

MEDIA RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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RE: Limpopo strengthens international relations with Mozambique, Cuba and Venezuela

The Premier of Limpopo, Mr Chupu Stanley Mathabatha, has this week welcomed ambassadors from Mozambique, Cuba and Venezuela to strengthen their international relations with the province. The visit aims to nurture relations with long-time friends and countries that have supported Limpopo throughout the years.

“Whilst we continue the fight against poverty and unemployment, Mozambique, Cuba and Venezuela remain a beacon in so many ways on how we shall grow our economy and win this battle,” said Premier Mathabatha.

The Mozambican High Commission Ambassador, Ms Maria Manuela Lucas, met with MEC for Education, Ms Mavhungu Lerule-Ramakhanya, to address the welfare of children born in Mozambique who do not possess any form of identity documentation. The ambassador’s initiative will see the reduction of illegal undocumented Mozambicans in the province and strengthen agricultural trade between the province of Gaza and Limpopo.

The visit by the delegation from Cuba and Venezuela held various sessions where they interacted with people and structures of Limpopo and universities. They will also have the opportunity to enjoy the Marula festivities with other delegations from Namibia, Zimbabwe and Botswana.

The MEC for Health, Dr Phophi Ramathuba, acknowledged the continued help and assistance that the Cuban government has given to Limpopo throughout the years. Speaking to the Cuban Ambassador to South Africa, Mr Enrique Orta Gonzalez, she said that Cuba has been exemplary in the mother to child transmission and Limpopo hopes to achieve the same results. The second area of interest is the cure for diabetic feet that Cuba has been leading, and Limpopo will continue to look up to them to find a greater and bigger solution.

Said Gonzalez: “Whenever we can give solidarity and support to the other brother's country we will give that. Our intention is to expand this cooperation taking into account the needs that South Africa has. In Limpopo we have an opportunity to get agreements in new areas of cooperation in the public works, human settlements and education. South Africa has a strong voice internationally whilst Cuba’s is not so strong.”

The Venezuelan Ambassador, Ms Mairin Morena Mérida, said their main reason for the visit is to see how Limpopo manages to remain on top of tourism's preferred destination as it has common tourism factors such as the big fives, and rich diverse cultural background.

Premier Mathabatha believes that the continued interaction shall have long term effect on the economic outlook and social welfare of Limpopo.

ENDS/

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