

Speech by the MEC for Health, Limpopo Province Mme Dieketseng Mashego on the Occasion of the Launching of the Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) System and the Handover of 36 PPT Vehicles, 2 Renal Patient Vehicles, and 10 Rescue Vehicles at Ladanna held on the 27 May 2025

Programme Director,  
Acting HOD, Dr Ndwamato  
Acting DDG, Dr Dibakoane,  
Senior Officials in the Department of Health,  
Health Workers and EMS Personnel,  
Members of the Media,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good Afternoon!

Today is a proud moment for the people of Limpopo. It is a day when we take a bold step forward in strengthening our emergency medical services and improving patient access to life-saving care.

We are gathered here to launch our new Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) System, and to officially hand over 36 Planned Patient Transport (PPT) vehicles, 2 Renal Patient Transport vehicles, and 10 Rescue Vehicles.

Let me begin by emphasizing that healthcare is not only about buildings and doctors—it is also about systems, technology, logistics, and rapid response. Without these, we cannot save lives. As former United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan once said:

“Knowledge is power. Information is liberating. Technology is the greatest tool for progress in our time.”

The CAD system we are launching today is a leap toward modernization and efficiency. This advanced system will enable real-time tracking, intelligent dispatching, faster emergency response, and improved coordination between ambulances, call centres, and hospitals.

It means when someone calls for help, we don’t guess. We act with precision, with speed, and with purpose.

This is particularly critical in our province, where distance and rural terrain have historically challenged our response times. With this system, we will be able to save more lives, reduce waiting times, and restore faith in our emergency response services.

In addition to this innovation, we are proud to hand over:

36 Planned Patient Transport vehicles, which will serve people attending clinics and hospitals for chronic care, outpatient services, and follow-ups;

2 Renal Patient Transport vehicles, dedicated to the safe and reliable transport of dialysis patients, who need ongoing, life-sustaining care;

And 10 fully-equipped Rescue Vehicles, which will form the backbone of our trauma and emergency response fleet across the province.

Health is a human right, not a privilege,” as declared by the World Health Organization.

And through this initiative, we reaffirm our unwavering dedication to achieving universal health coverage in Limpopo.

Let me also take this opportunity to thank our partners, health professionals, and support staff who keep our health system running every day, often under very challenging conditions. Your work is the heartbeat of our department.

We will ensure that these vehicles are well-maintained, properly allocated to districts based on need, and monitored closely for efficient use. We urge our communities to protect and respect these assets – they are here to serve you.

As President Nelson Mandela once said:

“Health cannot be a question of income; it is a fundamental human right.”

This handover is part of our broader mission to ensure equitable access to healthcare services, especially for our people in remote villages and underserved communities.

These vehicles and systems will not sit idle – they will be working every day to bring our people closer to care, closer to dignity, and closer to life itself.

I want to acknowledge and thank our EMS teams, our drivers, our call centre staff, and all healthcare professionals. You are the heroes behind the sirens. Your work is not always seen, but it is always felt. You embody the spirit of ubuntu – that we are, because others are.

Today we do not only launch a system. We launch hope, efficiency, and accountability.

Let me end with the words of Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of the World Health Organization:

“Universal health coverage means that all people have access to the health services they need, when and where they need them, without financial hardship.”

This is our goal. This is our duty.

Together, let us move Limpopo forward – towards a healthier, more responsive, and more caring province.

Ke a leboga.

I thank you.