yeo e Ikemego ya Palamente ya Diakhaonte tša Setšhaba. Yona e hlamilwe ngwageng wa 1997. Mokgatlo o hlamilwe go ya ka motlolo wa mekgatlo ya diakhaonte tša setšhaba wa dinaga tša Canada le Australia. Ge a efa pego ka go išwa ga Apac ka go Foramo ya Sepikara, Modulasetulo wa Apac e lego Mdi Nthabiseng Khunou, o gateletše leano la yona Apac.

Mdi Khunou o rile leano le sepelana le dikgapeletšego tša taelo ya Foramo ya Sepikara e lego go netefatša gore tekodišišo ke yeo e phethagetšego, go sepetša neelano ya tshedimošo, le ditlwaelo tše kaone, gape le go boledišana ka ditaba tšeo di amago bobedi bja dihlongwa tše. O netefaditše Foramo ya Sepikara gore phorotšeke ya taolo ya direkhote e thomile, gomme e tla netefatša gore go išwa ga direkhote tša Apac tša seelekroniki le tša go swarwa ka diatla go sepetšwa ka thelelo.

Nakong ya kalo ya ditaba, Mdi Khunou o šišintše gore go be le wekešopo ya mohlakanelwa magareng ga Apac le Bangwaledi ba Lekala la Lekgotlatheramolao go boledišana ka leano la phethagatšo

ya go išwa ga Apac go Foramo ya Sepikara.

“Lenanoga le la mohlakanelwa la Foramo ya Sepikara le tla matlafatša dibopego tša pušo gore go be le ponagalo yeo e nabilego, maikarabelo le tekodišišo ka go lekala la mmuošo, ka therišano le setšhaba, le mekgatlo ya setšhaba, gammogo le go kgonagatša bobedi bja Apac le Foramo ya Sepikara gore go be le tekodišišo ya go thelela, ebile ya go phethagala lekaleng la setšhaba,” a rialo Mdi Khunou.

Go dira se ke go kgontšha lekala gore le sepetšwe ka thelelo go ya ka taelo ya yona ya tekodišišo le maikarabelo. O ile sephetho se kgontšhitšwe ke taba ya gore Molekodi-Pharephare o fa thekgo ya setho, e lego seo se tlorolago ditsebe tša gore go reng nke go na le thulano ya kgahlego, Molekodi-Pharephare o bega go sebopego.

Magareng ga maikemišetšo ao a šetšego a le gona, Apac e kaonafatša boleng le go šoma ga Dikomiti tša Diakhaonte tša Setšhaba tša Afrika Borwa gammogo le kgonagatšo ya maloko ka bonoši. Mdi Khunou o ile ka morago ga ge Apac e išitšwe go

Foramo ya Sepikara ngwageng wa 2018, go hutšwa gore Foramo ya Sepikara le Apac ka bobedi bja tšona di tla ikgokaganya le Molekodi-Pharephare go kaonafatša phethagalo ya tirelo ya tekolo ya setšhaba.

Sepikara sa Ngwako wa Bosetšhaba e lego Mdi Baleka Mbete, o ile pejana a re Foramo ya Setšhaba e hlokomedišiša mekgwa ya go kaonafatša ditirelo tša batho.

Foramo ya Setšhaba gape e kwele pego go tšwa go Mošireletši wa Setšhaba e lego Adv Busisiwe Mkhwebane, ka dipelaelo tšeo yona Ofisi ya Mošireletši wa Setšhaba e swanetšego go swaragana le tšona. Dipelaelo tše di amana le ditaba tša tshepetšo tšeo ofisi e sa kgonego go ka di phethagatša ka lebaka la ditlhaelelo tša matlafatšo, goba gona go se fiwe taelo ya go swaragana le tšona.

Adv Mkhwebane o nyetloletše Foramo ya Sepikara ka moo lenaneo la lekala la lekgotlatheramolao le tlo go laola taelo ya Mošireletši wa Setšhaba ka gona le gore ke dife tšeo Mošireletši wa Setšhaba wo moswa a di dirilego matšatšing a gagwe a mathomo a 100 mola a thomago mošomo. O sedimošitše foramo ka maitekelo, mananeo le masolokwalakwatšo ao ofisi ya gagwe e a dirilego go ralala naga ka bophara e le go leka go katološa phihlelego ya ofisi ya gagwe.

