

**ADDRESS BY THE PREMIER OF LIMPOPO,  
AMBASSADOR CHUPU MATHABATHA ON THE  
OCCASION OF THE SIGNING OF MOA BETWEEN RAL  
AND SANRAL FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF MORIA  
INTERCHANGE.**

20 August 2022

Programme Director, MEC Nkakareng Rakgoale

Members of the Executive Council present here today;

Our host Executive Mayor, Cllr Makoro Mpe;

Executive Mayor for Capricorn District Municipality, Cllr  
Mamedupi Teffo;

Chairperson of SANRAL and Your CEO;

Chairperson of RAL and Your CEO;

Representatives from the St Engenas ZCC;

The Director General of the Provincial Government and all  
HODs;

Friends from the Media;

Distinguished Guests;

Ladies and Gentlemen:

### **Programme Director**

Let me join our mayors and the leadership of the church in expressing our sincere words of appreciation to SANRAL and RAL for this great partnership.

I can understand the excitement of our mayors with this project promising to get off the ground.

I can imagine the relief from the side of the church that finally we are getting somewhere with this project.

I understand that today's milestone should equally be a source of pride for the South African National Road Agency Limited, SANRAL.

As the provincial government, we are equally excited and looking forward to the handover ceremony.

I am also confident that the people of Polokwane, the people around Moria and everyone who uses the R71 road would be equally excited about this project.

The memorandum we are signing today will breathe life to the commitments of our government to build state-of-the-art road network which is a catalyst for socio-economic development.

As Limpopo we are grateful more than words can express.

The completion of this project has indeed come with huge relief and unprecedented benefits to the motorists, pedestrians, and all road users in this area.

We firmly believe that an infrastructure development project of this magnitude will go a long way towards boosting an inclusive economic growth, creation of much needed jobs, and above all the improvement of conditions of living of the people of this province, and the country at large.

Indeed, ours is to create an infrastructure that makes life easy everywhere, not just in the big cities.

In the last few years, we have delivered on this promise. Our partnership with SANRAL has assisted us to deliver even more.

We thank SANRAL for the ring road leading into Polokwane and the N1 road.

Today, the people of Botlokwa have a modern and advanced road. Thanks to SANRAL.

On the same breath, I am requesting the leadership of SANRAL to travel the road leading to Marble Hall from Tompie Seleka. That road needs serious attention.

The face of our strategic roads has improved greatly over the last few years.

This is indeed a vivid expression of our commitment to infrastructure delivery in the province.

Projects of this nature, makes freedom and democracy to be more meaningful to an ordinary man.

### **Programme Director**

SANRAL could not have chosen a better road. As we all know, this is one of the busiest roads in the province. It is also one of the most important roads for us as a province – it leads to the holy city of Moria and it is a viable economic road.

Huge traffic volumes of worshipers pass through this road into the Holy City of Moria.

The traffic volumes are even higher during festive reasons and the church's new year.

On the other hand, you would know that this road connects Polokwane and the second biggest town in the province, Tzaneen.

It is also a route to the much-visited Kruger National Park, the biggest game reserve in SADC region.

Colleagues, there is no doubt that this project has come in handy for the ongoing socio-economic development in this part of the country.

I also know that colleagues in the Department of Transport and Community Safety, will agree with me that the benefits that will accrue from the expansion of this road cannot be traded for anything.

### **Programme Director**

We are happy that this expansion, will definitely lessen and ultimately do away with accidents on our roads. More importantly it will reduce the travel time.

Our people will spend more time either in church or in their homes with their loved ones, as opposed to spending hours and hours on the road.

I can say, without any fear of contradiction, that everyone in this province has a reason to celebrate the signing of this memorandum.

Our two churches of the ZCC and St. Engenas ZCC are obviously part of the immediate beneficiaries. The pedestrians on this road are now having safer crossing zones.

I have got no doubt that our traffic officials and emergency services personnel will have their workload reduced for this road will significantly reduce traffic congestion.

This is indeed a good story to tell.

Today is indeed better than yesterday, and tomorrow will surely be better than today.

As a special generation, we need to ensure that we embrace outcome-based approach, by fulfilling our set goals.

### **Programme Director**

Without unleashing a long speech, and thereby pollute this historic occasion, please allow me to say:

To SANRAL and RAL, including the Department of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure in Limpopo, please go beyond your capabilities as you implement Operation Vala Zonke, as launched by the Minister a week ago.

With renewed zeal and commitment Honourable MEC Rakgoale, we must leverage opportunities that are brought forward by this massive project.

Besides this project going to provide much needed jobs to our people, 'Operation Thiba Mekoti Ditseleng' will ensure that road travel in Limpopo is seamless.

On this very important note, please allow me to report that, this current administration is hard at work in ensuring that other major bridges and roads infrastructure projects are underway here in Limpopo.

To report but about a few, we are finalizing plans towards the construction of a modern Steelbridge at Ga-Malekana, along the R555 road.

We have since made a commitment that one of the core pillars of the Limpopo Development Plan is infrastructure development, and that is what we are doing today.

It is against the above-mentioned background that, for today though, it can only be in order to state that, we are looking forward to the actual commencement and completion of the Moria - St. Engenas Interchange project.

Our unemployed people and the Small, Medium and Micro Enterprises are patiently waiting for this project. Therefore, let it commence without further delay.

***Re a leboga!***

***I thank You!***

***Inkomu!***

***Nda!***