

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES
THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 1

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

The Council met at 14:05.

The Chairperson took the Chair and requested members to observe a moment of silence for prayers or meditation.

NO NOTICES OF MOTION OR MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

(Announcement)

The CHAIRPERSON OF THE NCOP: Members, I have been informed that the Whippery has agreed that there will be no Notices of Motion or Motions without Notice. Before proceeding, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the Minister, the Deputy Minister, special delegates and Salga representatives to the House.

APPROPRIATION BILL

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 2

(Policy debate)

Vote No 36 - Human Settlements; and Vote No 38 - Water and Sanitation:

The MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS, WATER AND SANITATION:
Chairperson, Members of the NCOP, Chairperson of the Select Committee on Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs, members of the executive councils who are present here, the leadership of the SA Local Government Association, members of the boards and councils of human settlements entities, ladies and gentlemen, I am glad to be here with the Chairperson who has been a constant support in your earlier life of the concept of human settlements. However, what did surprise me is that you have only given me 20 minutes to deal with a huge challenge that is in front of me. We have a huge challenge against a shrinking budget to overcome some of our problems. We need a thoughtful, judicious and cost-effective oversight and execution of our work.

The combination of the Departments of Human Settlements and Water and Sanitation will greatly assist in this. These are essential core functions of our government to cope with. We'll need to let on to new ways of doing things. To begin with, both departments will

embark on a project to digitise their data and information. This data includes dams, water reservoirs, houses, urban land, etc. We'll take advantage of the benefits of the Fourth Industrial Revolution which will allow us to do things smarter and faster.

Let us contextualise our reality right now to understand the enormity of what still has to be done. We are a well-renowned country for the inequalities of our societies that is always graphically illustrated in the patterns of settlements that we have. Statistics SA indicates that half of our population is living in poverty. These are mainly in the rural areas especially in the Eastern Cape and Limpopo. These are people who migrate to urban areas at the rate of 2,4% per annum, putting pressure on the infrastructure and the backlog of the people who need shelter resulting in scenes such as we have seen recently from Alexander. We still continue with a skewed development where the developed parts of the country extract cheap labour from rural areas, further under-developing these areas.

We need to drastically find solutions and restructure this apartheid reality. We need to take infrastructure, houses and jobs to our people where they live and revive our rural towns. We need to work towards a different mode of production. Our people are still largely

a labour force that lives far from their jobs. We spend huge amounts of money on roads that take them to their places of work. In our planning, we should urgently find ways, and find land where we actually ensure that we put jobs where our people live, as we ensure that they have better lives.

Unless we strike some equilibrium, we will always have problems with decaying, overutilised and overburdened cities and decaying, underutilised and underserviced rural towns. The faces of capital might have changed over the past 25 years, but the modes of production are the same, creating under-development in rural areas and periphery of our towns.

These are the people most in need of huge injections into infrastructure, especially of water and sanitation. Right now, when we talk about the provision of water to these people, we talk about them going to a local tap and queuing up for water. When we talk about access to water for you, we talk about you just turning on the tap. They have the least protection from society and the economy. In the cities, on the other hand, the poor continue to pay the highest rates for water and we continue to subsidise those in industry while a hefty number of them continue to pollute our rivers.

There is something wrong in our distribution of these essential services and we have huge transformative responsibilities to undertake. I'll depend on the energy that we have here in the NCOP with hon members to assist us with this because you are closest to the problems we are dealing with.

Allow me Chairperson to straight to the allocation of the budget because already I have run out of a great deal of my time. Yes, because he is not as generous as he was when he was a Mayor in Gauteng. [Laughter.] What we will do, with your permission, Chairperson, I have two huge files there that will provide the members of the NCOP with the necessary information to acquaint them with what we are doing. We are going to turn this into a disk and provide each member with a disk so that by the time you leave here, you have all the relevant information that we might not be able to have included in our interaction with you.

The constitutional and legislative framework which governs human settlements and water and sanitation sectors, places the provinces and municipalities at the core of the delivery of housing, human settlements, water services and sanitation. The departments must discharge their responsibility of ensuring our policies, macro planning and funding are responsive to the needs and aspirations of

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 6

citizens and households in each particular province and municipality. The departments, in ensuring that required targets are met, are required to ensure that at all times, they are on the job, on time, providing the country with the necessary support that is required in this area.

Our planning and programme delivery framework is one which is grounded on a platform which ensures accountability, responsibility and value for money. Our collective existence and responsibility is to ensure that our citizens have the ability to progressively realise the right to housing in a now fully-integrated human settlement portfolio. This must and should form the basis of everything we do. Whilst we have much to be proud of in what we have done over the last 25 years, we are called upon to do much more. We have delivered over 4 million housing opportunities in various municipalities and in all provinces, with water and sanitation. We have built dams and water resources, all of these against increasing demand and diminishing resources.

The grants of the department are allocated to the provinces and metropolitan municipalities based on fair and equitable formulae which takes into account amongst other factors, the population in those areas and the nature of the backlogs. I am delighted

therefore, on behalf of the Department of Human Settlements, to indicate that we have been given an expenditure of over R33,8 billion. The first one was just my wishful thinking.

This is how we have allocated it throughout our work. A total of R18,7 billion is grants to the nine provinces for the creation of sustainable human settlements that enables improved quality of household life and access to basic services. Linked to this, funds will be reprioritised for the priorities set out in the 2019-2024 Medium-Term Strategic Framework for human settlements. A total of R12 billion is for grants to the eight largest metropolitan municipalities to co-fund bulk infrastructure, water, sanitation, refuse removal, roads and storm-water, etc. A total of R149,1 million is grants to municipalities in respect of emergency housing, while R276,9 million is to provinces also for emergency housing. The Title Deeds Restoration grant has been ring-fenced at the rate of R547,7 million.

The Department of Water and Sanitation has been allocated a total budget of R16,4 billion. Of this amount, R9,417 billion is specifically and exclusively appropriated for the infrastructure development programme under the Regional Bulk Infrastructure Grant.

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 8

The Water Services Infrastructure Grant is also attached to this. This is appropriated and allocated in kind to local government.

The purpose of the Regional Bulk Infrastructure Grant is to assist Water Services Authority to: 1) develop new, refurbish, upgrade and replace ageing water and sanitation infrastructure of regional significance and connect water resources to infrastructure serving extensive areas across the municipal boundaries – needless to say that our municipalities are struggling with this responsibility; and 2) implement bulk infrastructure with a potential of addressing water conservation and water demand management projects or facilitate and contribute to the implementation of local water conservation and water demand management projects that will directly impact on bulk infrastructure requirements.

The purpose of the Water Services Infrastructure Grant is to assist Water Services Authorities to: Facilitate the planning and implementation of various water and on site sanitation projects to accelerate backlog reduction; provide interim and intermediate water and sanitation supply; support municipalities in implementing water conservation and water demand; and support the closeout of existing bucket eradication programme – and I have already indicated in the Budget Vote in the National Assembly, that I have given myself a

timeframe of six months to eradicate this bucket problem that we have as it is a long-outstanding matter and we cannot go on in this way.

The lack of sufficient bulk and link infrastructure is one of the key factors that have constrained the development of housing in the provinces. This is due to the municipalities' inability to keep pace with the increasing urbanisation and the complexity of the task ahead of them.

You have heard the financial side of the two departments. We want to concentrate on the intervention and support initiatives that both departments have undertaken to increase the slow rate of delivery where provinces and municipalities have failed.

The Department of Human Settlements has been involved in the following interventions and support initiatives. 1) National interventions to improve implementation and delivery in Gauteng, Limpopo, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Municipality, Ethekewini Metropolitan Municipality and Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality, most of whose representatives are here. The interventions have achieved mixed levels of success and only Limpopo is now able to function without any assistance. My congratulations

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 10

to Limpopo! However, the department ... You can't be so stingy. I mean they deserve ... [Applause.] Well done, Limpopo. However, the department continues to monitor the performance of the particular province.

The Gauteng province and North West delivery have however regressed and requires continued intervention, and in the case of Gauteng, this requires a more intensive and intrusive intervention with specific reference to administration and financial matters. It is to be noted that the performance of Gauteng has not shown any improvement either, in fact, it has also regressed and in spheres where we need them most, we are lacking in the support they should be providing us.

We are providing support in emergency housing. We have Emergency Housing Grant. This is a programme of dealing with emergency and it has been developed to support emergency situations. As you do oversight after this particular session in the NA and the NCOP, we will be experiencing long periods of bad weather, often followed by fires. Please note that municipalities have this emergency grant. As you provide assistance to them, please make sure they find this grant and are able to use it in the right way.

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 11

We also have Provision of Service Sites. This is a programme of upgrading informal settlements prioritising the installation of engineering services. The sector has a target of 50% with particular reference to the Urban Settlements and Development Grant, USDG on for upgrading the informal settlements. This of course is not enough as more land needs to be redistributed and we need to support those who are able to these themselves. We also need support from such departments as Rural Development, Public Works, Public Enterprises and Cogta. The department has a committee to support various land release initiatives and we intend to prioritise this matter.

We also support local authorities and collaboration between the three spheres of government. A programme of supporting local authorities has been created with a policy on USDG which was concluded with clear outputs and conditions to use 3% of the USDG to acquire capacity. A panel of experts has been appointed to assist the municipalities with the rolling out of housing programmes.

The programme of accreditation, a pet programme of the Chairperson here, has been revised but would require further discussion and finalisation by the approval structure. Such would be supported by intergovernmental and intersectoral contracting arrangements to

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 12

ensure that sufficient capacity is available to implement human settlements programmes.

We are also intent on making sure that we provide social housing and housing for students. The changes were made in the qualification criteria and the funding elements of the social housing policy which now include those who earn between R1 500 and R15 000. These are people we will be considering as eligible to be provided with social, housing assistance. These changes that I have now mentioned have been gazetted and you will find them also in the disc that will be distributed to you.

Water insecurity exacerbated by climate change, presents a profound threat for South Africa, having a detrimental effect on both local and international confidence. The Department of Water and Sanitation as water sector leader, has developed a National Water and Sanitation Master Plan and this plan is inclusive of all our initiatives. The Master Plan points out the priority actions required until 2030 and beyond. It ensures that water security and equitable access to water and sanitation services for all South Africans are spread out throughout the country. It was developed in partnership with all relevant organs of state and the water sector stakeholders to give effect to local, national, regional,

continental and international water and sanitation delivery targets and commitments thereof.

The Master Plan, which is driven by a sense of urgency, is a vital tool for the entire South African water sector in that it strives to improve integrated planning and development across the value chain, as well as address issues relating to the water and sanitation needs of the country. Furthermore, it also strives to create the conditions that can accelerate change. Despite the successes achieved since 1994 with the provision of services to those South Africans previously denied these services, we still have significant and unacceptable levels of poverty and inequality.

In order to address these inequalities and also ensure that our economy can grow, we will have to collaborate and deal with the following potential impacts. Firstly, the current water usage already exceeds reliable yield in many supply systems. Therefore, additional water resources will need to be developed in order to provide for increased water requirements. Secondly, realising the inequitable water allocation where only 5% of the water that is used in the agricultural sector is put aside for black farmers, we are looking for ways to transform this sector. We are looking at

incremental ways of making sure we have a 50/50 allocation for both black and white agricultural workers and owners of farms.

Thirdly, unreliable water and sanitation services: Over 3 million people still do not have access to a basic water supply services and 14,1 million people do not have access to safe sanitation. This is the sad reality of our time. Only 10,3 million households, which is 64%, have access to reliable water supply. Our plan is to redress this. The plan deals with poor compliance with drinking water and wastewater quality standards. Approximately 56% of the over 963 municipal wastewater treatment works and approximately 44% of the 101 water treatment works in the country are in a critical condition and in need of urgent rehabilitation and skilled operators.

