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Media Statement

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Human Settlements and SAWIC signs a Memorandum of Understanding

MAHIKENG-Worker's day turned out to be a historic day for the North West Department of Human Settlements when the department and South African Women in Construction (SAWIC) together with Build Environment (BE) signed a Memorandum of Understanding which sought to formalize the relationship with the organization.

The agreement confirms the set aside departmental budget of 40% on human settlement development but also the establishment of programmes to empower Women, People living with Disabilities and Youth. This came by after the pronouncement by the Premier, Professor Job Mokgoro during his State of the Province Address, and signing marked the first event of the Worker's day celebrations by the Premier. The Department, with this agreement, commits to establish a women empowerment support structure which will report to the Head of Department, Advocate Neo Sephoti, as the champion of the programme. The parties will further facilitate participation of women in construction in the entire human settlements delivery value chain.

The event was graced by the MEC of Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs, Mmoloki Cwaile, who confirmed the department's commitment and emphasized that the results of this partnership should see women empowered and the lives of the people changed for the better. "We adhere to what the world and our constitution directs us to do in relation to women issues. My department will continue to support women projects", said MEC Cwaile.

The Chairperson of SAWIC, Nomxolisi Moagi congratulated the department and SAWIC for this milestone. "This is not only historical but emotional because we have been walking this route for five years, we will continue to champion the courses of women in construction and will not disappoint", said Moagi.

All parties agreed that the real work begins and are happy to be holding hands to forge the new path of empowerment and success.

END

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