

ADDRESS BY THE PREMIER OF LIMPOPO, DR PHOPHI RAMATHUBA, AT THE LIMPOPO
INVESTMENT CONFERENCE GOLF AWARDS

Euphoria Golf and Lifestyle Estate

16 October 2026

Programme Director,
Members of the Provincial Legislature
Executive Mayor of Waterberg District Municipality
Chairperson of the LEDA Board
Chairperson of the LTA Board
Head of Department of LEDET
CEOs of various state-owned-entities
Chairperson of the Limpopo House of Provincial and Khoi-San Leaders
Our sponsors for this golf day
Distinguished guests,
captains of industry,
our valued investors and partners,
Ladies and gentlemen,

Good evening.

We woke up this morning to the wonderful news that the Limpopo Investment Conference we hosted has been a spectacular success. In fact, by the time many of us retired last night, we were already going to bed with smiles on our faces, encouraged by the remarkable R138 billion in investment pledges secured for our province.

This is a significant milestone for Limpopo. It demonstrates the confidence that investors have in our province, its economic potential, its people and the opportunities that lie ahead.

Of course, some were quick to remind us that other provinces have hosted similar investment conferences. Comparisons were inevitable, and we appreciate the healthy competition between provinces as we strive to attract investment, create jobs and grow our respective economies.

However, while we celebrate what we have achieved, there is a small but persistent voice reminding us that this is not merely a moment of celebration; it is the beginning of a countdown towards delivery.

We have made a commitment to ensure that at least 30% of these pledges are realised. That is the responsibility we must now carry together. Our success will not ultimately be measured by the size of the pledges announced at a conference, but by the factories that open, the mines that expand, the businesses that grow, the infrastructure that is built and the jobs that our people secure.

The people of Limpopo are not waiting for figures on a presentation. They are waiting for economic opportunities that change their lives. They want to see young people employed, small businesses supported, communities connected to markets and families able to provide for their children.

Ladies and gentlemen, today, as you made your swings across these beautiful fairways, I hope those swings landed in the right ears and opened the right doors for partnerships that will advance development in our province.

In golf, every shot requires focus, precision and a clear understanding of the destination. Similarly, our investment journey requires us to remain focused, make the right decisions and work deliberately towards our desired results.

Every putt must be aimed at a specific target. For Limpopo, that target is a growing economy that creates sustainable jobs, reduces poverty and expands opportunities for all our people. And just as every golfer hopes for favourable conditions on the course, we must create an investment environment in which the fairways of our economy remain green, the winds of opportunity blow in our favour and investors have the confidence to turn their commitments into tangible projects.

I believe that many of you spent time today thinking beyond the golf course, reflecting on how we can develop practical implementation plans to achieve what lies before us. We welcome that spirit of partnership. Government cannot do it alone, and the private sector cannot achieve its full potential without an enabling environment, reliable infrastructure and constructive engagement with government.

As we look towards next year's conference, let us begin our preparations much earlier. Let us create sufficient time and space for meaningful discussions between government, investors, financial institutions and other development partners. We want to understand the challenges confronting potential investors, identify the obstacles that delay projects and work together to remove unnecessary barriers to investment.

Equally important is the need to strengthen our international partnerships. Limpopo requires substantial investment in roads, water infrastructure and sanitation to support industrial growth, mining, agriculture, tourism and other economic sectors. These are not simply government projects; they are essential foundations for a competitive economy and attractive investment destination.

We must therefore pursue partnerships that bring together capital, expertise, technology and innovation to accelerate infrastructure development and improve the lives of our people.

As we honour our golfers and celebrate the spirit of this occasion, let us remember that the greatest prize awaits us beyond this golf course. It is the successful implementation of the pledges made, the opportunities created and the prosperity shared by the people of Limpopo.

Let us leave here not only with trophies and wonderful memories, but with renewed commitments, stronger partnerships and a shared determination to deliver.

R138 billion is our promise. Real investment is our mission. Jobs, growth and prosperity for the people of Limpopo must be our ultimate victory.

I thank you, and I wish all our award recipients congratulations. May our partnerships continue to flourish, and may we keep our eyes firmly on the target.

Thank you.