The plan allows us to intervene in high levels of non-revenue water and poor cost recovery. Forty one percent of municipal water does not generate revenue; 35% is lost through leakage. Our Water Service Authorities are losing about 1 660m³ per year through non-revenue water. This amounts to R9,9 billion each year. Our plan is to turn this around. The plan allows us to have a cost recovery mechanism. Water is severely under-priced and cost recovery is not being achieved. Chairperson, I am looking at the time and I know that I do not have enough of it to get to the end.

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 15

The shortfall that we require is R33 billion per year for us to do what is required. We are appealing to members here to assist us and ensure that we can send a message that this is life. We need our people to have an additional R33 billion to make sure that we have the necessary supply for the next 10 years.

To solve many of our problems that manifest themselves acutely at municipal and district level, we are determined to change the complex institutional arrangements that we have. We have been running Operation Phakisa and it has not yielded the required results. We might want to change the name of Operation Phakisa and name it something else that is very descriptive and perhaps we might live up to the expectation.

For the financial stability and integrity of Water and Sanitation, it is important that we work together with the private sector and civil society to implement the necessary actions to achieve the financial sustainability, functional infrastructure, fair and sustainable water use, and universal water supply. Chairperson, I appeal to the NCOP, in conclusion, to join us in this task which is an exceedingly heavy task. We rely on them to keep to their promise of keeping us on our toes. We will keep to our promise of responding

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 16

to all the questions that they give to us through the necessary channels. Thank you very much, Chairperson. [Applause.]

Mr T S C DODOVU: Hon Chairperson, Minister of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation, hon Lindiwe Sisulu; Deputy Ministers, hon Mahlobo and hon Tshwete); heads of all entities reporting to the Ministry; permanent and special delegates, 64 years ago on 26 June 1955 in Kliptown, Soweto, men and women of vision congregated under the banner of the Congress of the People to adopt the Freedom Charter, which has become a historic testament and a living document which embodies the hopes and aspirations of the people of South Africa.

As they proclaimed, they wanted the whole world to know that South Africa belongs to all who live in it, black and white. With undiminished vitality, in unison they proclaimed that no government shall justly claim authority unless it was based on the will of the people.

With the magnitude of their vision as contained in the Freedom Charter, they were paying a deposit in our moral banking account so that many generations thereafter must emulate their virtues and follow their exemplary leadership.

One of the perspectives encapsulated in the Freedom Charter is clause 9, entitled: "There shall be Houses, Security and Comfort", and for the purpose of this debate this afternoon, this shall be my focus area.

These men and women under the stewardship of Prof Z K Matthews and Dr Yusuf Dadoo wanted "All the people (to) have the right to live where they choose, to be decently housed and to bring up their families in comfort and security". They wanted "Slums (to) be demolished, and new suburbs built where all (people) have transport, roads, lighting, playing fields, crèches and social centres".

During the last 25 years since the advent of our constitutional dispensation, the ANC has implemented housing policies which have undergone serious metamorphosis. The ANC government developed important policy, regulatory and institutional instruments essentially to reduce the housing deficit, to make the finance system effective and to establish compact and sustainable communities.

The pillars of the housing policy remain to provide subsidies to low income families; to mobilise housing credit and savings; to protect housing consumers and to co-ordinate investment in development. But

this policy also seeks to stabilise the environment by restoring order; to maximize benefits of state expenditure and private investment; to establish the capacity to create secondary markets and to identify and facilitate the land delivery processes.

These policy interventions were necessary in order to address the exclusion of the significant proportion of the population from economic opportunities and social services which has to do with the apartheid form of our settlement patterns: low-density, high income, well serviced white suburbs close to work areas; and on the other hand large, impoverished, sprawling, poorly serviced black townships and informal settlements on the urban periphery and in the rural landscape of South Africa.

This is indeed a good story to tell. However, despite these important milestones made by the ANC government, much still needs to be done. There are serious weaknesses especially in the water and sanitation sector which need urgent attention.

I am convinced that given what transpired in the last few years, the Department of Water and Sanitation is not up to the challenge to meet these imperatives. With slow expenditure on infrastructure of about R2 billion; unauthorised expenditure of about R640 million on

an unbudgeted War on Leaks programme; the accruals and payables of about R3 billion; the contingency liabilities and the forensic investigations on allegations of fraud and corruption as well as the vacant positions at the echelons of this department, signify that not all is well in that department.

As we speak today, more than 60 000 households still use bucket toilet system - 12 years after the initial deadline of 2007 as set by our government. Some communities, particularly in the rural areas still have no access to water; about 4 000 schools are without proper sanitary facilities and they mostly use pit latrines. This shameful picture is unacceptable 25 years in our democracy. The dignity of our people shall never be restored until these matters are urgently given the necessary attention.

While we are sitting here in these chambers today, sometimes pontificating and sometimes bickering over petty squabbles, millions of our people still live in informal settlements, in backyards and ghettos. While we pour venom and direct vitriolic attacks at one another, the poor continue to live in places of lowest environmental quality and suffer severely from problems such as inadequate shelter, no proper infrastructure and services, as well as poor sanitation and polluted water.

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 20

If there is anything that must unite us as South Africans is to ensure that our people have access to water and better sanitary facilities. Water is life and sanitation is dignity and this must not be an empty slogan but something that we must make a reality that must propel us to succeed in terms of dealing with these particular issues. Water is at the heart and backbone of our livelihoods and there is no sanitation for the rich and the poor, but when nature calls, we are the same people. That's why there is no sanitation for the poor or for the rich.

In order to extricate the department from a quagmire of ignominy and shame it is entrapped in, we need a paradigm shift to propel the Department of Water and Sanitation to the majestic heights of success and joy and turn it around in a way that it will be a leader in terms of fulfilling its own objectives. But in the context of the strategic objectives of our struggle, we need at the same time revolutionary changes to sweep across this department to attend the objectives that it is set for. When changes are happening, they must spark hope and ignite passion to the millions of our people who still yearn for all these possibilities.

As the ANC, we unreservedly support the Budget of the Human Settlements. But on the other hand, we support the Budget of the

Department of Water and Sanitation, subject to the following conditions: That a turnaround plan is developed on how all these above problems will be solved; that a financial recovery plan is developed on how to solve the problems of accruals and unauthorised expenditure as well as irregular and fruitless expenditure as obtained in the department; that by December 2020, all the bucket toilets must be eradicated in our communities and that the department must work with the Department of Basic Education to eradicate the pit latrines in all of our schools.

In addition, the department must ensure consequence management for all those responsible for poor performance and that all allegations of fraud and corruption must be attended to. The department must also develop and invest in infrastructure to ensure universal access to drinking water and sanitation, to protect the ecosystem and improve the water quality.

For our part as a Select Committee, we shall strengthen our oversight role by closely monitoring the performance of the department. We have no shred of doubt that the political head of the department, hon Lindiwe Sisulu, will add value to turnaround this particular department, especially of Water Affairs and Sanitation like she did with Human Settlements, like she did in all stations of

life where she was deployed. We have confidence that these particular matters, she will give them priority and attend them for the benefit of our own people.

As I indicated, in addition, as a Select Committee, we shall be proactive by conducting research, including visits to other countries in response to the call by our President, President Cyril Ramaphosa, to build a new city in the new democratic South Africa. As I pointed out, at this current conjecture, we need revolutionary leadership to propel us to the majestic heights and to take our country forward in terms of providing proper human habitation, quality water and decent sanitary facilities for our people.

We must reaffirm what the American couple and activists, James and Grace Lee Boggs said in 1974 in their book *Revolution and Evolution in the Twentieth Century*, they said and I quote:

Revolutionary leadership, if made clear, involved far more than sympathy for the oppressed or hatred for the oppressor.

Revolutionary leadership is not for the fainthearted, the flamboyant, or the fly-by-night, the easily flattered, the easily satisfied, or the easily intimidated, the seekers after excitement

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 23

or popularity or martyrdom ... would die for the revolution are those who would give the rest of their lives to it.

Whatever we must do in our time - we must make sure that we help this particular department to achieve its own objectives. As I pointed out, we are quite confident that we shall ameliorate the situation that is confronting our people. Together working with the department, we will make sure that we achieve those particular objectives as envisaged in the Freedom Charter. If we do so as I pointed out, our forebears have paid a deposit in our moral banking account, ours is to take their struggles forward and make sure that we succeed in terms of achieving the objectives. On that score as I indicated, we unreservedly support the department and the Budget of Human Settlements and we say to the Minister, we sincerely employ her to go and turn to the issues of the Department of Water and Sanitation. Thank you very much, hon Chair. [Applause.]

Mr I M SILEKU: Hon Chairperson, hon members, fellow South Africans, to the Minister, congratulations on your reappointment, and welcome back. During your first briefing as a Minister you mentioned the word "crisis". I believe you were talking about your new-found Department of Water and Sanitation.

This department is bankrupt with unauthorised, irregular, fruitless and wasteful expenditure as the standard practise. Irregular expenditure increased from R330 million in the 2014-15 financial year with 1800% to a unacceptable R6,4 billion in the 2017-18 financial year, with a further R2,5 billion in the 2018-19 financial year.

An overdraft on the main account increased from R199 million to R896 million. The overdraft on the trading account stands R1,2 billion and these over drafts are in conflict with Treasury regulations. An amount of R1,7 billion on accruals payable to service providers for work done in the previous financial year must be paid from this year's budget. Most of your senior officials are on acting basis.

Afrikaans:

Minister, nou is dit die regte tyd om bekwaamde mense, wat die departement kan bestuur sonder politieke inmengery, aan te stel.

English:

Hon Chairperson, section 26 of the Constitution stipulates that everyone has the right to adequate housing. In the ANC's first Election Manifesto in 1994, the party stated, and I quote: "A roof

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 25

over one's head and reasonable living conditions are not a privilege. They are a basic right for every human being".

Chairperson, the Constitution, the Bill of Rights and other strategic documents such as the National Development Plan do not insinuate that a house is only a roof over the head. The word "house" or "home" intricately also implies access to basic services such as water, electricity and sewerage networks. Those documents make it clear that human settlements, formal or informal, implies that it is places where people can live in dignity in houses with access to networks that facilitate basic services.

Chairperson, in the spirit of the greatness of the father of our nation, the late Nelson Mandela, I wish I could say that on Mandela Day 2019, we finally ensured that all South Africans own a house in which they can live in dignity. That includes proper toilets, water points, dumping sites, streets and electricity. Madiba once said, and I quote:

As long as many of our people still live in utter poverty, as long as children still live under plastic covers, as long as many of our people are still without jobs, no South African should rest and wallow in the joy of freedom.

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 26

Madiba clearly understood that failure regarding the housing and human settlements programme would result in public dismay.

In 1994, the late Minister Joe Slovo, Minister of Housing and his department were sincere in their intention to provide suitable and sustainable housing and basic services to all South Africans. Plans to succeed with this were in the making and focused on important issues such as the development of informal human settlements on land that was close to municipal and other service networks as to give people access to water, sewerage systems and electricity.

To break down the barriers caused by apartheid and inequality and to enhance the integration of all communities, new residential areas were supposed to be integrated with middleclass and affluent residential areas. This would enable all people to gain access to nearby public and privately-owned assets such as schools, health and safety facilities, transport, access routes, shops, recreational facilities and places of work.

To achieve this, the government developed interventions that would result in an orderly housing and human settlements plan, based on instruments such as municipal and regional spatial development

plans. Somewhere, since 1994, on the long road to give our people holistic and political freedom, we lost the plot.

