

Media Statement  
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Virtual

## LIMPOPO PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT EXECUTIVE COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

Limpopo Provincial Government's Executive Council (EXCO) held its virtual meeting on the 04th November 2020. This quarterly meeting, attended by all Members of the Executive Council (MECs) and chaired by Premier Chupu Stanley Mathabatha, is held to assess progress made by all provincial departments in fulfilling their service delivery mandates.

### **Provincial Status Quo**

The Executive Council noted that the meeting was held under difficult circumstances due to Covid-19 pandemic. EXCO wishes to report that coronavirus has extremely impacted government's service delivery mandate. This resulted in some funds meant for capital projects being redirected to fight Covid-19. As remedial action, EXCO noted among others, the Limpopo Development Plan (2020-2025) and the Reconstruction and Economic Recovery Plan, as blue prints towards integrated development planning and service delivery in the province.

### **Limpopo Socio-Economy Recovery Plan**

EXCO approved the Limpopo Socio-Economic Recovery Plan. This plan represents the sum total of government and its partners' commitment to implement economic and social relief measures in mitigating against the impact of Covid-19 pandemic. The plan also lays a foundation for structural change that will propel the provincial economy to higher growth through sector and industrialization led development in the medium to long term.

The Limpopo Socio-Economic Recovery Plan further recognize that by the end of 2019 both national and provincial economies were already on the decline and the situation was further exacerbated by Covid-19.

This plan is aligned to the national Reconstruction and Recovery Plan and it also builds on existing government programmes that are outlined in the LDP and the revised Limpopo Industrial Master Plan (2020). To this effect, EXCO directed that tertiary institutions in the province be engaged with a view of making sure that their curriculums respond positively to the required skills for the economy of the province. In addition, EXCO directed for an audit towards all Mega Presidential Projects in the province.

### **Limpopo Township and Rural Economy Strategy**

Through the Limpopo Township and Rural Economy Strategy, EXCO seeks to tackle all the challenges facing business in townships and rural economies. In the main, this challenges are:

- Access to capital;
- Proliferation of malls and shopping centers;
- Lack of appropriate skills; and
- Access to markets.

Through Limpopo Township and Rural Economy Strategy, the provincial government aims to transform township and rural space economy into productive and habitable centers where people live, work and receive recreation. In order to achieve this, EXCO approved the following key focus areas:

That government will prioritize infrastructure support by developing street level enterprise nodes, industrial parks, business parks and incubation hubs, consumer owned and controlled retail and wholesale stores by making land available at rural and township areas;  
Productivity Infrastructure. This speaks to creating enabling environment for township entrepreneurs and enterprises to thrive;  
Promoting Entrepreneur Development;  
Innovation and Product Development;  
Market Access; and  
Determining Economic and Social Value of township and rural economy.

### **Infrastructure Planning and Delivery**

EXCO recognize that infrastructure budgets and expenditures were severely affected by Covid-19. This resulted in departments adjusting infrastructure budgets for redistribution for Covid-19 initiatives. In the main, the pandemic affected infrastructure budgets for all the ten (10) departments and five (5) agencies in the province.

#### **As a result, EXCO resolved thus:**

Noting the detrimental impact of Covid-19 towards infrastructure development, EXCO resolved that the Infrastructure Cluster should do proper audit of all existing infrastructure projects in the province with a view of sustaining them towards expediting service delivery; and

That catalytic projects need to be identified and private sector be engaged for purposes of funding those projects in recognition of the spin-offs emanating from the public private partnership (PPP).

### **Matric Examinations 2020**

EXCO wished all learners of Matric Class of 2020 well in their examination which started on the 05th November 2020. EXCO recognized that the year 2020 has been a challenging year due to coronavirus resulting into the interruption of the academic calendar. However, EXCO made a clarion call to all learner to note that 'education is the rock from which the foundation of development is built'.

### **Covid-19**

EXCO reminds all the people of Limpopo Province that Covid-19 remains the greatest threat to live and calls upon everybody to adhere to all the regulations put in place to prevent the second surge. These are social distancing, sanitizing or washing of hands with water and soap and using face masks.

END.

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