“Ditaba tša go swana tšeo di





FORAMOYA SEPIKARA: Adv Busisiwe Mkhwebane

tšwelelago ka go boati bja masolokwalakwatšo a rena diprofenseng ka moka di akaretša boipelaetšo bja Khomišene ya Boipelaetšo bja Pušetšo ya Naga go Beng ba Yona e na le le tiego ya gore naga e bušetšwe go beng ba yona, go kobja ga batho moo ba dulago, mathata a motlagase, meetse le kelelatšhila, gape le mafarahlhla a ditsela,” a rialo.

“Taba ye nngwe yeo e lego tlhohlo ke tlhokego ya therišano magareng

ga bašomi ba mmasepala le baetapele ba setšo ka tshepešo ya diphorotšeke. Seo se feleditše se dira gore ofisi e gopodišiše ka leano le lengwe leo e ka tlogo ka lona go rarolla pharela ye ya diphorotšeke ka ntle ga go di amogela bjalo ka mathata,” a rialo.

O ile ofisi ya gagwe e thomile ka go romela bašomi (e se go banyakišiši) go masolokwalakwatšo a setšhaba go tšea karolo ka ditshepetšo tša setšhaba moo ba theetšago le gona

go rerišana le dikgoro tša mmušo le dihlongwa, e le go leka go hlagiša matshwenyego a setšhaba pele ga ge a eba mathata.

Ofisi ya Mošireletši wa Setšhaba e bile le dipoledišano le setšhaba diprofenseng tša go fapanafapana gomme e duma ge e ka šomišana le makgotlatheramolao ka bokgauswi. Gape o ile ditiego tša go fihlelela sephetho sa melato di dirile gore go be le tlhokego ya tirišana go tšwa dikgorong tša go fapana tša mmušo. 🙏



## Rights of workers and unemployed debated by NCOP

**May** Day held every year on 1 May celebrates the gains made by workers, labourers and the labour movement. This year the National Council of Provinces (NCOP) held a debate to discuss the progress and challenges facing the labour movement in South Africa, writes Mava Lukani.

South Africa's most recent unemployment index indicates that 8.9 million people are looking for employment and yet the economy is unable to deliver employment, some of the permanent delegates to the NCOP said during the debate.

The Deputy Minister of Labour, Mr Phathekile Holomisa, saluted

those who came together in the 1980s at a difficult time in South Africa's apartheid history to make a meaningful contribution to advancing the cause of workers. In particular, Mr Holomisa mentioned the founders of the Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu).

He said the existence of collective

bargaining is the highlight of the gains achieved by workers in the past 23 years of South Africa's democratic dispensation. "Collective bargaining is central to our market policy and to the Labour Relations Act. Trade unions must continue to recruit more members to ensure efficient, orderly and stable collective bargaining in order to address workers' needs," said Mr Holomisa. This will improve conditions of employment and lead to a competitive labour market, he said.

Mr Holomisa reminded the NCOP delegates that labour laws have enabled the government to extend protection to vulnerable workers, those not covered by collective bargaining or unionisation. "To further protect vulnerable workers against abusive labour practices, we introduced the Basic Conditions of Employment Act, which





**WORKERS STAND FIRM:** The employed demand their rights.

protection to retrenched workers. We have recently amended the UIF Act to also extend workers' benefits to 12 months, as opposed to eight months," he said.

The sale of cheap imported chicken meat in South Africa and the resulting loss of South African jobs in the poultry sector was one of the issues contributing to South Africa's economic problems mentioned by NCOP MPs during the debate.

Putting emphasis on the erosion of employment in the South African poultry sector on a daily basis, Mr Vusumzi Magwebu, the Eastern Cape's permanent delegate to the NCOP representing the Democratic Alliance, said that while the consumers benefit from the cheap sale of poultry, imports are causing job losses. "This is the industry that supports nearly 50 000 direct jobs and 130 000 indirect jobs," said Mr Magwebu.