The hon Minister of Police, hon Bheki Cele, said last week that people in a gang infested area in the Cape Metro live in conditions better suited for pigs. This is a shocking revelation meant as a dig at the DA who governs the Metro. Sadly, hon Cele's comment is true. The hon Cele, however, failed to admit that his party caused the implosion of the national housing plan and the human settlement development strategy.

Chairperson, I refer to the Informal Settlements and Human Rights in South Africa report by the Socio-Economic Rights Institute of South Africa, published in May 2018. Figures in this submission, and I quote:

... show that the majority of poor and low-income people in South Africa continue to live in informal settlements or slums and suggest that the government's housing programmes are failing to address the growing challenges posed by informal settlements.

The submission shows that residents of informal settlements include children, women and people with disabilities, and that many do not

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 28

have access to sanitation and clean water. The hon Cele should have admitted that as the focus shifted from services to the people to state capture. The dignity of people was thrown out of the window. The ratio of the number of families to toilets and water points became lower and lower as funds for proper housing and human settlement development plans drained into the pit of corruption.

Hon Chairperson, unfortunately, for the ANC, EFF and BLF, housing became a political tool to win elections and to destabilise communities. The truth is that people invaded land that was not evaluated by Environmental Impact Assessments, EIA, or fitted into a carefully crafted Spatial Development Framework.

Not far from us, in Grabouw, one of the biggest informal settlements resulted from the political driven capturing of state land off National Public Works. Siyayanzela is far from municipal services networks needed to provide people with toilets and water points. Siyayanzela is far from town facilities and no EIA was concluded to determine if the site is suitable and safe for people to live on. The settlement does not fall in the parameters of integrated communities and the breaking down of divisions between people caused by apartheid.

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 29

In Botrivier, also not far from here, people invaded a piece of land which was not subjected to an EIA.

IsiXhosa:

I-Botrivier yayiphantsi kolawulo lwe-ANC, mhla abantu babebekwa kulo mhlaba.

English:

Years later, after a housing development project was approved for the site, an EIA indicated that the township was developed on an old dumping site and that the ground is not stable and fit for a housing project.

Afrikaans:

As gevolg hiervan, moet ons New France op ander grond hervestig, wat beteken dat mense nog langer moet wag.

English:

Chairperson, as the former portfolio chair of Housing in the Theewaterskloof Municipality, I know that the need for housing opportunities are bigger than before and that the ANC's failure with the National Housing Programme made the people angry to the extent

that most municipal related protests are directly or indirectly related to inadequate housing and access to service facilities.

Chairperson, I want to conclude with a few ideas that must reflect in housing and human settlement plans, strategies and policies. We, all three tiers of government, must overcome our differences and start to work as a collective. And whilst we do that, we must adhere to a key requirement of the National Development Plan, example, to develop our own capacities and abilities to truly serve our people.

IsiXhosa:

Kunyanzelekile sizikhuphe iipolotiki xa sithetha ngonikezelo lwezindlu.

English:

We must utilise the collective capacities and abilities of government, private sector, stakeholders and all communities to develop human settlements and housing projects in accordance with Integrated Development Plans, Spatial Development Frameworks and other plans and strategies.

We must develop new solutions to overcome the backlog with title deeds and see to it that all beneficiaries become the legal owners

of their homes. Owners who want to offer their homes as collateral for loans, to maintain and upgrade their homes, cannot do so without title deeds.

Hon Chairperson, models of delivery cannot continue to depend on local government only. Instead, all three tiers of government must become facilitators of a diverse and multifaceted approach to ensure the involvement of many role players. Thus far the government thought only of suitable housing as units with top structures and access to civil works.

From my own experience, I can tell you that communities on the waiting lists for housing projects do not just yearn for top structures but also for access to basic services. Housing opportunities should be redesigned to provide extended services sites which must provide access to service infrastructure, a foundation for informal houses, a toilet, access to electricity and a water point.

If government, after consultation with the people, creates extended services sites and opportunities to develop top structures at a later stage, the housing backlog can gradually be reduced. Finally, I would like to emphasise that if municipalities continue to be

agents for the implementation of housing projects, third-level authorities need to be stabilised.

Most municipalities have serious deficiencies in planning, development and project management. Capacities to maintain housing registers, to conduct public participation and to facilitate the establishment of local community-based housing committees are very thin. The ability to prevent invasions on project land and to do containment of invaded premises, which have been earmarked for housing projects and where beneficiaries have already been designated, is virtually nonexistent.

We need solutions to the housing crisis. But those solutions can only be realised with trusted and effective leadership. Hon Sisulu, we need that from you. I thank you. [Applause.]

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENT, WATER AND SANITATION (MS P TSHWETE): Hon Chair, Minister Lindiwe Sisulu, Ministers and Deputy Ministers, Deputy Minister Mahlobo, Chairperson of the Select Committee, the MECs, hon Members of the NCOP and all honoured guests led by Acting Director-General. Allow me to pass my condolences to the family of Nomhle Tshaba Nyumba, chairperson of the Mpumalanga, South African Women in Construction, SAWIC, who passed on Friday the

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 33

19 July 2019. Their loss is equally felt by all of us. We appreciate the role played by SAWIC in the department in ensuring that women play an important role in construction.

Hon Chair, it is a great privilege to deliver this speech, when the country is celebrating 25 years of democracy and the provision of more than 4,7 million housing opportunities to our people. With the lingering poverty, unemployment and inequality in our country, this makes all the achievements and strives we have in this regard seem less essential. However, in an effort to accelerate economic growth, there is a need to build a modern developmental state that has the means to drive economic and social transformation.

On Monday 22 July 2019, as delegated by Minister Lindiwe Sisulu, myself and Deputy Minister, David Mahlobo visited Ntokozweni ward 17 in Baziya in the King Sabata Dalindyebo Local Municipality, KSD, where thorough consultations and engagements with the three spheres of government and the community agreed on a way forward to address the challenges they are faced with. Hon Chair, following our visit to this village on Monday, we have agreed that the provincial Department of Human Settlements as a matter of urgency will facilitate the construction of houses destroyed during 2016 and 2018 disasters.

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 34

The province has already applied for approval to expand the scope of work of the appointment of contractor to ensure that all identified beneficiaries benefit including child-headed household of 22-year old Amanda Mcoboki, the head of a family of that resides with her siblings in a rented rondavel after both disasters of 2016 and 2018. We are looking forward in working with the Eastern Cape government, KSD Municipality and OR Tambo District Municipality in ensuring that we restore dignity of the people of Ntokozweni.

We will continue to strengthen our efforts to deliver housing and support the SMMEs to play an active in the Human Settlements Value Chain. We have seen that, building houses through the People's Housing Process, PHP, model works. It delivers a large of impact thereof, results in capacity building, empowerment programmes and job creation. The department has supported the establishment of construction and non-construction cooperatives to deliver various services in the Human Settlements Value Chain.

We will, through implementation of the PHP or Zenzeleni Housing Campaign, address housing for vulnerable communities including Military Veterans. Upgrading of informal settlements and allocation of service sites in turn increase the rate of delivery and makes a huge dent in reversing the house backlog and job creation. A classic

example of this is the successful execution of the PHP programme in the Vulindlela Rural Housing Project in KwaZulu-Natal which will deliver 25 000 housing units on completion and are currently standing at more than 22 000 housing units delivered.

After the minister delegated responsibilities to me with regards to veterans and vulnerable groups, my office in consultation with the Minister will engage provinces with regard to the plight of the Military Veterans. I will propose to the Minister for the convening of a consultative conference with Military Veterans with regard to issues related to human settlements. After consulting with the Minister, my office will identify a date. This will be done through working with provincial structures of the Military Veterans. Most of them have undignified houses, that will have to be addressed urgently.

IsiXhosa:

Basweleka abantu abadala bengazange bazifumana izindlu.

English:

We will also visit and hand over houses project built using this methodology in the Nelson Mandela Bay Metropolitan Municipality on the Eastern Cape. In Viljoenskroon in the Free State, Mossel Bay,

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 36

George and Knysna in the Western Cape, is where government is implementing the PHP project. We wish to continue to urge all provinces that have not started implementing the decision of MINMECH to allocate 30% of their budget to women to start doing so. We are going ahead with our Women in the Build Industry Conference in Mpumalanga during the month of August to ensure that we take this conservation to the next level of implementation.

Hon Chair, we are happy to inform that today young people and with disabilities have remained resolute and committed to the cause. We will ensure that they get the necessary support and remove all the unnecessary red tapes and stumbling blocks that hinder their progress going forward. They include Free State disabled entrepreneur, Falcon Reinforced Concrete, Themba Biko, winner of the Govan Mbeki award. As part of my responsibilities my office and the department will engage relevant departments with regards to statistics of unemployed qualified graduates use in all provinces between the ages of 18 and 40. That will be done in consultation with the Department of Labour, Statistics SA and the Social Development with regard to people with disabilities.

This will be done cognisant of the fact that the biasness will be on gender in particular young women. We will also continue to work done

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 37

by the former Deputy Minister, Zoe Kota-Fredericks by visiting a social housing project in the Daggafontein in Gauteng being implemented by young the company. Let's Care and the social Housing Regulatory Authority. We remain resolute in our endeavour to create jobs and fight unemployment especially amongst the youth. We will continue in facilitating skills transfer and job creation opportunities in the build environment. We call on government and private sector to ensure that 10% of mega projects, 10% of all human settlement projects contracts, 20% allocation of service sites favours the youth.

We will ensure that young people also have access to professional development like bursaries and scholarships, conveyance through provision of title deeds, learnership through estate agents affairs and construction education training authority pathway. Hon Chair, ladies and gentlemen, we embark on this new dawn. We call on all sectors, stakeholders, the youth, women and people with disabilities to be at the forefront of their own development thereby creating an active citizenship. I thank you. [Applause]

Ms N PIETERS (Eastern Cape): Hon Chairperson and Deputy of the NCOP, hon Ministers and Deputy Ministers, hon members of the House, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, I am very pleased to be

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 38

with you this afternoon as the country is about to conclude the birthday celebrations of one of the greatest and finest sons the world has ever produced, Isithwalandwe, UTata Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela.

I am certain that this is not a coincidence that we have gathered here today, to debate about basic human rights which are matters that were very close to his heart. President Mandela knew that our country will never be entirely free unless all our people live in harmony, with equal opportunities and especially that all their basic rights are adhered to, like a decent shelter for all and a right to clean water and sanitation.

In order to substantiate my comment, I will quote what he said, when he was officially opening Vulindlela Water Supply Scheme in the Province of KwaZulu-Natal on 21 March 1998, I quote:

On this day we reaffirm the lesson of our centuries of struggle, that there can be no lasting peace, no prosperity in our land unless all enjoy freedom and justice as equals.

On this day we rededicate ourselves to the defence of the human rights which are guaranteed in our constitution, the basic law

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 39

of our land. And we recall our pledge as a nation that never again shall one be oppressed by another.

Our experience, and the experience of all humanity, also tells us that our rights will remain without their real substance unless there are real improvement in the lives of our people.

It is as if he knew that on this day during his birthday month we shall gather here and discuss human rights issues so that all our people, black and white, especially, the poor and vulnerable could walk tall with pride and dignity and say, Africa is free; South Africa is free and so we are. Our people are now impatient; they want to see change in their lives.

Hon chairperson, on behalf of the people of the province, the home of legends, I would like to express my gratitude for the speed in which hon Minister of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation, has moved to consult with all the provinces' various stakeholders and partners to craft a way forward immediately after she was appointed by the president of the Republic.

