



DIRECTORATE: CORPORATE COMMUNICATION& ICT

MEDIA STATEMENT

08 February 2017

MUNIMEC TO SET NEW TOURISM AGENDA

The Department of Tourism in the North West has called on Municipalities to work closely with it and ensure that their programmes are synergized, in a bit to develop the tourism industry within the province. The appeal was made by the Provincial MEC for Tourism Desbo Mohono, during the MUNIMEC meeting recently held with Local Municipalities within the Ngaka Modiri Molema District in Mahikeng.

According to MEC Mohono, it is critical that both spheres of government should be in the same band wagon in driving the work of government forward. She said that Tourism is one of the critical components of economic development especially at local level and that it should also be considered as one of the industries that creates employment and changes people's lives. She said that government has thus far managed to fund students who wanted to study tourism in various high institutions of learning.

"As a Department we are determined to ensure that we strengthen the relationship between the department by planning together and sharing programmes. We will also ensure that we budget enough to create conducive environment for both spheres of government to work closely and smoothly", said MEC Mohono.

She further urged municipalities to strengthen their bylaws to ensure that their environment remain clean and welcoming for tourists in their towns. She said that clean environment encourages responsible tourism.

All municipalities attending the MUNIMEC agreed that local roads in their respective areas need to be repaired and that signage to various destinations be improved. They also agreed that youth programmes are also critical as most young people in their areas are unemployed and are very willing to go to institution of higher learning to study further, more especially in the Hotel and hospitality industry.

MUNIMEC is the meeting between the MEC for Tourism and Mayors and Members of the Mayoral Committee of respective municipalities in each district. The meeting is among others aimed at coordinating services and planning together in ensuring that tourism programmes are driven simultaneously with one objective. The meeting also is geared towards ensuring that marketing of Tourism products within respective municipalities is done continuously and ensuring that both spheres have a common vision of the North West becoming the fourth most preferred tourism destination in the country.

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