

WELCOMING ADDRESS BY THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR OF THABO MOFUTSANYANA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY AT THE ESKOM EQUIPMENT HANDING OVER EVENT AT THE OLD PARLIAMENT BUILDING, QWAQWA

01 OCTOBER 2013

Programme Director

District Director of the Department of Health, Mrs R.S. Sibeko

Representatives of Eskom Foundation

Reverend Sokane

Honoured guests

Officials

Ladies and gentlemen,

The gesture of goodwill we are witnessing today of Eskom Foundation donating equipment to the Department of Health in Thabo Mofutsanyana District attest to what the government has been emphasizing throughout the years that the advancement of the lives of our people requires a collaborated effort from the government itself, state agencies, communities, private sector and individuals.

It also emphasises the government's declaration that "Working together we can do more" and as such health services cannot be abdicated to health department only because at the end of the day we are all in need good health and a responsive health system of our country becomes important in this regard. It thus becomes clear that with limited resources and a myriad of health challenges faced by our society, health department alone cannot make it.

As the district municipality of Thabo Mofutsanyana we are also grateful that Eskom Foundation has considered making such a

donation in our region. This is highly appreciated considering that our district is one of the poorest in the country, and that a report on mortality and causes of death from Statistics South Africa released earlier this year revealed that our district has a high mortality rate.

Programme Director, it goes without saying that with such high levels of poverty and unemployment in our district, a large percentage of our community is mainly relying on public health services with only a few percentage having access to medical aids.

As we are faced with such a great challenge as the district, we are thus grateful to have organisations such as Eskom Foundation offering a helping hand.

Polelo e tlwaelehileng ya Sesotho e re: Ntjapedi ha e hlolwe ke sebata. Ka hona re ya dumela hore ka thuso ena ya Eskom Foundation lefapha la tsa bophelo le tla kgona ho fihlela tse ngata.

As I warmly welcome you in this auspicious event, let me make a call to all of us as public representatives and public servants that what should be the driving forces behind whatever we do are passion, loyalty, commitment and love for our own people, our communities, as Cuban revolutionary leader, Ernesto Guevera de la Serna, popularly known as “Che Guevera”, says “.....we must draw our sustenance from the mass and that it can advance more rapidly only if we inspire it by our example.”

We have been called to serve, and this we must do faithfully and honestly.

Thank you.