As a result of this, when we were here in the National Assembly to witness and support her presenting a Budget Vote, we were confident

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 40

that there was a clear way forward with regards to the implementation of human settlements, water and sanitation programmes. The leadership of our democratic government has worked hard to improve lives of our people in the above regard.

The improvement was done within a short space of 25 years, as against the mess that was caused by one of the cruelest regimes the world has ever seen for centuries. The Eastern Cape provincial government commits to be working you, hon Minister and your collective in support of Cabinet as you transform the system and democratise water sector.

We need to speedily change the current picture. Our country and its people cannot afford to see the current situation where 95% of licensed water volume remains in the hands of white commercial farmers. What can black emerging farmers do with 5% of water volume? Most of these black emerging farmers reside in the most rural provinces like Eastern Cape. Furthermore, it is a cause for concern that over 3 million people do not have access to basic water supply and 14,1 million do not have access to sanitation.

The majority of these are in the townships, rural areas and small towns. We appreciate the fact that our government is working

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 41

tirelessly to change the situation, and we acknowledge that there is more than R53 billion to address water infrastructure and sanitation. However, there is still more to be done in this regard. Water infrastructure and sanitation need more budget.

Your passion in partnering with private sector and other important partners will surely assist to a great extent. The provincial government of the Eastern Cape is very excited that the department, amongst other projects that is intending to implement, is UmZimvubu Water Project to revive UmZimvubu Dam. We really applaud you Minister and your department for this progressive initiative.

In the same vein, we appreciate that there is a move to approach Cabinet to declare all major dams the national key points. This is indeed a good move. Hon Chairperson, in the context of human settlements in province for this current financial year, we have decided to implement the broader policy priorities of the sector by focussing on the following:

We will up scale the housing opportunities with special focus and prioritisation of destitute, vulnerable groups and military veterans and by enhancing human settlements with social amenities and also do registration and issue title deeds to homeowners. Concerning youth

and women empowerment, we will increase the empowerment opportunities for small, medium and micro enterprises, SMMEs.

We will also strengthen community education and awareness on various housing instruments and the continuous use of application of alternative and innovative building technologies. Furthermore, we will uncompromisingly create opportunities for women in the area of construction of human settlements in the province. We have set a target of 30% for women in our delivery plans to ensure fair representation of women contractors. [Applause.]

The provincial government also appreciates the fact that it has been identified for catalytic projects which as of now, are pilot projects. One of our catalytic projects is Zanemvula Housing Project in Port Elizabeth which consists of the following: The Chatty with 491 units, which is meant for military veterans; Chatty extension 3 and 4 with 1 687 units; Jachtvlagte, with 553 units; Chatty extension 5 and 15, with 1 060 units; Despatch Florida Heights Mixed Node with 639 units and Uitenhage Doornhoek, with 40 units.

Out of this total of 4 270, we have already completed 2 029 units. Hon Chairperson of the NCOP, the apartheid spatial planning tried on dividing our people along racial lines. In the Sixth Administration,

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 43

our provincial government will build integrated communities where there is no exclusive residence for blacks and whites. The province aims at using available parcels of state land to develop integrated human settlements with all the necessary amenities including schools, clinics and sporting facilities.

To get the desired outcomes from the undertaking, the provincial government will fix local government sphere. We have an urgent task of building the capacity at our local level of government in such a way that it is able to serve as the spearhead of effective and efficient service delivery. In this way, the province is going to improve the lives and sustainability of Operation Masiphathisane towards a ward-based model of development.

In order to achieve the above, the provincial government will ensure that it addresses both administrative and political instability which we see as the root cause of challenges facing our municipalities. Furthermore, provincial government will support municipalities in planning, budgeting and integration of intergovernmental infrastructure project pipelines.

Hon Chairperson and hon members, looking at the above mentioned programme of action, it is clear that we are faced with a mammoth

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 44

task and we are confident that the department will do what is supposed to do with the magic that we are having within us as leaders of Tata Nelson Mandela. We dare not fail. Let us epitomise Tata Nelson Mandela and make a difference in people's lives.

Hon Chairperson of the NCOP, the Eastern Cape Province supports the budget of Human Settlements and the budget of Water and Sanitation Departments.

Ms S SHAIKH: Chairperson, Minister of Human Settlement, Water and Sanitation, the Deputy Ministers and Members of the Executive Council, MECs, present, Members of the NCOP, the ANC's 52nd National Conference at Polokwane pronounced that a developmental state must ensure that our national resource endowments, including land, water, minerals and marine resources, are exploited to effectively maximise the growth, development and employment potential embedded in such national assets, and not purely for profit maximisation. The Freedom Charter, too, remains our inspiration and our strategic guide to realising a better life and a South Africa that truly belongs to all who live in it.

As an ANC-led government, we are building a capable developmental state that has improved the lives of millions of our people.

Millions of people have houses, electricity and access to clean drinking water. Providing access to clean water for all has been the goal of the ANC. In 1994, only six out of ten South Africans had access to clean drinking water. Today, that figure has increased to nearly nine out of ten South Africans.

The Chairperson of the NCOP: Hon members, can you please just ...
[Inaudible.] Please, proceed.

Ms S SHAIKH: Few countries in the world have succeeded in expanding vital services such as water, sanitation, electricity, roads and housing to so many people in such a short time.

We are proud of the progress we have made and we will continue to ensure the roll-out and provision of water infrastructure is prioritised so that clean water is made available to all South Africans. We are aware that sustainable use of our water resources and making water affordable are central to achieving this goal. Access to water as a basic right is contained within the Bill of Rights in our Constitution. Our government has the responsibility to take reasonable legislative and other measures, within its available resources, to achieve the progressive realisation of this right.

The United Nation, UN, has recognised the right to water and sanitation as a human right in 2010. Goal six of the Sustainable Development Goal, SDG, encompasses access to water and sanitation for all by 2030. In terms of the Millennium Development Goals, MDGs, which were the predecessor of the SDGs, South Africa has met its target for reaching the MDG for access to safe drinking water with moderate progress in reaching the sanitation target.

The National Development Plan's, NDP proposes improving water and sanitation infrastructure by prioritising new key water schemes to supply urban and industrial centres and establishing a national water conservation programme. The expectation is also for the sector to contribute to the creation of 11 million jobs by 2030; provide basic services to rural communities; to increase their capabilities and thus take advantage of economic opportunities; as well as to professionalise the public service and attract high calibre candidates. Commitment to implement the NDP is reflected in the Medium Term Strategic Framework, MTSF, 2014-2019, with specific actions that the sector should implement over the five year period.

South Africa is a water scarce country with an average annual rainfall that is far below the global average of 860 mm per year. While the recent drought in South Africa has largely been

responsible for water shortages in many parts of the country, a number of other factors such as ageing infrastructure, climate change, pollution, leaks and alien vegetation also contribute to water scarcity and challenges in the water sector. The proper management of water resources is therefore important to prevent water shortages and the interruption of critical water services.

While access to water and sanitation infrastructure and services in South Africa has improved significantly since 1994. However, due to population growth and urbanisation, an increasing number of people are migrating to the bigger metropolitan areas, resulting in a rising number of households in need of water and sanitation services. This in effect means that government needs to keep up with what has been referred to as a moving target. This also points to the need for better coordination between Department of Water and Sanitation and Department of Human Settlements.

In terms of ensuring a responsive, accountable, effective and efficient local government, the department has detailed its plans and provided good results in the area of percentage of households with access to functional water services from 85% in 2013 to 90% by 2019. Furthermore, increase the percentage of households with access

to a functional sanitation from 84% in 2013 to 90% by 2019, including the elimination of bucket sanitation in the formal areas.

It is on this note that the ANC wishes to take this opportunity to commend the Minister on her commitment to ensuring that the Department eradicates the bucket systems within six months of the 2019-20 financial year. The annual target for 2019-20 the number of existing bucket sanitation backlog systems in formal settlements replaced with adequate sanitation services is 12 221. As a committee, we will ensure that we provide oversight over this and many other plans of the department. In this regard as well, there is a need to be greater co-ordination between the Department of Water and Sanitation and the Department of Human Settlements to ensure proper planning and eradication of bucket sanitation practices as well as the mushrooming of informal settlements.

The War on Leaks Programme was conceptualised to stop water leaks in households, schools, clinics and other public buildings. The project also assists with job creation and training of youth in basic plumbing and related skills. This project not only assist with job creation and the prevention of water losses, but also helps to save money, as water losses amount to about R7 billion per annum. At project inception in 2015, the War on Leaks programme was estimated

at R3,9 billion. However, the department had not properly budgeted for this programme. As a result, the War on Leaks initiative has persistently been financed through other sources of funds within the budgets of the water trading entity and main account. From inception to date, expenditure on this programme amounts to R2,7 billion, most of which has resulted in unauthorised expenditure.

The unfortunate reality is that, in an audit conducted in 2018, it found that nearly 4 000 schools across the country still have inappropriate sanitation facilities. The most recent victim to this was a five-year-old girl who sadly died after falling into a pit toilet at a primary school in the Eastern Cape in 2018. In relation to this, the Minister of Basic Education in a statement following this tragedy indicated that the death of a child in such an undignified manner is completely unacceptable, and incredibly disturbing. We would like to express our sincere condolences to the families who have lost their children to this undignified tragedy. Which is why, as the ANC, we wish to welcome the launch of the Safe School Sanitation Initiative that took place in August last year.

In echoing the words of the President at the launch of the Sanitation Appropriate for Education or SAFE: Initiative, this is an initiative that will save lives and restore the dignity of tens of

thousands of our nation's children. It is our constitutional demands. All available resources have been mobilised, including pledges from business, strategic partners, and the building industry to replace all unsafe toilets in public schools

The SAFE initiative will spare generations of young South Africans the indignity, discomfort and danger of using pit latrines and other unsafe facilities in our schools?

In the state of the nation address, infrastructure was identified as a critical area of investment that supports structural transformation, growth and job creation. The new approach that government has adopted, will include greater cooperation between the private and public sectors, as well as local communities and will also include financial and institutional measures to boost construction and prioritise water infrastructure, roads and student accommodation through a more efficient use of budgeted money. Furthermore, as part of efforts to provide employment through the Expanded Public Works Programme, EPWP, labour intensive areas like maintenance, clearing vegetation, plugging water leaks and constructing roads will be focused on.

Water pollution is a serious problem from both an environmental and a socio-economic perspective. Apart from the fact that water pollution reduces or limits the utilisation value of water, it also places a burden on society due to the need for primary treatment, the costs associated with such processes, and the additional impacts on the economy. Furthermore, public health is often at risk as a result of poor water quality.

In 2018 there were incidents of water pollution complaints in the Midvaal and Emfuleni municipalities about the impact of sewage leaking into the Vaal River. This resulted in technical teams of the South African National Defence Force, SANDF, being deployed to the Vaal Area where they assisted with addressing the severe water pollution in the region. The pollution was as a result of vandalism, neglect and poor maintenance at treatment infrastructure and drains. This resulted in the contamination of the Vaal River and caused sewage spills in neighbourhoods. Critical repairs have been done and treatment stations had to be protected by troops.

Furthermore, in July 2019, a truck was seen dumping raw sewage into the Mthatha dam in the Eastern Cape. We condemn such actions with the contempt it deserves and what was also absurd was the R2 000 fines imposed on the private company by the municipality. This fine

is clearly insufficient to cover damages and or deter similar future misconduct.

This highlights the urgent need by the department for increased monitoring and enforcement in the water sector, as well as the need to review the instruments available to government departments and municipalities to ensure more realistic fines and punishment for transgressions.

