



LIMPOPO

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Media Statement

22 August 2023

To All Media

RE: LIMPOPO EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AUGUST 2023 STATEMENT

The Limpopo Executive Council (EXCO) held its ordinary meeting of August 2023. During the meeting the following decisions were taken:

1. Fetakgomo-Tubatse and Musina-Makhado Special Economic Zones

The Executive Council received the report on the state of readiness of the Fetakgomo-Tubatse Special Economic Zone. It directed the Economic Cluster to finalise the outstanding information with the intention to finally submit application for designation of the SEZ to the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition (the dtic) by the end of September 2023.

In addition, EXCO noted a report on progress regarding the Musina-Makhado SEZ. The EXCO further directed the economic cluster to resolve the outstanding matters with regard on the South side as speedily as possible..

2. On Infrastructure Development

EXCO noted progress regarding the substance of infrastructure delivery in Limpopo. It appreciated the fact that the implementation agility in Limpopo has improved drastically with budget allocated to 80% of projects that are already at implementation stage and the expenditure at the end of the first quarter of 2023/24 financial year standing at 26%.

The Executive Council has also appreciated the monitoring mechanisms that have been put in place, including the tracking instruments that would ensure that all projects implemented by departments, and other agencies assisting the departments, are completed as per schedule and budget.

EXCO further directed that the Infrastructure cluster should identify all the incomplete long-term infrastructure projects that were initiated during the current term of administration and are still not complete. It asked that the cluster develops mechanisms to ensure that these projects are completed by the end of the current term of administration.

It is against this background that EXCO further recommended that municipalities, particularly Polokwane, Sekhukhune, Vhembe and Mopani District Municipalities, should vigorously improve on spending of Municipal Infrastructure Grant, mainly on provisioning of water.

3. Payment of invoices within 30 days and support to SMMEs

EXCO has noted the report on the payment of service providers with the prescribed Treasury regulations of 30 days. EXCO considers this activity as critical to stimulate the economy and also ensure support to SMMEs. Accordingly, EXCO approved a report that the province has been consistent in paying service providers within thirty days period. The invoices paid in the first quarter of the 2023/24 financial year were at 99,5% (R3,6 billion).

EXCO also received a report on the overall support to cooperatives and SMMES by the economic cluster. The cluster was directed to develop an appropriate intervention plan to upscale the required support.

4. Decline in unemployment

During the sitting, Limpopo Premier, Mr. Chupu Stanley Mathabatha said: "As Limpopo we appreciate the latest results from Statistics South Africa that Limpopo has experienced second largest employment increase of 71 000 between Quarter 4 of 2022 and Quarter 1 of 2023 .

"Equally, while we applaud the provincial government for the vast improvement regarding infrastructure expenditure and overall stability, we mandate that stability must be translated into service delivery. We call upon our municipalities which are water services providers and authorities to upscale all efforts in the provisioning of water to our communities".

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Issued by Limpopo Provincial Government

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