

**Media statement****Date: 26 March 2015****SCOPA Applaud Local Government And Human Settlements Department On Mpacs**

Mahikeng - The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts in Bokone Bophirima, Honourable Mahlakeng Mahlakeng has applauded the Department of Local Government and Human Settlements for the unwavering support it provides to all established Municipal Public Accounts Committees (MPAC), the provincial forum in the Province.

Hon. Mahlakeng, was speaking recently at a meeting to prepare for the Annual General Meeting and Council of Delegates which will be held in Pretoria. The Bokone Bophirima is amongst the eight provinces that have succeeded in establishing of the MPACs, the provincial MPAC chairpersons forum chaired by the chairperson of the PPAC, MPAC support staff and MPAC district forum in all the four districts. The MPACs are intended to enhance accountability and local government oversight in order to achieve clean audits.

He acknowledged that SCOPA is aware of the challenges outlined in the audit outcome and that the position paper from Association of Public Accounts Committees will assist in coordinating the support given to MPACs to execute their oversight responsibility appropriately towards achieving clean audit.

Members were given the opportunity to make their inputs towards the document that basically addresses the legality, functionality and coordination of MPACs towards government oversight. "Though we align ourselves to the principle content of the document, there are however certain issues that we will take a position on and present to the general meeting as the Bokone Bophirima provincial delegation. Mahlakeng.

Hon. Mahlakeng further reminded the members that they must take responsibility of their work and further assured them of the support available to them from SCOPA. "The Department of

Local Government and Human Settlements is there to assist and I applaud them for the support and dedication that they have shown since the establishment of MPACs. We have also urged you to know what you are doing and get clarity regarding your role. I believe that if you are given relevant administration and personnel support, you will not need SCOPA intervention from time to time” concluded Mahlakeng.

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