There have been continuous concerns on the many challenges the department faces at the municipal level in relation to the delivery of water services. These challenges include poor maintenance and refurbishment of infrastructure, which result in, among other things, increased interruptions in supply and high levels of unaccounted for water; poor management of wastewater treatment works resulting in deteriorating raw water quality; slow delivery of sanitation services and inadequate cost recovery in the water services sector? We thus, urge the department to ensure that the Intergovernmental Relations Framework of work between the three spheres of government must be strengthened, especially in terms of service delivery of basic services, such as water and sanitation.

The department received a qualified audit opinion in 2018-19. The Auditor-General, AG, indicated that there was material uncertainty relating to the viability of the Department as a going concern. This was ascribed to an overdraft of R119 million accumulative unauthorised expenditure of R933 million, accruals and payables to the value of billion R2,005 billion. Consequently, the department would not be able to start any new projects in the medium term.

The department is regressing and the AG indicated that this is because of a breakdown in leadership and management. The Water Trading Entity, WTE, also received a qualified opinion as the value of the departments assets, stated at 95 billion were not a reliable figure. There were also recurrent findings of irregular expenditure.

The legal claims against the Department was recorded at more than R100 million for both the main account and the WTE. These claims are growing every year. The AG has indicated that these claims pose a financial risk to the department and should be urgently resolved.

At the end of 2017-2018, the Department had a vacancy rate of 13%, with only 6 911 out of the 7 946 position that were filled. Reasons for vacancies not being advertised or filled were attributed to

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 54

Budget constraints imposed by National Treasury, which led to reprioritisation of more critical posts being advertised.

In addition, the Department performed poorly by achieving only 52% of its total targets, while spending 97% of its Budget. This is despite the fact that some of the planned targets were adjusted during the year under review.

Delays and lack of implementation of the majority of the projects is attributed to the procurement process, such as the appointment of contractors, designs and lack of funds. All these delays negatively affected provision of water and sanitation and the creation of job opportunities. The projects that could not be implemented were amongst others, the Tzaneen dam; Clanwilliam; Umzimvubu and ORWRDP 2D, 2E, 2F. It is worth noting that majority of these targets were not met in 2016-17 either. This is also a result of poor management of projects.

A case in point is Giyani in Limpopo. In 2009, Giyani was declared a disaster area, and as a result, the Department of Water and Sanitation resolved to find solutions to the water challenges in respect of limited or lack of appropriate water and sanitation infrastructure. In 2014 the Minister issued a directive to Lepelle

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 55

North Water Board to regularise water and sanitation services within the Mopani District. Of particular concern in this region were the Giyani Waste Water Treatment Works, the Giyani Water Reticulation Plan and the lack of water supply by the municipality to the Nkensani Hospital.

A budget of R502,5 million was approved for this project. Despite challenges encountered, the Giyani Water Treatment Works was refurbished and upgraded from 18 mega litres to 36,7 megalitres and currently operates at 36.7 megalitres. Of the 55 villages that were to benefit from the Giyani Water Treatment Works, bulk water reaches 42 whilst the 13 are supplemented or solely dependent on boreholes.

There have been several incidences of vandalism of infrastructure which was a severe challenge affecting the water supply and presented operation and maintenance challenges. Furthermore, illegal connections resulted in unbilled water for which the municipalities could not derive payment.

Concerns have been raised regarding the Mopani District Municipality and the Greater Giyani Local Municipality in respect of the ongoing operation and maintenance of Giyani Water Treatment Works and the Giyani Waste Water Treatment works, which was still under the

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 56

operation of the appointed service provider, Lepelle North Water Board.

However, the Medium Term Budget Policy Statement, MTBPS 2018 also paid specific attention to the Giyani Water Project and stated that it was plagued by malfeasance and was a cesspool of corruption". It stated that a new delivery and financing model was necessary for delivering water services to communities and that a key element of the new approach will be a stronger focus on project management and contract governance to ensure that projects are fit for purpose and maximise value for money in the water sector.

The water and sanitation sector plays an important strategic role not only in terms of providing basic services, but in ensuring that human rights and dignity are upheld. Ensuring a capable and well-resourced department responsible for the management and protection of critical water resources should be a key priority and we will as a committee intensify over-sight over this department p ensure that the department fulfils its mandate. The ANC supports the Budget Vote on Water and Sanitation with the conditions that the chairperson had already alluded to over committee. Thank you, Chair.

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 57

The CHAIRPERSON OF THE NCOP: As hon Moletsane approaches the podium, let me indicate some minor changes regarding the speaker's list. Hon Ncitha will now speak for eleven minutes instead of the original sixteen. Hon Mahlobo will speak for fourteen minutes, not nine as indicated in the speaker's list and hon Cloete replaces the other FF Plus speaker. So, Cloete is now going to be speaker number eight not as Du Toit. Please, proceed.

Mr M S MOLETSANE: Hon Chair, hon Minister, hon Deputy Minister, hon members and fellow South Africans. South African Constitution Section 26 explicitly states that everyone has the right to have access to adequate housing." It then goes on to say that, the state must take reasonable legislative and other measures, within its available resources, to achieve the progressive realisation of this right."

For 25 years the ANC government has violated the constitutional rights of millions of South Africans. We currently have a housing waiting list of just fewer than 4 million people and every day this list is growing. You come here to brag about all the RDP houses you have built, but what is the quality of those RDP houses. The Constitution says that everybody has the right to adequate housing. I m placing emphasis on the adequate part, because many of the

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 58

houses built by your department cannot be classified as adequate. We have RDP houses falling apart everyday, with weak foundation and leaks in the roofs. That is why your department spent over R6 million in the 2017/18 financial year alone repairing RDP houses that were built. This bad quality is a result of your department's reliance on outside contractors who receive tenders to build these houses. But these tenders are not given to people based on quality of work or price, but on who they know in the ruling party.

Tenders for human settlements are being used to enrich comrades in the ANC and their families and friends. The results of these were houses of such poor quality that they need to be repaired all the time. In the Free State we saw how Ace Magashule did the exact thing that I am talking about, to enrich his family. We need to have a state-owned housing construction company, and your department needs to build internal capacity. So that instead of relying on tenders the state builds the houses itself.

This will do three things, it will save money; improve the quantity and quality of houses being built; and it will create jobs. Another issue that your department needs to address as a matter of urgency is the continued evictions of in ANC and DA led municipalities all across the country. Things were quiet before the elections, the

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 59

moment the results were announced municipalities unleashed a massive onslaught against our people whose only sin was simply to build houses for themselves.

The municipal police, along with the help of dodgy private security, busy evicting our people everywhere, from Gauteng and the Free State, to the Eastern Cape and KZN. The ANC has been using the law selectively to keep African people homeless in this country. This clearly shows that the ANC government is not committed to resolving the housing crisis in this country. The budget presented here is unable to deal with the housing challenges facing our people, and cannot address the legacy of centuries of colonialism and apartheid.

The dispossession of African land in the country; the uneven development of cities; the poor employment prospects in the countryside have caused massive urban sprawl that your policy makers have been unable to handle. We know have thousands of people flocking into Gauteng, Cape Town and Durban each and every year because there are no opportunities in this country. But the state is not out of options, and can resolve the housing crisis if there is political will to do so.

This can be done through the following: Do away with apartheid spatial planning and expropriate land without compensation closer to inner city centres to build sustainable housing for all; create a housing access coordinating unit that involves national, provincial and local government which will regularly report to the Presidency on progress with housing provision, the elimination of slums and the provision of dignified sanitation; improve the quality and size of low-cost houses through the state housing construction company; ensure that the state regulates housing finance by providing housing finance that does not exceed a period of ten years; guarantee integrated human settlements that will in the real sense be definitive of all settlements led by the state and that will be equipped with guaranteed bulk services such as water provision, electricity, sewerage systems, parks and recreation facilities; convert unused state buildings into affordable housing for the poor, offering people long-term secured leaseholds to these buildings.

If your government does not take our advice and follow the steps that we have outlined there, the housing crisis in South Africa will only worsen. Until that happens we will reject this budget vote. I thank you.

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 61

The CHAIRPERSON OF THE NCOP: As hon Cloete comes to the podium, one more announcement is that the five minutes allocated to hon Mahlobo will now goes to hon Minister.

Mr A B CLOETE: Today we debate water but the pressing question this department needs to ask, is which water? Again, like we said so many times municipalities are the biggest perpetrators for our residents experiencing water shortages. We hear the appeals towards resident to use water sparingly, but residents are not the main culprits, Minister. Minister, you admitted in your budget speech that municipalities fail to deliver water to the people. You stated that they do not have the infrastructure to deal with the multiplicity of what is required of them. High levels of debt that municipalities have, impacts on, I quote, "the value chain and on the overall financial sustainability of the sector" whatever that means.

No Chairperson, municipal debt is infringing our rights to services and water let call it what it is. Scapegoating the previous regime's spatial planning and service policies forever will not work anymore, minister. The nine Water Boards, which were created under this ANC government, as well as the department combined are currently owed R14 billion mostly by ANC's municipalities for raw water and other water services It remains ironic that this side of ANC government

own this side of ANC government money. Indeed we need to recover this.

Afrikaans:

Die VF Plus moes in April vanjaar 'n strafregtelike klag teen die munisipale bestuurder van die Mafube Plaaslike Munisipaliteit en die res van sy munisipale bestuurspan indien oor die storting van rouriool in die Wilgerivier by Frankfort.

Die munisipaliteit, wat Frankfort, Villiers, Cornelia en Tweeling bedien, se rioolwerke is buite werking weens grond en klippe in die riooldam en wanneer die aanleg wel funksioneer, is dit net vir 'n kort rukkie. Riool loop ook op verskeie ander plekke in die Wilgerivier.

English:

To my Gauteng delegates I would like to say sewerage is running into the Wigelriver which running into the Vaal River which run into your dams. And then there is the Mangaung Municipality where residents have been plagued by water restrictions owing to non-payment by the municipality. The result: pipes bursts again and water interruptions occur again Last year, poor maintenance by the ANC in Mangaung

resulted in the Metro wasting more than 13 billion litres of water due to leakages that were not repaired.

This was according to your predecessor, hon Minister. Now, if we convert it, that Metro wasted more than 36 million litres of water per day. Based on the Metro's own tariffs, the value of the water that has gone to waste amounts to more than R233 million. That is in one metro.

Afrikaans:

Maar die prentjie lyk nie veel beter vir die res van die land nie. R3 miljard se water is in die 2016-17 boekjaar deur munisipaliteite in Gauteng vermors.

In Noordwes word water in Matlosana by Klerksdorp uit die Vaalrivier gepomp, maar die suiweringsaanleg funksioneer nie en amper die helfde van die water word weer net so in die rivier teruggepomp.

English:

Last year the Portfolio Committee on Water and Sanitation reprimanded the Department of Water and Sanitation for and I quote, "laxity" in releasing Green and Blue Drop reports since 2014. The committee said it was unacceptable that the 2016 reports were still

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 64

in draft stage in 2018 and we are still waiting for that report if I'm not mistaken. The committee itself said that it was of the view that, listen to this, the department officials are getting paid for doing nothing. In a report last year by the department of water and sanitation, the following challenges were identified by this department: Aging infrastructure including vandalism and lack of operations and maintenance; lack of implementation of risk management plans of water safety and limited technical expertise available within the department.

Minister you have little time today to speak about really pressing issue but you also have little time to fix our water problems as well. Stop blaming and start taking responsibility for your ANC failures. I thank you.

