

LIMPOPO COMMUNITY RADIO STATIONS CONVERSATION WITH PREMIER  
HONOURABLE CHUPU MATHABATHA AT ATRIUM – MOWANENG  
BUILDING, OFFICE OF THE PREMIER

27th November 2020, 12h00

Opening Statement:

MEC for Education, Honourable Polly Boshielo;

MEC Health, Honourable Dr Phophi Ramathuba;

Representatives of the Disability Sector present here today;

Station Managers, Producers and Presenters of All Community Radio Stations

connected to this conversations;

The People of Limpopo;

Ladies and Gentlemen.

GOOD AFTERNOON.

Director of the Session

Today it is indeed a historic milestone achievement in the history of broadcasting in Limpopo Province. Since the advent of democracy in 1994, it is for the first time that government is able to address all the 23 community radio stations in the province.

What is indeed more exciting is the fact that, this engagement is taking place at the same time, same date and same spectrum. Therefore, on behalf of members of the executive committee of the province, we are indeed sincerely honoured to be part of this multi-facet broadcast.

In the same wavelength, it is important to note that having connected to this historic broadcast, we are doing so during the time when the whole country has entered into the 16 Days of Activism on NO violence against women and children.

While on this important subject matter, I take this opportunity to reiterate our message of opposition against women and children abuse. In one voice we are saying enough is enough. Real men do not abuse women and children, rather, they love and care for them.

People of Limpopo Province

Having gathered here today, we are being confronted by the socio-economic effects of Covid-19 pandemic. Coronavirus is still rearing its ugly head upon us. And it is in our hands on how we respond to it.

On this important note, we take this opportunity to congratulate Health MEC, Dr Phophi Ramathuba for leading the provincial team towards the successful Covid-19 campaign. Today, we are being counted among the few provinces which are managing coronavirus better.

On the other hand, we remain very much concerned about the manner in which majority of our people conduct themselves amid the fear of Covid-19 resurgence. Ever since President Ramaphosa announced Alert level 1 and the economy was re-opened, our people have in the main stopped adhering to coronavirus preventive regulations.

We are making a clarion call that, everybody must please continue face masking, sanitizing or washing hands with water and soap and practice social distancing. This is because we recognize that prevention is better than cure. 'Thibela bolwetsi e phala kalafo'.

Programme Director

Indeed, coronavirus has further weakened our economy which was already under technical recession before its outbreak. Due to Covid-19 pandemic, many sectors of our economy has since closed, resulting in the loss of millions of jobs. That is why as the 6th Administration, amongst our key strategic objectives, are economic growth, financial viability, stable administration, provisioning a basic services to the people of Limpopo Province, to name but a few.

Director of the Session

We are deeply concerned that this is the highest jobless rate in our country. Currently the number of unemployed people in the country rose by 2.2 million to 6.5 million, employment went up by 543 thousand to 14.7 million and labour force increased by 2.8 million to 21.2 million.

And therefore, it is against the above mentioned background that, President Cyril Ramaphosa has unleashed South Africa's Reconstruction and Recovery Plan and on our part as the provincial government, we are forging ahead with the Provincial Economic Recovery Plan.

Fellow South Africans

Please allow me to congratulate the MEC of Education, Mme Polly Boshielo, for the seamless 2020 Matric Examinations. In the same spirit, we continue to show our love and support to the Matric Class of 2020 as they wrap up their final year examinations.

Despite the difficulties caused by coronavirus where the curriculum was interrupted, we are confident that our learners and teachers will reign supreme

when the results are announced. Once again, good luck and congratulations to the Matric Class of 2020.

With those few words, through your indulgence of course director of the session, I would like to declare this broadcast officially opened.

And please feel free to engage with MEC Mme Boshielo on matters of education, MEC Dr Phophi Ramathuba on all matters health and as for myself, I will come in here and there but in the main, we are all here for you and your listeners.

I Thank You All!  
Kea Legoba!  
Hi Nkomo!  
Ndaa!