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**Media statement****22 October 2014****Ngaka Modiri Molema Municipal Manager officially suspended**

**Mahikeng** – The Municipal Manager of Ngaka Modiri Molema district municipality Mokgele Mojaki has been suspended after he failed to provide reasons why he should not be suspended as stipulated in the letter of intention to have him suspended. The letter of suspension was issued to Mojaki by the Administrator, Khulu Nair who is to appoint the acting Municipal Manager soon.

The decision to suspend Mojaki was prompted by the fact that the district has been receiving disclaimers for the past three years with the aggregate unauthorized, irregular, fruitless and wasteful expenditure for 2011/12 and 2012/13 financial years amounting to R 1, 350 billion.

The Auditor-General has also recorded extensive repeat findings and qualifications for the last 3 municipal audits. The key repeat finding was “material misstatements” in annual financial statements for past three municipal audits. The AG has also suspended the 2013/14 audit due to absence of finance staff to provide documents.

On the 3rd September 2014, the North West EXCO took a decision to invoke section 139(1) (c) of the Constitution to disband the district council and place Ngaka Modiri Molema district municipality under administration. The decision was endorsed by the National Council of Province (NCOP) recently and the North West High Court.

Amongst other, the council failed to act on alleged maladministration, fraud and corruption; to provide support to the local municipalities in terms of Section 88 of the Municipal Structures Act; failure by district to provide communities with basic services in particular water.

**End.**

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