According to Mr Magwebu, in February this year Rainbow Chicken retrenched 1 350 workers, including managers. He told NCOP delegates that Country Bird will close down its Mahikeng plant, resulting in 939 direct and 1 605 indirect job losses.

South Africa's junk status rating was also raised as a problem that will have a negative effect on the working class. MPs said that downgrades will dampen economic growth and no new jobs will be created. Instead, retrenchments will be the order of the day.

The legacy of colonialism and apartheid was also raised by the delegates to the NCOP during the debate. They said the vestiges of colonial and apartheid economic architecture, so deeply embedded in the South African society despite the

23 years of freedom in South Africa, should be urgently undone.

"Because of that legacy, in spite of 23 years of freedom there are still disparities at the workplace where whites still earn six times more than blacks and there are workers who still earn less than R3 500 a month," said Mr Makosini Chabangu of the Free State, representing the Economic Freedom Fighters.

Mr Chabangu said South Africa's economic realities diminish the spirit of May Day celebration, but he said that the day should be a time for critical assessment of the conditions facing South African workers. He said that about 40% of the population, historically black and marginalised people, are unemployed and because of that, they are the victims of poverty and opportunistic diseases.

Despite these difficulties, other participants in the debate praised South Africa's Constitution, saying they saw it as a protector of workers' rights. They mentioned that the rights of all workers are enshrined in the Bill of Rights and no one can delete those rights from the Constitution.

Mr Mntomuhle Khawula, representing KwaZulu-Natal for the Inkatha Freedom Party, said that Parliament has introduced some progressive laws over the past 23 years aimed at protecting and promoting the rights of workers, but those laws are not effectively implemented. According to Mr Khawula, the South African workers suffer because of this. He also said that workers are victims of state capture and rising levels of corruption. "For our country to truly celebrate workers' rights, we need to free South Africa from the bondage of ignorance of capture and despotism," Mr Khawula said. 🇿🇦

empowered the Department of Labour to determine sectoral wage determinations," he said.

He said these sectoral wage determinations set minimum employment conditions and wages, "thereby reducing the vulnerability of workers".

Mr Holomisa said one of the significant outcomes of May Day is that it enables the government to recommit itself to progressive principles. On the low economic growth and retrenchments that workers suffer on a daily basis, Mr Holomisa said the government ensures that it cushions the workers from the devastating effects of such retrenchments.

"The Unemployment Insurance Fund (UIF) stands ready to provide social

# Taking Parliament to the People pre-visit to Free State focuses on health services

**Challenges** *hindering the provision of quality healthcare services in rural towns and farm communities became the subject of intense discussions between delegates of the National Council of Provinces (NCOP) and Department of Health officials during the pre-visit to the Free State in preparation for the NCOP's Taking Parliament to the People programme, writes Sakhile Mokoena.*

The pre-visit forms the first part of the Taking Parliament to the People programme and will be followed by the main event in August and a report-back session to the community later in the year. The programme forms part of efforts to ensure that the government delivers on commitments towards the realisation of the country's ambitious National Development Plan (NDP) to end poverty and inequality by the year 2030.

The oversight pre-visit was conducted on the theme "Celebrating 20 years of the Constitution and 20 years since the establishment of the NCOP". Provision of quality healthcare is part of the government's apex priorities for service delivery and is also one of the major targets of the NDP and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the global agenda to end hunger, poverty and underdevelopment by the year 2030.

In a media briefing to officially launch the pre-visit, NCOP Chairperson Ms Thandi Modise said though the focus

was on health, the delegates would listen to any service delivery matters raised by the community, even when not related to the provision of healthcare.

"Although the focus for the preliminary oversight visit is on the provision of healthcare in the Free State province, the NCOP does not discourage the public from raising any service delivery challenges that are not related to health.

"We are aware that there are many that cannot be ignored and some of them could be resolved sooner than the actual Taking Parliament to the People. We are here to ensure that taxpayers' money is well spent, as per the requirements of the Constitution," she said.

