

WELCOME NOTES BY THE PREMIER OF LIMPOPO, MR. CHUPU MATHABATHA DURING THE ANGLO-AMERICAN NUGEN LAUNCH DAY HELD AT MOGALAKWENA COMPLEX.

06 MAY 2022

Programme Director

Our host, CEO for Anglo-American, Mr Duncan Wanblad;

Our keynote speaker, His Excellency, President Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa;

Minister for Mineral Resources, Honourable Gwede Mantashe;

MEC for Economic Development , Environment and Tourism; Mr Thabo Mokone;

The Anglo American Community;

Members of the media;

Invited guests;

Ladies and Gentlemen.

I am certain that colleagues and executives of Anglo-American would want me to start first by expressing their appreciation to President Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa for gracing this history-making event with the honour of his presence.

Indeed we appreciate that you the honourable President, have honoured this important Nugen launch taking place in your presence.

Honourable President, you would be pleased to know that as the Provincial Government, we have sustained a healthy working relationship with Anglo American and other mining houses doing business in our province.

We had you when you spoke on the occasion of the State of the Nation Address, about the role of the private sector in the growth of the economy and the creation of the much-needed jobs.

Indeed, a thriving partnership between government and the private sector is a necessary condition for growth and development.

That is why it is our firm belief that public private partnerships are core imperatives for the success of the Limpopo Development Plan, which takes guidance from the National Development Plan.

Initiatives such as these are also vital in giving concrete expression to our resolve towards the provincial Economic Recovery Plan, which flows from the National Reconstruction and Economic Recovery Plan.

Programme Director

The above deliverables are well considered and relevant plans to troubleshoot the detrimental effects caused by the Covid-19 pandemic to our economy and livelihoods.

We therefore need to embrace that in order to leverage opportunities available in our key economic focus areas, both government and the private sector require a cordial working relationship.

It is for this reason that we have partnered with a number of private sector entities through an initiative called Impact Catalyst.

This is a multi-sector initiative in conjunction with Anglo American and other stakeholders aimed at driving sustainable economic development in Limpopo. As a mining province, we welcome this Nugen Zero Emission Haulage Solution. This initiative is much in line with our sustainable developmental agenda.

We appreciate the concern and the practical steps implemented to take care of our environment, which is our collective heritage and responsibility.

The most important spin-offs of this initiative is sustainability and a healthier environment.

Programme Director

This launch should make us pause and take lessons. It is important that we continue to educate ourselves about the importance of reducing emissions in our efforts to develop and grow the economy.

Our education should be about the complementary nature of the relationship between the land, the plants, the animals and the people. Today is about contributing positively to the environment.

We can only hope that more and more corporate citizens will learn and follow the example of Anglo America.

It is our firm belief that we can and must find creative and sustainable ways of continuing with activities such as agriculture, mining and infrastructure development without destroying the environment and our biodiversity.

Initiatives such as today's launch should also open our youth to the many opportunities that comes with taking care of the environment. Notwithstanding doing that within the confines of the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

In addition to the above I would love to call upon all the mining houses to emulate this code of good practice by Anglo American.

Programme Director

My task for the day is not to deliver a keynote address, but a simple word of welcome to all of you.

In doing so, please allow me to remind you all that Covid-19 pandemic is still with us. Therefore, it is important to continue observing all the health protocols put in place to mitigate against the impact of this pandemic.

On that important note, please allow me to specifically, extend a warm word of welcome to the President, and the rest of his delegation to our beautiful and most peaceful Province.

We truly run short of words to describe how much happier we are that you have graced this event taking place in our province.

We always appreciate your presence amongst us, because you always leave us richer and more empowered.

Once again, you are welcomed to Limpopo, enjoy your stay, and please remember to make Limpopo your short-left destination of choice.

Kea Leboga!
I thank you!
Inkomu!
Nda!