Ms Z V NCITHA: Thank you very Chair, the Deputy Chair, the Ministers and Deputy Ministers present, the special delegates from our provinces, the South African Local Government Association, SALGA, delegations, colleagues good afternoon. The ANC's approach to state power is informed by the *Freedom Charter* and the principle that *The People Shall Govern*. The attainment of power by the ANC is a means to fulfil the will of the people and ensure a better life for all. Thus, the primary priority of the ANC-led government, insofar as

managing municipal spaces for radical socioeconomic transformation is concerned.

We acknowledge that while urbanisation has many benefits for a country's population, it increases the burden on government to provide the key social services such as adequate housing and shelter, running water and sanitation. The delivery of low cost houses has been the ANC-led government's success story since 1994. We cannot run away from that - with nearly four million houses built for the poor. Yet an estimated one million people do not have registered title deeds for their homes they already live in.

In the past, the department experienced challenges in addressing the backlog of issuing of title deeds. For instance, in the 2017-18 reporting year, there was a total of 81 929 pre and post 1994 title deeds issued as reported by the provinces. Yet, the national department verification exercise totalled to 41 841.

The inconsistency in reporting outcomes thus resulted in a stand alone grant which was recently introduced to improve the national department's control over the performance outputs. In order to fast track the eradication of the backlog in the registration of title deeds for beneficiaries of subsidised housing, a special title deed

conditional grant has been implemented from 1st April 2018 to finance this programme.

We echo the sentiments outlined in the report on the high level panel in its recommendation:

Well situated urban land must be prioritised for social housing, both through expropriation, and through reviewing the conditions under which State-owned enterprises, SOEs, hold and dispose of well situated land.

It is to this end that the Housing Development Agency and the Social Housing Regulatory Authority are at the forefront of reclaiming well located state land and property situated in urban areas. This is the right direction and the progressive collaboration required as we journey towards dismantling historical spatial patterns and constructing integrated communities in South Africa.

Another initiative driven by the department is that of the Social Housing Programme, with an aim of creating affordable rental housing stock in South Africa's major urban areas which will ultimately free its occupants from ongoing government dependency, and will contribute to the restructuring of urban areas. The Department of

Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation, DPME's impact assessment of this programme found that -

The programme has delivered values for money in relation to the conversion of public funds into viable rental stock in the medium to long term. The relatively high levels of directed purpose, transparency, control and regulation, and delivery of accommodation in relation to the public money invested, exceeds most other public subsidy programmes.

The provision of housing opportunities through state subsidies also forms a key element in the work of the department as it bridges the gap between the haves and have nots and promotes inclusion in an otherwise exclusionary economy. These housing opportunities are unlocked by the initiatives such as the Government Employees Scheme, Finance Linked Subsidy Programme and the Rural Housing Loan Fund. Together, these funds facilitate access to housing credit to low income households and those in the gap market. The availability of these funds is a response to the ANC's manifesto where we committed to working with financial institutions and social partners to increase the provision of capital for housing.

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 68

President Cyril Ramaphosa, in February this year, equally announced that -

The Housing Development Agency will construct an additional 500 000 housing units in the next five years, and an amount of R30 billion will be provided to municipalities and provinces to enable them to fulfil their respective mandates.

We acknowledge that our people do not have full knowledge of these progressive finance initiatives aimed at ensuring that our people have housing opportunities and are not discriminated against, based on class, gender or economic status and location. We urge the department to extend its reach and ensure awareness programmes are implemented so that our people can take full advantage of the housing opportunities provided by the ANC-led government.

With the world fast approaching the fourth industrial revolution, the role of the Development Finance Institutions, DFI's, in terms of ensuring that Africa is not left behind will be crucial. To this regard, the ANC welcomes the launch of the Human Settlements Development Bank that was announced by Minister of Human Settlements in 2017. As reflected in her 2017 Budget Speech:

The bank will facilitate the increased provision of finance across the human settlements value chain, and the specific priority for the bank in this respect is the mobilisation of and the provision of finance for all planned catalytic projects.

We also want to see the operationalisation of the Human Settlements Development Bank in this financial year as this bank will play a significant role in changing the face of human settlements in South Africa. Chairman Mao has this to say:

Our duty is to hold ourselves responsible to the people. Every word, every act and every policy must conform to the people's interest, and if mistakes occur, they must be corrected. That is what being responsible to the people means.

Thank you very much.

Mr S E MFAYELA: Hon Chairperson, although significant progress has been made in bringing the supply of water and sanitation to previously disadvantaged areas in South Africa. There are still many underserviced areas particularly in our remote rural areas and informal settlements. Chairperson, ...

IsiZulu:

... Ngqongqoshe ngithi angikhale lapha kuwena. Kune zindawo KwaZulu-Natal ezinenkinga, Zululand, uMkhanyakude, Ilembe ngibala ezincane nje. Sihlalo bengingazibala zonke uma bekunesikhathi. Lezi zindawo zinenkinga yamanzi awabonwa nangalikhasha. Ezikoleni amanzi awabonwa, emitholampilo amanzi awabonwa, ezakhiweni zikahulumeni amanzi awabonwa. Ngiyacela Sihlalo ukuba ungicelele kuNgqongqoshe ukuba uma ngimnikeza lesabiwomali enze isiqiniseko sokuthi lezi zindawo uyazibheka.

Inkinga enkulu eyokuthi kunamapayipi amanzi agcwele phansi uma uthi uvula umpompi amanzi akaphumi. Kunamapayipi alele eduze nomgwaqo okufuneka ngabe afakwe phansi. Lokhu kusho ukuthi kunenkinga ekhona ekusebenzeni amanzi kulezi zindawo. Into ozoyibona ke Sihlalo nawe Ngqongqoshe yiziteleka, abantu bateleka ekuseni nantambama kanye nasebusuku batelekela ukuthi amanzi akekho endaweni. Ngiyazinxusela Sihlalo ukuba uNgqongqoshe azibheke lezi zinto. Abheke nokunye okungadala amanzi abekhona njengemithombo [borehole.] nokuvikelwa kwamanzi esiphethu njalo njalo ukuze abantu bathole amanzi.

English:

We see that government housing projects and tenders have again been approved and yet, there is no action from government to begin the

building of social houses. Chairperson, I call on the Minister to investigate in this regard. Another critical issue is the poor state of many of our hostels, which are underdeveloped and in a poor state of repair. A simple visit to any hostel in KwaMashu, Glebelands, Thokoza, Daveyton or Sebokeng will show this to be the case. In many instances, as well as the people living in these hostels, live in subhuman conditions, many of which could be comparable to the living conditions of animals and livestock in the same instances or even worse. However, as the IFP, we appreciate that in other hostels there are developments that has been done, but still there is a lot to be done.

IsiZulu:

Ngalezi izizathu engizibeke lapha kuyangiphoqa ukuba uNgqongqoshe ngimnikeze isabiwomali ukuze lezi zinto zenzeke. Ngiyabonga.

[Ihlombe.]

Ms S A LUTHULI: Fighters in the House, ...

IsiZulu:

... izivakashe zethu kanye nama-fighter emakhaya ngiyanibingelela.

English:

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 72

On 28 July, the United Nations General Assembly through Resolution 64/292 recognised the human right to water and sanitation and acknowledged that clean drinking water and sanitation are essential to the realisation of all human rights. Our Constitution explicitly states that everyone has the right to water.

Minister, it is your department that is mandated to realise the basic human right of access water and sanitation for our people. But for the last 25 years, your department has failed to realise this mandate. This is because of corruption, incompetence and an unwillingness to reverse four centuries of dispossession and the unequal allocation of resources. Because of the failures of your department only 46% of households in South Africa have access to piped water. That means that for more than half our population cannot even get up and turn on the taps in their homesteads have to risk going outside.

In communities like Khayelitsha in the Western Cape, Giyani in Limpopo, Qwaqwa in the Free State and Jozini in KwaZulu-Natal people are going without consistent running water and either rely on water trucks or communal taps and rivers in their communities. In Jozini there is no reason our people not to have water. There is a dam in

the community, but the rights to that water were granted to a white family during apartheid.

In the year 2015 the former Minister and Bosasa employee Nomvula Mokonyane went to Jozini and promised the people that the dam would go from the single purpose use, to multipurpose use, and that the water from the dam must be used to provide services to the communities. It is now four years later and the people of Jozini still have no water. Why is the government allowing whites to own private dams, while the black majority does not have access to water? Wherever our people are having trouble accessing water, you also find that they are not being provided with dignified sanitation.

In communities and schools across the country, our people are relieving themselves in pit toilets, in the bushes and in buckets. According to Statistics SA only 61% of South African households use a flushing toilet connected to the public sewerage system. We are still faced with the sad reality of children dying because they have drowned in the pit toilets.

The government's inability to deliver basic water and sanitation, is worsening a global and local water scarcity that is only going to

continue. In Cape Town, we have seen the first signs and this water crisis has spread to Makhanda and other parts of the Eastern Cape, not forgetting Vaal. You know what's going on in the Vaal.

That is why government must not only increase access to water infrastructure, but it must also upgrade and maintain the current infrastructure. Currently Minister, because of the crumbling water infrastructure, we are losing one trillion litres of water due to leaks annually. Water that could be treated and recycled back into the water system is being wasted. The government must fix leaks, and there must be functional water treatment plants in every province. But this cannot happen if corruption is allowed to continue in the department without consequences for those who are involved.

It is because of corruption that the people of Giyani still do not have water. It is because of corruption that the R3 billion allocated in fixing water leaks has yielded no results, and has led to billions in unauthorised expenditure. It is because of corruption that the Bucket Eradication Programme ran out of a budget without meeting its targets. It is because of corruption and mismanagement that funding allocated to the department is now being used for overdraft payments, instead of for service delivery.

The government committed to service delivery could ensure that each household has access to house sanitation and hot running water by 2024. This is not difficult, and for this to happen the following steps must be taken. Ten thousand artisans must be employed to repair and construct the country's water infrastructure, and also expand it. These artisans must be plumbers and engineers, who repair leaks, build new piping and construct new facilities.

The backlog of 210 000 kilometers of piping for water and sanitation must be prioritised and every community must be connected to the water and sanitation plumbing system. All schools must be prioritised for flushing toilets and the department must work with the Minister of Basic Education.

All water treatment plants must be repaired, and new ones must be built. Minister, it is these sorts of plans and programmes which will provide water and sanitation to our people and guarantee them the dignity promised to them in the Constitution. However, they do not find expression in this Budget Vote. That is why the EFF rejects the Budget Vote, Minister. [Applause.]

MR T SIMMERS (WESTERN CAPE MEC-HUMAN SETTLEMENTS): Hon chairperson, the National Minister of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation,

hon Sisulu, the Deputy Ministers, hon Members of the NCOP and fellow South Africans. Firstly, let me take this opportunity to thank you for affording me the opportunity to delivery my first speech as the Western Cape MEC-Human Settlements in the NCOP today.

Afrikaans:

Dit is egter ook 'n jammerte vir my dat daar 'n konstante selektiewe narratief is dat die Wes-Kaap se DA-beheerde regering nie vir sy mense omgee nie, want dit is van alle waarheid ontnem. Ek gaan hierdie individue, wat hierdie narratief konstant dryf, aanraai om in Riebeek-Wes 'n draai te gaan maak, waar ek drie weke terug vir 'n 92-jarige voormalige plaaswerker en sy 85-jarige vrou, vir die eerste keer, trotse huiseienaars gemaak het. Gaan vra vir hulle of hierdie regering nie omgee nie.

Miskien moet hierdie selfde individue wie hierdie narratief dryf ook 'n draai gaan maak in Wupperthal, waar ek Maandag 53 tydelike residensiële wonings oorhandig het, nadat 'n katastrofiese wegholbrand hierdie Morawiese sendingstasie amper verwoes het. Vra vir hulle of hierdie regering nie omgee nie.