NCOP House Chairperson for Committees and Oversight Mr Jomo Nyambi said the programme was not only ensuring public participation in Parliament's business, but also served as a "major boost to the oversight role of the NCOP. Our job is to do



oversight on those who are supposed to deliver the services to the people and make sure that our citizens come first," he said.

"Our research tells us that the Free State is doing badly in the provision of primary healthcare, but we are not here to be the judges. We are here to ensure that citizens get the attention they need."

One of the major challenges affecting the operation of clinics in the Xhariep District is the lack of water. Xhariep clinics are not functioning well because of the water challenge in the district, despite being home to the country's biggest dam, the Gariiep. Furthermore, most clinics operate





**NCOP SHOWS IT CARES:** The Chairperson of the Select Committee on Social Service, Ms Landulile Dlamini, visited a clinic in Free State.

from 7.30 am to 4 pm on weekdays only, closing over the weekends.

Mr Xolile Mathwa, the Executive Mayor of Kopanong Local Municipality (one of the municipalities in the Xhariep District) told the NCOP that a cut in water services had been implemented by Bloem Water because of a debt of about R180 million that his municipality owed to the water supplier.

“We have a huge debt to Bloem Water. We inherited the debt from the transitional councils in the 1990s before the amalgamation of the town councils. We have engaged the relevant authorities and came up with a proposal to write off the interest – it

is really killing us – so that we can service the actual amount. We appeal to NCOP delegates to come to our rescue,” he pleaded.

Officials also told the NCOP how the department is struggling to attract suitably qualified health professionals to work in rural towns as most preferred bigger cities.

NCOP delegate Ms Thandi Mpambo-Sibhukwana said it is a concern that patient transport has not been available for more than a year. “We need 24/7 medical services. The current situation gives an impression that our people don’t get sick at night and on weekends. We cannot allow this situation to continue like this,”

said Ms Mpambo-Sibhukwana.

Ms Modise said cutting budgets should be done rationally and put the needs of the people first. “We need to have a dialogue with National Treasury about the rationale used in implementing budget cuts. We cannot be about guarding budgets. We need to worry about the souls,” she said.

The Chairperson of the Select Committee on Social Services, Ms Landulile Dlamini, who was the leader of the delegation that focused on Kopanong, described the water problem in the area as “painful to hear”. She added that “without water we won’t be able to resolve the health issues and get our facilities to function efficiently”.

The biggest shock for the delegation was a revelation that a newly-constructed hospital, the Albert Nzula District Hospital, which should have opened in 2013, remains unused five years later because water and sewerage services are not available.

This news was not well received by NCOP delegates. Officials promised the delegation that it would open on 15 June 2017. The NCOP was not satisfied with the answers from the department and instructed the officials to provide authentic information on the state of the hospital.

“If water or infrastructure was there in 2013, would the hospital have opened? Who decided to build a hospital without the required infrastructure?” asked Ms Dlamini.

However, during a visit to Lephoi Clinic in Bethulie, NCOP delegates were impressed with the cleanliness of the facility and the welcoming attitude of staff. 🌟

# Loetopele la go isa palamente kwa bathong kwa foreisetata le tsepile go ditirelo tsa boitekanelo

**Dikgwetlho** tseo di kgoreletsang neelano e eboleng ya ditirelo tsa boitekanelo jwa poraemari kwa magaeng le kwa dipolaseng e nnile se tlhogo sa motlotlo o o tseneletseng magareng ga baemedi go tswa kwa Khanseleng ya Bo setšhaba ya Diporofense (NCOP) le badiredi ba Lefapha la Boitekanelo ka nako ya ipaakanyetso ya loetopele la go ya Foreisetata la porogerama ya Go isa Palamente kwa Bathong, go kwala **Sakhile Mokoena**. E fetoletswe ke **Lebo Mafulako**.

