

Deputy President engages with Traditional Leaders in the Province.

Polokwane - The Deputy President of the Republic of South Africa, Mr David Mabuza met with Traditional Leaders on Thursday, 03 March 2022 at Bolivia Lodge.

Mabuza was meeting *Magoshi* in his capacity as a Chairperson of the Inter-Ministerial Task Team established to respond to issues raised by Traditional Leaders. The task team was established by President Cyril Ramaphosa to ensure that government is responsive to the concerns of Traditional Leaders as an integral part of the country's constitutional democracy. Speaking during the meeting, Mabuza said: "This is a continuation of the engagements we had with you in December 2021 and January 2022. I am happy you were able to take part in this engagement today as it is an indication that you are committed in working with government to find lasting solutions to issues that affect this key stakeholder. After meeting all the traditional leaders across the country, we will then come up with a clear plan of action that we will seek to address challenges that you are faced with. We will categorize all the issues and come up with deadlines. We will mobilize all the key stakeholders and we will keep our promise, we will not fail. All your challenges have reached the Office of the President and he has assigned me to see to it that we work together to find lasting solutions. The role that you play is very crucial and we want to you to continue working without undue hindrances. We are ready to provide you with the support you need in ensuring that you continue delivering quality services to our people".

Premier Stan Mathabatha reassured Traditional Leaders that government acknowledges the pivotal role they play in developing communities. "I want to assure you that we take issues facing traditional leaders seriously. We discourage the politicizing of Traditional Leadership. We want *Bogoshi* to remain a respectable entity that is supposed to be a Custodian of our Culture and Tradition".

The MEC for CoGHSTA, Mr Basikopo Makamu said: "I am happy we are able to sit down in this manner and tackle issues that you face as Traditional Leaders. Traditional leadership has been there since the beginning of time. Your role cannot be downplayed, it is an institution that is as old as tradition itself. Working together, we shall overcome all these challenges".

The Chairperson of the Limpopo House of Traditional Leaders, Kgoshi Malesela Dikgale thanked government for the support and said all the challenges will be resolved if all the key stakeholders are on board.



The Chairperson of the Limpopo House of Traditional Leaders, Kgoshi Malesela Dikgale, Deputy President, Mr David Mabuza, The Premier of the Province, Mr Stan Mathabatha, the MEC for CoGHSTA, Mr Basikopo Makamu during the follow-up engagement with Traditional Leaders held at Bolivia Lodge on Thursday, 03 March 2022.



Traditional Leaders and representatives from other stakeholders during the follow-up engagement with Traditional Leaders held at Bolivia Lodge on Thursday, 03 March 2022.

