

CLOSING REMARKS BY PREMIER OF LIMPOPO DR PHOPHI RAMATHUBA AT THE LIMPOPO INVESTMENT CONFERENCE 2025

31 October 2025

Programme Director,
His Excellency the Ambassador of India to South Africa,
Members of the Provincial Legislature,
Members of the Executive Council,
Executive Mayors and Mayors,
Councillors,
Director-General,
Chairpersons of the LEDA and LTA Boards,
Heads of Departments,
Members of the Limpopo House of Traditional and Khoi-San Leadership,
Faith-Based Organisations,
Business Community,
Members of the Media,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Ndi matsheloni,Thobela, Avuxeni, Good morning, aand.

As we conclude this remarkable Limpopo Investment Conference, it is with great joy that I stand before you on this transformative day. Today, we celebrate the bounty that has showered upon our province, much like a long-awaited rain that nourishes the earth.

Certainly, today we can say with pride that your ears were firmly on the ground, emulating ancient wisdom of putting ears to the ground. Yesterday, we witnessed the clouds gather, and today we can truly say it has rained - rained with the promise of 170.038 billion rand worth of investments. Such a deluge of opportunities invigorates our spirits and fills us with hope and determination. The air is electric with possibility, and every drop represents the potential that lies ahead for our communities and our economy.

As we look forward, I urge the Limpopo Economic Development Agency (LEDA) to diligently follow up on these pledges, providing regular updates to our provincial government so that we may ensure accountability and transparency in their administration. I have always emphasised the essential role that local government plays and I call upon our municipalities and their councils to take up this challenge with earnestness and vigour.

In the coming weeks, we will convene a workshop to engage directly with the owners of these pledges across our five regions. Together, we will address any regulatory burdens that may impede our progress and explore the adoption of Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) as a key model for delivering infrastructure and development projects. Our

province, rich in economic potential, stands ready to leverage its Special Economic Zones (SEZs) to attract investment, drive industrialisation and create sustainable jobs.

We are presented with an extraordinary opportunity to position Limpopo as a continental hub for manufacturing and agro-processing by harnessing the rules of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). Let us capitalise on our geographic position, serving as a gateway to the SADC and the broader African market, as we nurture our invaluable partnerships, particularly with our friends in India.

It is crucial that we also recognise Limpopo as a new frontier for national growth. Our vast mineral deposits are not just resources; they are the building blocks of the energy transition we desperately need. By localising processing and manufacturing, we can create jobs and produce essential components for technologies like solar panels and batteries. With our immense solar energy potential, we have a unique opportunity to lead in generating clean, low-cost electricity.

As your provincial government, we commit to facilitating economic diplomacy, ensuring that investors have the international access and support they need to thrive. It is my firm belief that by our next investment conference, we will demonstrate improved implementation of over 23% through our collaborative efforts.

To all investors who approached us during this conference, I assure you that our technical team will reach out to address your needs and assist you every step of the way.

Before I conclude, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Limpopo Provincial Government for being the gracious host, and to the Limpopo Economic Development Agency (LEDA), our coordinators and funders. We would also like to thank our main partner, the Limpopo Tourism Agency, as well as our sponsors and media partners for their invaluable support.

Let us remember that our people look to this initiative with hopeful hearts; they dream of jobs and opportunities that will lead to a brighter future. Together, we cannot fail them. With 170.038 billion rand now in our grasp, we are ready to transform our promises into reality.

Thank you all for attending, including the online attendance that reached up to 2000, and let us move forward with renewed vigour, as we embrace the rain of opportunity that has blessed our province today!