Maetopeleano a bopa karolo ya ntlha ya porogeramaya Go isa Palamente kwa Bathong, eo e tla latelwang ke tiragatsokgolo ka Phatwemme moragonyanamongwageng, go latele pegelo go baagi. Porogerama eno e bopa karolo ya maiteko a puso go netefatsa gore e neelana ka maitlamo a phitlhelelo go Leano Tlhabololo la Bosetšhaba (NDP) go fedisa bohuma le go sa lekalekaneng ka ngwaga wa 2030.

Maetopele a okameloa a ne a dirwa ka fa tlase ga thitokgang "Go keteka dingwaga di le 20 tsa Molaotseo le di le 20 fa e sale NCOP e tlangwa". Neelano ka tlhokomelo ya boitekanelo e e boleng ke karolo e e kwa setlhotlholong ya neelano ka ditirelo e bile ke nngwe ya diphitlhelelokgolo tsa NDP le Maikaelelo a Tlhabololo e e Tseweletseng (SDGs), lenaneotema la lefatshe ka bophara go fedisatlala, bohuma le tlhabologo e e kwa tlase ka ngwagawa 2030.

Mo tshedimosetsong kammediya go simolola semmuso maetopele, Modulasetilowa NCOP, Mme Thandi Modise o rile le fa tsepo e le ka ga boitekanelo, baemedi ba tla reetsa dintlhatse di ka ga

neelano ka ditirelo tseo di tthagisiwang ke baagi, le fa di sa amane le neelano ka ditirelo go tsa tlhokomelo ya boitekanelo.

"Le fa tsepo ya ketelope le ya leoto la okameloa e le ka ga neelano ya ditirelo go tlhokomelo ya boitekanelo mo Porofenseng ya Foreisetata, NCOP ga e thibe baagi go tthagisa dikgwetlho tsa neelano ka ditirelo le fa di sa amane le boitekanelo. Re etselthoko gore gona le di dints tseo di ka se ikgatholosiwang mme tse dingwe tsa tsona di ka rarabololwa pele ga Go isa Palamente kwa Bathong. Re fano go netefatsa gore madi a baduela lekgetho a dirisiwa sentle, go ya ka ditlhokego tsa Molaotseo," a rialo.

Modulasetilwa wa Dikomiti le Okameloa, Rre Jomo Nyambi, o rile porogerama ga se fela go netefatsa botsaakarolo jwa setšhaba mo tsamaisong ya Palamente, mme ke go netefatsa tshetsegokgolo go karolo ya okameloya NCOP. "Tiro ya rona ke go okameloa bao ba tshwanetseng go neelana ka ditirelo go batho le go netefatsa gore baagi ba rona ba tla pele," a rialo.

Patlisiso ya rona e re bolelela gore Foreisetata e dira bokoa tota mo go neelaneng ka tirelo ya boitekanelo jwa poraemari, fela ga re fano go nna baatlhodi, re tlile kwano go netefatsa gore baagi ba tsewatsia mo go lekaneng."

Nngwe ya dikgwetlhogolo eo e kgoreletsang tiro kwa ditliniking tsa sedika sa Xhariep ke tlhokego ya metsi. Ditliniki tsa Xhariep ga di dire sentle ka ntlha ya kgwetlho ya metsi mo sedikeng, le fa e le legae la letamolegolo o nageng, Gariap. Go feta fao, bontsi baditliniki bo bula go tloga ka 7.30 am go ya go 4 pm ka beke, go tswalwe ka mafelo a beke.

Rre Xolile Mathwa, Ramotse wa Mmasepala wa Selegae wa Kopanong (nngwe ya dimmasepala mo sedikeng sa Xhariep) o boleletse NCOP gore kgaogo ya ditirelo tsa metsi e tsewetswetsong ke Bloem Water ka ntlha ya sekoloto sa dimilione di le R180 tseo mmasepala wa gagwe o di kolotang moneelatirelowametsi.

"Re na le sekoloto se segolo go Bloem Water. Re bone sekoloto seno jaaka bo-





NCOP E A KGATHALA: Badiri ba tliniki mo Foreisetata ba anegela kemedi ya NCOP ka ga tiro ya bona.

swa go tswa go dikhansele tsa phetogot-sa bo 1990 pele gakopano ya dikhansele tsa teropo. Re ikgolagantse le botsamaisi jo bo maleba mme ra tshitsinya gore tsalo e phimolwe – e a re bolaya tota – gore re kgone go baakanya bokana jo bo kolotiwang. Re kopa thuso go tswa go lona baemedi ba NCOP,” o ikuetse jalo.

