

**OPENING ADDRESS BY THE MAYOR ELIAS
MOTSOLEDI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY CLLR
DAVID TLADI DURING THE 2022/2023 MID-YEAR
PERFORMANCE LEKGOTLA AND IDP
STRATEGIC SESSION HELD AT FOREVER
RESORT WARMBATH ON 19 AND 20 JANUARY
2023**

Programme Director,

Honorable Speaker Cllr. D. Mashego,

Chief Whip of Council, Cllr. J. Makunyane

Exco Members

Municipal Manager and your team

I greet you all.

We gather here today, just days after the President delivered another historic January 8th Statement in Bloemfontein.

He reminded us that local government is and will remain the implementing agent of government's transformation and delivery programs.

Transformation and basic service delivery is the primary vehicle for carrying out this role. Local government should therefore create the capacity to be able to deliver the required services within the stipulated timeframes.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you all to this important event in the Calendar of the Municipality.

Fellow Councilors and Management

It is important because it is an opportunity for all of us to come together and plan for our institution. It is important to plan because it helps to allocate resources at our disposal in order to meet the expectations of our constituencies.

This session also gives us opportunity to reflect on the progress we have made in the first quarter of the new financial year which will be used as a baseline.

We therefore need to emerge out of this Lekgotla with a clear understanding of what we collectively, and individually, need to do to fulfil our people's aspirations, and to deliver the undertakings and promises we have made, as part of government, to ensure a better life for all our people.

Fellow Councilors and Management

Our effort to transform local government continues to occupy our central focus, as the coalface of service delivery. We are moving ahead to construct a capable responsive municipality and to attack poverty and economic marginalization in order to restore public confidence in government.

Today's meeting comes almost a year after the said Lekgotla, I want to believe that the resolutions taken then are still fresh on our minds. Today's meeting is

aimed at assessing our progress in terms of the implementation of those resolutions.

In an ideal situation, we would have loved to have the frequency of these meetings at least every month so as to constantly monitor our progress however due to budgetary constraints, we are unable to do so but, in the future, this should be given serious consideration.

With these few words I welcome all present and declare the Lekgotla officially opened.

I thank you