

**OPENING REMARKS BY THE MMC EXECUTIVE SUPPORT CLLR POPPY PHETLA ON BEHALF OF THE
MAYOR OF ELIAS MOTSOLEDI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY AT THE SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT
AGRICULTURAL SEMINAR HELD AT AGRICULTURAL HALL ON THE 23 MAY 2018**

PROGRAMME DIRECTOR

THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR CLLR STAN RAMAILA

MAYOR OF ELIAS MOTSOLEDI CLLR JULIA MATHEBE IN ABSENTIA

MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE PRESENT HERE

WARD COMMITTEES

NAMC, MAC CAIN, AGT FOODS AFRICA, TECHNOSERVE PRODUCTS, ACCESS TO INPUTS NTK, ARC
IRENE, ARC ROODEPLAAT, ARC ONDERSTEEPOORT, ACCESS TO FINANCE, SEDA, LAND BANK, DRDLR

FIRST OF ALL I WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU FOR HONOURING OUR INVITATION TO ATTEND AND PARTICIPATE IN THIS VERY IMPORTANT AGRICULTURAL SUMMIT, A SUMMIT TO DISCUSS LASTING SOLUTIONS TO CHALLENGES FACING US AS A COMMUNITY WITH A POSITIVE THEME “MOVING FROM TRYING TO THRIVING AGRICULTURAL SECTOR”

WE ALL KNOW THAT POVERTY, UNEMPLOYMENT AND HUNGER ARE MAJOR CHALLENGES NOT ONLY HERE IN ELIAS MOTSOLEDI AND LIMPOPO PROVINCE BUT TO THE COUNTRY AS A WHOLE AND LEADS TO MANY SOCIETAL ILLS, SUCH AS CRIME, VIOLENCE ESPECIALLY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND INEQUALITY.

PROGRAMME DIRECTOR

THE MAJORITY OF OUR PEOPLE IN ELIAS MOTSOLEDI AND THE DISTRICT AS WELL, EARN THEIR LIVING FROM AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITY, PRINCIPALLY IN CONTINUATION AGRICULTURE. IN DEED AGRICULTURE SHOULD BE A CENTRAL DRIVER IN THE PROCESS OF CORRECTING AND REVERSING THESE CHALLENGES. YOU WILL AGREE WITH ME THAT AS AFRICANS, OUR SOIL IS OVER RESOURCED AND SHOULD BE UTILIZED FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL IF WE ARE SERIOUS WITH THE ATTAINMENT OF “ECONOMIC FREEDOM IN OUR LIFE TIME”.

PROGRAMME DIRECTOR

AGRICULTURE REMAINS THE MOST IMPORTANT ECONOMIC SECTOR IN SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY FOR ITS IMPACT ON JOB CREATION, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND FOOD SECURITY. THE SECTOR IS CHARACTERISED BY WELL-DEVELOPED COMMERCIAL FARMERS DOMINATED BY WHITE PEOPLE AND LESS DEVELOPED FARMERS WHICH ARE MOSTLY BLACK EMERGING FARMERS.

ELIAS MOTSOLEDI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY IN CONJUNCTION WITH SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY ARE CURRENTLY ORGANIZING AN AGRICULTURAL SEMINAR WHICH AIMS AT UNLOCKING MARKET BARRIERS FOR SMALL SCALE FARMERS, ENSURING THAT FARMERS HAVE ACCESS TO FINANCE AND PRODUCTION INPUTS. THE ULTIMATE AIM FOR THIS SEMINAR IS TO ENSURE THAT

SMALL SCALE FARMERS ARE ABLE TO PRODUCE GOOD QUALITY PRODUCTS FOR THE MARKETS IN ORDER TO GENERATE SUFFICIENT REVENUE TO SUSTAIN THEIR FARMING ENTERPRISES.

BA GAGEŠU KA ONA MANTŠU AOWE KERE LE GATONG LA MASEPALA WA GEŠU WA ELIAS MOTSOLEDI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY KAY A LE AMOGELA , MODIMO A LEDIRE KA GO LOKA

I THANK YOU!!!!