Badiredi ba ne babolelela NCOP gore lefapha le itemogela bothata go nyokaba diredi ba boitekanelo bao ba leng maleba go dira kwa magaeng gonne bontsi bo itlhophela ditoropo tse dikgolwane. Moemedi wa NCOP, Mme Thandi Mpambo-Sibhukwana, o rile ke tlhobaboroko gore sepangwa sa balwetsi sena le ngwaga se se gona. “Re tlhoka ditirelo tsa kalafo 24/7. Maemo a ga jaana a kaya gore batho ba rona ga ba lwale bosigo le ka mafelo a beke. Re ka se letle maemo ano go tswela jaana,” ga rialo Mme Mpambo-Sibhukwana.

Modulasetilo Modise o rile go kgaolwa ga ditekanyetsokabo go tshwanetse go dirwa ka tlhologanyo e e tletseng mme ditlhoko tsa batho di bewe kwa pele. “Re tlhoka go nna le puisano le ba tsa Matlotlo a Bosetshaba ka ga mokgwa o ba o dirisang go fokotsatekanyetsokabo. Ga re a tshwanela go leba fela ditekanyetsokabo. Re tshwanetse go tshwenyega le ka mewa,” o rile jalo.

Modula setilo wa Komitikegetho ka ga Ditirelo tsa Loago, Mme Landulile Dlamini, Moeteledipele wa Boemedi jwa kwa Kopanong, o tlhalositsebo-thatajwa metsi e le “kgang e e utlwisang botlhoko”. O tlaleditse ka gore “ntle le metsi re ka se kgone go rarabolola dintlha tsa boitekanelo le go fitlhelela tiriso e e manontlhotlho ya didiriswa tsa rona”.

Semakasegolo go baemedi e nnile tshenolo ka ga bookelo jo bo fetsang go agiwa, Bookelo jwa Sedika jwa Albert Nzula, jo bo neng bo tshwanetse go bulwa ka 2013, bo santse bo sa dirisiwe dingwaga di le tlhano morago gonne ditirelo tsa metsi le kgeleloleswe di se gona. Baemedi ba NCOP ga ba tsaya dikgang tseno sentle. Badiredi ba tshepitsitse baemedi gore bo tla bulwa ka 15 Seetebosigo 2017. NCOP ga ya kgotsofalela dikarabo go tswa go lefaphamme ya laela badiredi go neelana ka tshedimose tse e e totobetseng ka ga maemo a bookelo. “Fa metsi kgotsa kago ya ona e ne e le gonaka 2013, a bookelo bo kabo bo butswa? Ke mang yo o sweditse go aga bookelo ntle le go latela ditlhokego?” ga botsa Mme Dlamini. Le fa go le jalo, ka nako ya ketelo kwa tliniking ya Lephoikwa Bethulie, baemedi ba NCOP ba ne ba itumedisiwa ke bophepa jwa lefelo le kamogelo ka badiri. 🙏

# Peace is a necessary condition for Africa's social and economic development

**The** 2017 Africa Day was celebrated in Parliament with a debate in the National Assembly. The theme of the debate was chosen to emphasise that Africa's ascendancy can no longer be deferred and will only be realised by upholding the values that serve Africa's developmental agenda, writes *Abel Mputing*.

The parliamentary debate on "Building a Better Africa and a Better World" was not only concerned with Africa's past, it also highlighted its contemporary challenges and affairs. Most of those participating in the debate were of the view that Africa's new beginnings were hampered by ills that stem mainly from its economic underdevelopment.

Most significantly, they argued that Africa won't emerge from its current quagmire by relying on ad hoc and unplanned development. Opening the debate, the Deputy Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Mr Luwellyn Landers, lauded the late Namibian freedom fighter, Mr Toivo ya Toivo, who passed away recently for his contribution to a better Africa.

