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Department of Public Works
Departament van Openbare Werke
Lefapha La Ditiro Tsa Setshaba

OFFICE OF THE MEC

Press Release

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MEC YAWA URGES PUBLIC WORKS EMPLOYEES TO STRIVE FOR EXCELLENCE

North West MEC for Public Works, Honourable Howard Yawa, says public servants are finding better ways of providing service to the public. He was speaking at the glittering 2005/06 Inaugural MEC's Excellence Awards ceremony held last Friday at the Barolong Boo- Ratshidi Community Hall in Montshioastadt near Mafikeng.

MEC Yawa said unlike in the early stages of the democratic government where public service was characterised by many challenges related to transformation of the Public Service, his department now comprises men and women are truly committed to service delivery and understand that the primary purpose of public servants is to serve the public at large.

The MEC said the positive impact of these improvements is felt by the public at a very point where they interact with public servants and receive government services. He said the Awards received by top performers in the department must deeply nurture the relationship between the department, local communities, business and other stakeholders.

MEC Yawa emphasised that recognising and honouring service excellence and innovation within the public service does not mask some of the challenges that continue to face the public service. "While we have made significant progress over the past decade in transforming the public service, there is still some work to be done. A very small minority among the public servants is still not doing enough to improve the quality of service to the people". He urged public servants to work towards a



situation where it is possible to have the entire department honoured for excellence.

Sixteen best performing employees from Directorates within the Department were awarded certificates and trophies.

The Central Region received the Best Performing Regions Awards. The Directorate Supply Chain Management received the Best Performing Directorate Award while the Chief Directorates Infrastructure and Corporate Support shared the Best Performing Chief Directorate Awards

The 2005/06 Best Overall Employee in the Department Award was swooped by the District Manager of Madikwe in the Bojanala Region, 48 years old Andrew Mmekwa. ABSA and Entourage Events and Travel sponsored this category of award to the collective tune of R5000, 00.

A special award for Public Private Partnership was awarded to Pretoria Portland Cement in recognition of the company's commitment to contractor development.

The Inaugural Excellence Awards were sponsored by Africon, ABSA, Entourage Events & Travel, Mr T Group of Companies, Rustenburg Travel and Phenyso Distributors.

**ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
FOR FURTHER CLARITY CONTACT: Lesiba Moses Kgwele (Departmental Spokesperson) on 018-387 2447 OR 083 629 1987**

Attached Photo: Congratulating Mr. Andrew Mmekwa, the Best Overall Performing Employee of the Department (second from the left) is from left: Ms Salome Mmekwa, Mr Albert De Witte (Regional Manager for Bojanala) and MEC Yawa.