English:

Chairperson, it is time that people need to get their facts straight before criticising this DA governed province, as we are and will continue to make intangible and empowering difference in the lives of our people, in fact since 2009 until the end of last year, this provincial government delivered just under 213 000 quality housing opportunities to its people and the current projects in our pipeline by 2022 we will deliver a further 105 000 quality housing opportunities through our various catholic and provincial prioritise projects across our province.

Chairperson, to ensure that we are going to achieve this 105 000 target, we have introduce three radical drivers: firstly is to radically accelerate the delivery of housing opportunities across our province. Secondly to radically implement the implementation of innovative solutions to ensure that number one can happen and last not least an indicated approach to human settlements. Now chair, radical does not equate to be violent, militant, [16:00:34] or rude.

Instead it means there will be a significant push towards getting our people into houses, but also towards giving people ownership through title deeds of these houses. As in both instances not only are we creating a better life for our people but we are restoring the dignity of our residents given our past and its injustices.

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 78

Chairperson, since we coming to be the Provincial Minister just over six weeks ago I have already handed out just over 200 housing units and 52 title deeds. One of our catholic project which is Forest Village which is in Easter River, we are at the moment handing over an average of 25 housing opportunities every second week.

Secondly, hon Chair, at our Belhar [16:01:22] which is also a catholic project by 2021 [16:01:26] 1225 housing opportunities. We are making significant strives to ensure the [16:01:31] programme actually is the success in our province. We recently 245 units have been already handed over, 241 of these units are [16:01:27] and by the end of this month a further 32 [16:01:28] units will be handed over.

Chair, I was quite supportive when I heard the Minister talking about our rural areas because I come from the rural areas of the Western Cape. So as part of our small town regeneration programme I have actually prioritise seven non metro projects and they are firstly the metro grounds in George, where we will [16:02:06] nearly 700 housing opportunities, [16:02:07] which is close 600 housing opportunities, [16:02:07] which is in Kannaland which is close to 400 housing opportunities, Vredenburg which is in Saldahna Bay, [16:02:11] which is in Mossel Bay one and half thousand housing

opportunities, [16:02:10] which is just outside of Oudtshoorn which in nearly 800 housing opportunities and the seventh one is Houston [16:02:31] where we will have close to 7400 housing opportunities.

This is [16:02:40], this is the caring government, this is the DA government delivery. But chairperson to further accelerate this delivery we will need to focus on certain priorities, firstly is to direct more resources for the upgrading of our informal settlements and the provision of basic services. Secondly is to increase the affordable and gap housing opportunities across our province.

Along with our [16:03:03] programme and lastly and thirdly prioritising the most deserving people in relation to the allocation of [16:03:05] houses and it's no use that we deliver units but the true beneficiaries actually don't obtain these units therefore we will closely monitor that elderly people get these units, people with disabilities, child headed households those who have been the longest on our waiting list and finally backyarders more particularly backyarders which are house headed by single mothers.

Afrikaans:

Ek het gehoor hoe ons agterplaasbewoners vir baie jare vir hulp vra en ek het onmiddellik ingestem om in ons provinsie hieraan aandag te gee.

English: A few weeks ago I issued a executive directive to all municipalities in the Western Cape that from now on backyarder's must also be a priority. This means that when ever we identify beneficiaries from the municipal or provincial waiting list backyarder's must be prioritised, as we will work on a 50:50 split within other criteria. So while other have been talking about prioritising backyarder's for many years this DA government has made it official, Chairperson.

Chairperson my colleague the Provincial Minister of Transport and Public Works and I will also engaging about releasing provincial owned land and building which are close to transport the [16:04:20] and economic opportunities and I[16:05:31] our discussions are fruitful and we are making significant progress ...

Afrikaans:

..., want ons is daartoe verbind om mense se lewens te verbeter.

English:

...and through you chair, I would like to suggest to Minister Sisulu actually encourage her colleague the hon Minister of Public Works, Infrastructure, Patricia De Lille to also release the five tracks of allocated national owned land which is Eesterplate, Denel, Collenburg, Youngs field, and Wingfield obviously along with a budget for human settlement development as these key properties can generate 93000 housing opportunities if we can get the land from National government.

Chairperson, we live in the Fourth Industrial Revolution and in this week as the province launch our exciting youth competition to get the young people to design a [16:05:13] or [16:05:15] of a housing APP for citizen to actively and easily access information on government housing assistance and within the next six months to ensure that our beneficiary list is totally electronic, transparent and accessible to all beneficiary in this province.

Afrikaans:

Ons maak ook gebruik van alternatiewe bouegnologie, want in ons Mosselbaaiprojek gaan daar binnekort, die einde van die jaar, 150 eenhede voltooi word. Ons pluk reeds die vrugte van die vyf bestaande eenhede, deur die impak van alternatiewe bouegnologie te monitor. Hierdie eenhede kos tans goedkoper om te bou. Die

beginstigter spaar alreeds op kraggebruik en die impak op die omgewing is ook baie laer, wat natuurlik belangrik is vir volhoubare ontwikkeling.

English: Chairperson, furthermore, we will be also be embarking on creating a smart township concept. These settlements which are homeownership driven and inclusive of all the relevant services will be piloted throughout the province in our exciting projects in our green fields.

The process to establish these innovative integrated townships are already under way and we are looking forward to comments with these pilot project in due course. But all of these can only work chairperson if our citizens takes personal responsibility and we are currently encouraging responsible citizenship amongst our residents particularly for those who are in need of housing assistance from government.

Afrikaans:

Ons dring dus daarop aan dat persone by hul plaaslike behuisingskantore moet registreer. Indien hulle oor die jare geregistreeer het, moet hulle seker maak dat hule kontakbesonderhede dieselfde is, sodat hulle ook van die geleenthede gebruik kan maak.

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 83

English: In conclusion, as the Western Cape we are committed to accelerate the human settlement delivery. Utilising technology by also promoting social inclusion through the development of integrated resilient and sustainable human settlements all of this in open society. I thank you chairperson.

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS, WATER AND SANITATION (Mr M D Mahlobo): Hon Chairperson and Deputy Chair of the NCOP, Minister Sisulu, Minister Didiza, Deputy Minister Tshwete, Deputy Minister Skwatsha, MECs who are here, the leadership of SA Local Government Association, Salga, our Chair of the Select Committee, Comrade Dodovu, other members, and the leadership of human settlements, water and sanitation, in the next few days South Africa shall commemorate the 63rd anniversary of the historic women's march held that was held on 9 August 1956. Where in about 20 000 brave women marched to the Union Buildings protesting against the pass laws that were being extended to black women. One of the most important things that we could take out of those women is what they wrote in their petition and I quote:

We shall not rest until we have won for our children their fundamental rights of freedom, justice and security.

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 84

We will want to salute the mothers Charlotte Maxeke, Lilian Ngoyi, Helen Joseph, Albertina Sisulu, Ruth First, Winnie Madikizela-Mandela, Portia Shabangu, Nokuthula Simelane, Edna Molewa and many unsung, heroines of our struggle for freedom.

A lot has been achieved in the last 25 years in changing the lives of our people. However, the ANC government is the first to admit that more still needs to be done. We do not want to come and claim as the hon MEC same as you are claiming. Do not politicise issues of service delivery.

Chairperson, in the last few days I was in Swartlands, they thought their waste water treatment works was the best in the province, but the sewerage was running into the stream. Therefore, we all have problems. We all live in the glass house.

The issues that are raised by the chair of our select committee, Chairperson, we want to confirm that the Minister has decided to actually intervene on the difficulties we shared with you.

[Applause.]

The administration is being stabilised. There is an Acting Director-General, DG, Comrade Mbulelo Tshangana. He has been taken away from

human settlements to stabilise, so that we do not have a holy hood. The issues around financial problems we have spoken to, we are the ones who disclosed in the select committee. There is a financial turnaround plan. A team working with Treasury and the Auditor-General working with the acting DG will deal with the issues. Issues of malfeasance, corruption, disciplinary matters will move with speed. [Applause.]

We also have to indicate that Minister Sisulu has spoken about the question of the staff morale that there are good men and women at particular levels. We need to be able to encourage them, but more importantly, the integrity and the morality of those who work in the system, we are going to vet everybody. So that nobody can cast aspersion on them, because we thought that everybody is a rotten apple. That is not the reality.

The importance of water is best captured by Mehmet Murat Ildan and I quote:

For every drop of water you waste, you must know that somewhere on earth someone is desperately looking for a drop of water.

Water is the most critical issue of our lifetime and our children's lifetime. The health of our waters is the principal measure of how we live on our land. We live in a country where water is scarce, that and we agree with that one. The Ministry working with the sector, we want to ensure water security for our people so that there is enough water to meet their basic needs, that industry can invest knowing that there is a reliable water supply. However, we cannot guarantee rain for our farmers. However, we can ensure that the irrigation schemes and suppliers are predictable and well managed.

According to Statistics SA, if we tell our true story, we have done well over the last 25 years. The general household survey that was conducted last year indicates that at least 89% of our households have access to water in their own dwellings. We also know that there is about 46,3% of households that have water in their own dwellings while 28,5% access water in their own yards. We have about 2,7% of households that they still have to fetch water in stagnant dams, pools, rivers and streams. As well as compared to 4,3% in 2003. And we are not hiding these difficulties.

That is why the Minister says, three million additional South Africans, we still have to reach them. We know that there are those

that do not have water over some number of days, it has caused certain disruptions and we understand the plight of our people. The plan that we have presented says that, we are making the right investments, innovation and management decisions; we just have to do them on time.

On the question that is being raised of the no availability of the source, while the infrastructure is there, the Minister has directed us to improve our water resource planning so that we can confirm whether ground water will be there, whether surface water will be there, whether wastewater would be able to be reused, so that when we do infrastructure investment our own modelling and water resource planning should be able to respond to that. For we know too, that for any development to happen, there has to be the confirmation of the source.

We have also been told by the Minister that we have to use technology. The Fourth Industrial Revolution is already happening in the water business. In our already planning business, we are using complex hydrological models, which can predict the weather and system that can we have water for the next three to six years. We do have it. We are also using satellite images. We are using the big

data analysis. We can also use earth observation into satellite remote sensing. More importantly, we need to use climate focus.

On the question of sanitation, there are these 14 point something million South Africans that do not have sanitation facilities. However, to have sanitation facilities, we must be able to use water being provided. In the mean time when water is not there, there are other sanitation technologies that we must use. Low or no water flushing, waste is locally treated and therefore nonsewered, and we can also beneficiate waste.

Our commitment on eradicating the buckets in the Northern Cape and the Free State remains for those formal settlements. We must be able to qualify formal settlements which are an outstanding backlog.

We are also proceeding that we have no luxury of water. Our water conservation and demand management measures must proceed. Therefore the question of operation and maintenance of our infrastructure is high on the agenda and many institutions are struggling.

The question of education and awareness is important. How do we change our own behaviour on the limited resource?

We must also use the waste water, but more importantly even the acid mine drainage. Increase the groundwater extraction especially for rural communities and use new technologies. Municipalities around coastal towns – the question of desalination are an option, but then there is a catch 22 about the availability of energy and the expensive nature of technology.

On the question that we are exploiting our resources and we are causing problems in our rivers, the Minister has spoken about the problem of water quality. Pollution by industries, agriculture and all other users, including municipalities. She has directed us that from 1 August, we are going to increase our inspectors on the ground. We are not going to increase our inspectors on the ground, but we are also going to increase our eyes in the sky, so that we can deal with what happened there in Mthatha, where we were on 22 July with Mama Pam Tshwete and others. These polluters have nowhere to hide. They will pay and we will prosecute them. [Applause.]