"Allow me to begin by paying homage to the Namibian struggle icon and anti-apartheid activist Herman Andimba Toivo ya Toivo. Comrade Toivo Ya Toivo will be remembered for his tireless struggle towards Africa's and Namibia's

struggle for emancipation. We use this occasion to express our deepest condolences to his family, to the South West Africa People's Organisation (Swapo) and to the people and government of Namibia. Hamba Kahle Comrade Toivo ya Toivo.

"Pan-Africanism must serve as the foundation for today's debate during which we will demonstrate our commitment to its ideals and values. The genesis of our Pan-Africanist ideology and movement was in response to colonisation of the African continent and our resolve to work towards a shared future as Africans."

Most of all, our Pan-Africanist outlook not only informs our past, but also our post-democratic vision, Mr Landers said. "Every generation of our leadership from President Luthuli to President Zuma has continued to build upon these ideals in both policy and practice. Our Pan-Africanist outlook as a country is therefore a post-democratic vision grounded in our

historical struggle against colonialism, imperialism and apartheid."

Informed by the foundations laid down by our forebears, the ideals and values of Pan-Africanism shall propel us to realise the aspirations of Agenda 2063, he said.

The Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on International Relations and Cooperation, Mr Siphoswe Masango, said the realisation of Agenda 2063 will fulfil the vision of Africa's forebears.

"The Organisation of African Unity's 1963 and the African Union's [AU] 2002 aspirations, together embodied in Agenda 2063, are the quintessential fulfilment of the vision of Kwame Nkrumah, Nnamdi Azikiwe, Jomo Kenyatta, Pixley ka Isaka Seme, OR Tambo and many others in the diaspora," Mr Masango said.

As a country, we must be proud of our role in fostering peace on the continent,







**RAISE THEM HIGH:** Parliament raised the flags of all countries on the continent to mark Africa Day.

to consolidate peace efforts, he said. "We make it our unassailable assertion that South Africa is proud to have deployed its leadership in brokering peace, deployed peacekeeping forces and continues to participate in periodic election observation missions in the continent. By the way, peace is indeed a *conditio sine qua non* [an absolutely necessary condition] for development. The objective of silencing the guns by 2020 continues apace."

Pan-Africanism, once a clarion call, is now somewhat faltering, said Mr Mangaqa Mncwango of the Inkatha Freedom Party. "Although the African Union still champions such efforts, one must question whether there is still a political will and impetus by some member states to strive towards this ideal. Peace, security, stability and good governance are a *sine qua non* and foundational to the success of the continent."

How is South Africa going to contribute to Agenda 2063 when we are faced

with a full-blown recession, asked the National Freedom Party's Prof Nhlanhlayise Khubisa? "We must question whether we are an asset or liability to the realisation of this dream of a greater and better African continent."

Rev Kenneth Meshoe of the African Christian Democratic Party echoed this sentiment, stating that we cannot build a better Africa and a better world when our unemployment rate is sitting at more than 28% and lawlessness and corruption are at an all-time high. "Corruption is destroying the South African economy, employment opportunities and investor confidence. It must be dealt with before we can start dreaming about building a better Africa."

"Patriotic vanity is never enough, we need men and women who are champions of justice, morality and fairness," said the African Independent Congress's Mr Mandlenkosi Galo. "Global peace can only advance if

the vanguard movements jealously guard against the depletion of state coffers, and the abuse of Africa's natural resources to advance personal cults and interests," Mr Galo said.

The AU stands by when African leaders extend their presidential term limits even when they are well past their sell-by dates. And that does not augur well for good governance upon which "a better Africa and a better world" would be the result, said Ms Santosh Kalyan of the Democratic Alliance.

"Here are some cases in support of my point. Zimbabwe has a 93-year-old 'sleepy Joe' president who has been in power for 35 years and still wants to run for another term. The president of Equatorial Guinea has been in power for 36 years. The president of Angola has been in power for 36 years. The president of Sudan, a criminal wanted by the International Criminal Court, has been in power for 26 years. Do you think the citizens of these countries are celebrating Africa Day?" she asked. 🌍



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