

**SPEECH BY NORTH WEST MEC FOR PUBLIC WORKS  
HON.H.D.YAWA, MPL AT THE BOJANALA REGIONAL  
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENTAL YEAR END-  
CHRISTMAS FUNCTION HELD AT THE AQUATIC  
CLUB, IFAFI NEAR HARTBEESPOORT ON THURSDAY  
2 DECEMBER 2004**

Programme Director

The Chief Director Regional Operations-Ms Ntshabele  
Directors & Staff from Head Office

The Acting Regional Manager-Mr Albert De Witte  
District Managers

Badiri ba Lefapha la Ditiro tsa Bosetshaba  
Bagaetsho

Programme Director as 2004 is winding down it is time, once again, to take stock of the year that has passed and to look forward to the challenges of the New Year.

It is also time for us to individually and collectively reflect as to whether we have through our actions as we went about the our work, reflected the positive image of a department that is committed to client focus, integrity, commitment and accountability.

As Public Works employees we need to uphold these values and in the daily execution of our duties and through our actions regain public confidence in our ability to make the challenges of service delivery facing us to diminish at an increasing pace.

As Public servants we need to ask ourselves as to whether we understand the need for us to work in a manner that helps the democratic state to meet its development challenges, to contribute to the eradication of the scourge of poverty and underdevelopment.

As conscious agents of change committed to the people's contract, we need to reflect as to whether we have given the unemployed and unskilled youth, the unemployed rural women and the disabled hope in our ability to provide them with opportunities to acquire skills and fight poverty through our flagship for the Expanded Public Works Programme - "Semelela".

After the successful launch of the Expanded Public Works Pilot Project at Modimola Village on the 18 September 2004 and the subsequent roll out of the Mmabatho Convention Centre EPWP Project that includes Paving, Landscaping and Upgrading of Gardens in the Central Business District of Mmabatho, the year ahead presents us with another opportunity for us to move forward with speed and increase our pace of delivery.

Working closer with other government departments, municipalities and in partnership with the business sector 2005 must see us roll out the programme to all four regions of our province at a speed that should signal a new culture of urgency and accountability.

Working in a people's contract and through our practical actions we must make the statement that Public Works North West has turned a new corner. As the logical home for infrastructure we should further make a statement that we are ready to deal with infrastructure development and maintenance in an integrated and co-ordinated approach with vigour and determination because to us failure is not an option.

I urge all of you that as you develop your New Year resolutions to priorities and adopt a common New Year resolution, which is, "To serve with a sense of urgency." because the new year is going to demand of all of us to rise to the occasion and to serve with a sense of urgency.

We appreciate your loyalty, efforts and energies that you have contributed towards the successful implementation of programmes of the department in 2004.

I call on all of us to support the 16 days of Activism for No Violence Against Women and Children by exposing those who abuse women and children in our homes, in our workplaces and in our society.

As conscious agents of change committed to the construction of a winning and humane society, we should blow the whistle on abusers. We should blow the whistle on those who rape our babies. We should blow the whistle on those who rape our little

children; we should blow the whistle on those who rape our sisters. We should blow the whistle on those who rape wives and our grandmothers.

Remember to act responsibly over the festive season and not to drink and drive. Spend as much time with your families and loved ones and in your celebration of the year's achievements, find time to rest because in the New Year we need a refreshed and rejuvenated workforce and not a spend and tired workforce.

In conclusion Let us remember that the Christmas heart is a giving heart, a wide-open heart that thinks of others first.

I wish you and your loved ones a peaceful and joyous Christmas season and a fruitful and productive New Year.

Ke a leboga.