

Media Release – 12 March 2024

**\*\*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE\*\***

TO ALL NEWS EDITORS AND JOURNALISTS

RE: PREMIER MATHABATHA ENCOURAGES SCIENTIFIC CRITICISM AND DIALOGUE IN LEGISLATURE

Premier Chupu Stanley Mathabatha today addressed the Legislature in response to the debate on the 2024 State of the Limpopo Province Address. The session, held in Polokwane, was attended by esteemed members of the Legislature, the Executive Council, political leaders, media practitioners, and the people of Limpopo.

Premier Mathabatha was emphatic in thanking the Legislature for the opportunity to respond to the debate, emphasising the importance of scientific criticism and dialogue in shaping the province's future.

Reflecting on the progress since the democratic breakthrough of April 1994, the Premier highlighted the unparalleled advancements in human rights and social services under the governing party. He said that much of what the debate highlighted were already given in the statistics he presented during his address on 29 February 2024.

The Premier proudly noted the absence of censorship or arrests following the State of the Province Address, marking a stark contrast to the oppressive practices of the apartheid era. He condemned recent racist acts in Groblersdal Town, calling for justice against such crimes.

Significant achievements since 1994 were underscored, including improvements in housing, access to electricity, education, and healthcare. In the State of the Province Address the Premier shared compelling statistics from the recent census reports, illustrating the transformative impact of government initiatives on the lives of Limpopo's residents.

In education, the Premier lauded the expansion of access and the introduction of programmes like the school nutrition scheme, which has contributed to improved learner performance. The government's commitment to adult education and training was also highlighted to empower individuals with essential skills.

Addressing economic development, Premier Mathabatha pointed to the positive trends in employment and the strategic efforts to attract investment, including the designation of the Fetakgomo-Tubatse Industrial Park as a Special Economic Zone and the commencement of infrastructure development in the Musina Makhado SEZ.

The Premier concluded by expressing gratitude to all members of the Legislature

and the Executive Council for their service to the people of Limpopo. He reaffirmed the government's commitment to leading the province towards further progress, confident in the continued support of the people.

**\*\*END\*\***

For media enquiries, please contact:  
Ndavhe Ramakuela, Provincial Government Spokesperson  
082 200 5357 or 067 267 2061 RamakuelaN@premier.limpopo.gov.za.

OR

Romeo Mogotle, Premier's Spokesperson  
079 116 0651 or 081 574 7742

#HumanRightsMonth2024  
#LIMSOPA2024  
#LeaveNoOneBehind  
#LetsGrowLimpopoTogether