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Department:
Human Settlements, Public Safety & Liaison
North West Provincial Government
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



ACTING MEC DESBO MOHONO DELIVERS BRIEF KEYNOTE DURING THE OFFICIAL HANDOVER OF 300 LOW COST HOUSES; 08TH MARCH 2014 IN MMATAU RUSTENBURG (MOSES KOTANE).

Programme Director

Leadership of Troika in the Municipality

Ntlo Ya Bogosi

Councilors Present

Head of Department

Officials Present, both the Dept. And Municipality

Distinguished guests

Ladies and Gentlemen

Programme Director; we remain grateful and honoured to be here this weekend at the time when the first citizen of this Municipality, Mayor of Moses Kotane Cllr Fetsang Mokate-Thebe just celebrated her Birth day on Thursday with the elders. We say, belated happy birthday and continue to take care of our elders.

Programme Director, we continue to draw our inspiration from the fundamental significant document which is the Freedom Charter, adopted in 1955, as a unique document *because it continued to embodies the hopes and aspirations of the black people*; in that for the first time ever, the people were actively involved in formulating their own vision of an alternative society.

This document depicts one of the critical clauses, which envisages that "*There Shall Be Houses, Security and Comfort! All people shall have the right to live where they choose, to be decently housed and to bring up their families in comfort and security; unused housing space shall be made available to the people. Rent and prices shall be lowered; food plentiful and no one shall go hungry*"

In this context therefore, the aspiration of the Charter became espoused in the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (1996), Chapter 2, Bills of Rights, section 26, subsection 1 "*Everyone has the right to have access to adequate housing*"



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As the Provincial Government and the Department Responsible for Human Settlements in the Province, we remain consistent in responding to our constitutional obligation of providing decent houses for our people, that's why we are here today; in fact we continue to provide not just houses but decent Integrated Human Settlements with different typologies and social amenities.

Programme Director, we continue to construct Community Residential Units (CRUs) as part of our programmes to reduce the housing backlog in the province. We remain faced with a huge housing backlog and mushrooming of informal settlements in entire province, in particular Bojanala district, so with the construction of more CRU's and low cost decent houses in the province we intend to improve our affordable housing delivery particularly rental housing as envisaged in the freedom charter i.e. "*Rent and prices shall be lowered*".

Furthermore, we must also put it on record that, this handing over programme has started on the 04th February 2014 and will continue till the end of March 2014, of which we shall have handed over 8000 units as our target. We had embarked on this deliberate programme in joining all South Africans in the Country in celebrating achievements of governments over the past 20yrs of freedom. Thus far we had handed over more than 3600 units and we remain hopeful that we shall reach our target at the end of this month.

We want to assure you that poor or shoddy workmanship is remain something of the past. We can assure you that these 300 houses we are handing over today to the people of Mmatau and Sega remain decent on the bases that a body called "NHBRC" which is responsible for quality assurance and has participated fully in ensuring quality during the contraction of these houses. And also issue out five year guarantee to your houses as evidence of quality assurance.

We further want to make clarion call to you as beneficiaries to take care of these houses as your property; guard against the deterioration of the houses; don't sell it to anybody, this remain your private, personal properties.

I thank you.