

Media Statement
To All Media
20 July 2024

**PREMIER DR PHOPHI RAMATHUBA WELCOMES THE UNCOVERING OF R2
BILLION DRUG LABORATORY**

Limpopo Premier Dr Phophi Ramathuba welcomes the arrest and discovery of an estimated R2 billion drug laboratory in Groblersdal by a joint team of Limpopo Hawks and SAPS. According to the police report, four suspects, including the farm owners and two Mexican nationals, were arrested on 19 July 2024 in an intelligence-driven operation by members of Limpopo Serious Organised Crime Investigation (SOIC) team, assisted by the Limpopo Tactical Response Team, at a farm in Groblersdal in the Sekhukhune District, where a multi-million rand clandestine drug laboratory was discovered.

Premier Dr Ramathuba expressed her gratitude, stating: "We applaud the joint team of the Hawks and SAPS for an exemplary job well done. This operation is a testament to the effectiveness of the collaboration and synergy between various units within the South African Police Service in our province. We will ensure that this arrest is thoroughly followed up until every individual involved in drug trafficking, which is devastating the future of our children, is completely removed from our society."

The Premier emphasised the government's commitment to combating drug-related crimes, adding: "The scourge of drug abuse and trafficking is a serious threat to the well-being and future of our youth. We will continue to support and strengthen law enforcement agencies to root out this menace from our communities. Our administration is determined to create a safe and secure environment for all residents of Limpopo."

This significant bust highlights the importance of ongoing intelligence-driven operations and the relentless efforts of law enforcement agencies in safeguarding our communities. The Limpopo government remains steadfast in its resolve to support such initiatives and ensure that justice is served.

End.

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