We have taken that the Blue Drop must be back.

The CHAIRPERSON OF THE NCOP: Deputy Minister, your time is up.

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 90

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS, WATER AND SANITATION (Mr M D Mahlobo): In closing Chair, we want to quote that the communities of the Eastern Cape, Mahikeng in the North West, Dr J S Moroka in Mpumalanga, Sekhukhune and Giyane in Limpopo, Emfuleni in Gauteng, uMkhanyakude in KwaZulu-Natal, we have heard your plight, we will be coming there, working together with our municipalities and the Department of Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs, we shall solve our problems. We want to say, let us work together and resolved these issues. We have the capacity. We thank you, Chair. [Applause.]

Cllr X SOTASHE (SALGA): Hon Chairperson of the NCOP, the former Chairperson of the SA Local Government Association, Salga, the Deputy Chairperson of the NCOP, the Chief Whip of the NCOP, hon members, guests in the gallery and MECs present today, I would like to congratulate hon Minister on her appointment to the Department of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation. Welcome back to the human settlements sector and welcome to the water and sanitation sector which together become a formidable portfolio under your leadership. Notwithstanding the progress in the delivery of basic services since 1994, including access to housing, water and electricity, objectives of spatial justice, equity, spatial transformation, inclusive economic growth and development remain elusive.

Many disenfranchised communities continue to be denied access to employment and economic opportunities by being geographical located far from such opportunities and by being structurally excluded from urban land markets in metropolitan areas, intermediary cities and small towns. Government, in particular local government has therefore face challenges in facilitating spatial transformation. The InterMinisterial Committee, IMC on land reform in the fifth administration resolved that Salga and the erstwhile Department of Human Settlements should collaborate in the assembly of land for human settlements.

Municipalities must form an integral part of the land assembly processes including the determination of how best to utilize the assembled land in support of a human settlement programme that contributes to spatial transformation. It is encouraging to note that the department is working with targeted municipalities to ensure that its land assembly process is linked effectively to the municipalities' Integrated Development Plans and Spatial Development Frameworks. In this context 58 human settlement projects have been prioritised in collaboration with the said municipalities.

The good location of the proposed projects will not only enable the transfer of land and housing to previously marginalised people, but

will also serve to reverse apartheid spatial fragmentation. The land and property provided to the beneficiaries shall serve as a useful asset that will enable them to participate meaningfully in their respective urban economies. Salga commits to work with the department in order to strengthen the collaboration between the department and the local government sector in the delivery of these priority projects in an effort to reverse apartheid spatial fragmentation.

Hon Chairperson, both national and international policy, call for urban policies to be implemented at the appropriate level, including devolution of built environment functions to local government. This one I know is a sticky point. We seem to face an ongoing chicken and egg situation when it comes to devolution and capacity at municipal level. Without devolution, we can never fully implement the policy objectives of the National Development Plan, NDP and the Integrated Urban Development Framework, IUDF. Every strategic goal of the IUDF requires integration and coherent urban development plans at the local level. Spatial integration cannot be achieved without new spatial forms in the human settlements, transport, and socioeconomic areas.

Inclusion and access cannot be achieved if our communities do not have access to social and economic services within their local areas. Without harnessing urban dynamism in our cities, we cannot achieve inclusive and sustainable economic growth and development. And finally without governance that enhances the capacity of local government and our citizens to work together, we cannot achieve spatial and social integration. Let us not allow capacity limitations to hamper achievement of the IUDF goals. Let us work together to support our municipalities whereby we embrace devolution and build integrated cities that are the drivers of social inclusion, sustainable economic growth and spatial transformation.

We are encouraged by the strides made by the water sector in the delivery of water and sanitation services. The 2018 household survey released by Statistics SA indicates a progressive realisation of meeting access to water and sanitation targets for South Africans. Progress to date includes an average 90%, and 83% access to water and sanitation services respectively. However, these strides are at risk with declining payments for water services, water losses, poor asset management, and aging infrastructure amongst others. Whilst 88,2% of households across South Africa are satisfied with the delivery of water, only 49% pay for this service.

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 94

As of June 2019, this is something that I do not think members that are sitting here want to hear, municipalities are owed R120 billion whilst our member municipalities owe water boards and the department R14 billion. The issue of non-payment of services and debt management requires a special intervention at all levels. However, the suggestion to top slice municipal grants is not a sustainable solution. We welcome the commitment of the Minister to transform the water and sanitation sector with a focus on the unequal distribution of water, promulgation of new regulations for water conservation, fast-tracking of Mzimvubu Dam; training of municipal officials; eradication of the bucket system; and proposals to restore the integrity of the department.

We have recently undertaken an assessment of water service delivery risks and found that solutions to the many challenges impacting upon water services lie not in legislative change, but rather in implementing the current water sector framework. We welcome a legislative review process to update and improve the existing Acts in line with the Minister's transformation agenda.

Hon Chairperson the Minister's initiatives are a step in the right direction and importantly require a collective approach. Within this context we believe it is imperative for the Ministry and Salga to

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 95

explore establishing an intergovernmental structure with the objective of tackling the following seven key issues: Debt Management across the value chain; transformation of the sector; establishment of a water regulator; addressing the water licensing regime; institutional delivery mechanisms to improve coherent water management between role players in the sector particularly at catchment level; ageing Infrastructure; and mechanisms to ensure that critical issues are addressed within intergovernmental structures such as Minister and the Members of the Executive Councils, MinMECs and the Presidential Co-ordinating Council.

We look forward to a collaborative working relationship with yourself and your department.

IsiXhosa:

Siyangqina singuMbutho woMasipala baseMzantsi Afrika ukuba kuninzi okwenzekileyo elizweni lethu kwaye kuninzi ekusa funeka kwenziwe.

English:

As we bow out I want to leave you with the words of Amilcar Cabral:

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 96

Hide nothing from the masses of our people. Tell no lies. Expose lies whenever they are told. Mask no difficulties, mistakes, failures. Claim no easy victories.

Thank you very much, let us move South Africa forward. [Applause.]

Ms C VISSER: Hon Chairperson of the NCOP, HON Minister, hon Deputy Minister, hon members of executive councils, MECs, hon members and fellow South Africans, the American poet, W.H.Auden once said: "Thousands have lived without love, but not one without water".

The preamble of the National Water Act clearly states that the water of South Africa belongs to the people of South Africa. Section 27 of the Constitution of South Africa determines the right to water. These rights are inter-linked with the right to food, health, housing and a clean and healthy environment.

The state is constitutionally obliged to provide clean drinking water for human consumption, provide quality drinking water as well as the provision of basic sanitation services to protect the environment.

The Department of Water and Sanitation proudly branded itself with water is life and sanitation is dignity.

While the mission of the Department of Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs, Cogta, is to ensure that all municipalities comply with their constitutional obligations and perform their basic responsibilities and functions without compromise.

Afrikaans:

Suid-Afrikaners regoor Suid-Afrika kan getuig dat water nie meer 'n grondwetlike reg is nie. Dit is genade as jy water in 'n kraan het. Daar is water in die strate en in die velde en geen water in reservoirs en druktorings nie. Die grootste krisis van watervoorsiening is nie net beperkte hulpronne nie; dit is wanbestuur deur plaaslike en distriksmunisipaliteite asook waterrade. Hoewel elkeen van hierdie eniteite 'n mandaat het waarbinne hulle bestuur van water en sanitasie vervat is, word dit in die praktyk geïgnoreer.

Moniteringsverslae van waterkwaliteit word nooit aan die publiek openbaar nie. In Noordwes het wyle Minister Edna Molewa, Minister van Waterwese in 2012, die water in die Ngaka Modiri Molema

Distriksmunisipaliteit "ge-redflag" [gemerk] as nie geskik vir menslike gebruik nie. Dit is nog nooit opgehef nie.

English:

Chairperson, why then is the government authorities not kept accountable within their mandates to comply with their constitutional obligations to deliver basic human needs to all South Africans? Why must the Department of Water and Sanitation train people to contain bulk water leakages in municipalities when these municipalities are obliged within their legislated mandates to provide and manage effective water management as well as water loss management.

The lack of the provision of water and sanitation is a public health crisis. It deprives people their right to live in dignity. Every human being suffers if there is no water. The Department of Water and Sanitation' slogan of 'Water of Life' indeed is true because if there is no water, there is no food. Without food there is no life.

It is then when services are not delivered, communities take to the streets with destructive behaviour and the public order police move in with rubber bullets and stunt grenades. This cycle will never stop until people are provided with basic human needs.

Fifty thousand litres of sewage flow into our rivers every second. Our sewerage system is collapsing. A 2017 report indicated that only 60 of the 824 treatment plants released clean water. This poses a great threat to agricultural produce and will soon be affecting the quality of our human lives, if it has not done so already. When diseases like cholera, typhoid fever, hepatitis and many other water borne diseases affects our communities, it will be too late to save our water.

Water specialist, Dr Anthony Turton says: "Once a river slips from a favourable state to an unfavourable state, we don't have the science to get it back." South Africa's limited capacity of water and toxic pollution control of inadequately treated sewer and discharges by mines and factories is now becoming a national disaster.

Where lies the problem? What went wrong? Is it the lack of political will or the appointment of untrained and unskilled employees? Is it financial mismanagement or lack of management skills, discipline and control? No demanding of accountability of officials? No management and maintenance in municipalities causing extensive damage to infrastructure and broken pumps?

I really could go on for a while, but I would much rather spare the national government the further embarrassment of continuously listing the result of their failed oversight. But one thing is clear; failed water augmentation projects all result in dry reservoirs, dry taps and disgruntled unhappy people.

South Africans are subjected to intense water shortages due to reasons created by governance practices. But with oversight and visiting many communities without water it is the most vulnerable that suffers the most. I was there, I saw what is like to be without any means to drink, to cook and to clean. I visited the village of Setlagole in the Ratlou municipality where pumps were removed by the Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality more than 10 years ago and not replaced. These South Africans have no other way but to dig pits in the dry Setlagole riverbed, lowering small children down those sandpits to fill up the lowered buckets of seepage water to be pulled to the surface. Water is no life for them.

It is time for national government to understand the severity that the people of South Africa are facing. Water is life. Live up to that slogan, Minister. I thank you. [Applause.]

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 101

Mr E M MTHETHWA: Hon Chairperson, hon Minister and your Deputy Ministers in the House, members of SA Local Government Association, SALGA, permanent delegates and also alternate delegates, hon MEC, I've seen one from my province, special welcome, ladies and gentlemen.

As our 2019 Election Manifesto correctly outlined that we are building a capable development state that has improved the lives of our millions of our people. Few countries in the world have succeeded in expanding vital services such as water, sanitation, electricity, roads and housing to so many people in such a short period of time.

Thus, as the ANC, in our 54th National Conference, we resolved on the need to ensure that water provision must be addressed as an integral part of human settlements.

Thus, as the ANC, in our 54th National Conference, we resolved on the need to ensure that water provision must be addressed as an integral part of human settlements.

The 5th Administration made commendable in strides in achieving the following objectives within the Human Settlements sector:

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 102

Increasing housing units in better-located mixed income projects, especially in the social, co-operative and rental houses. In KwaZulu-Natal we have that, especially in eMhlanga; and

Focusing on the catalytic projects such as integrated residential programmes and directing investment and overcome apartheid spatial geography.

Regarding the radical transformation of the water sector, we are away that although the repressive and discriminatory water legislation of 1956, the Water Act, was repealed and replaced by the progressive National Water Act of 1998. South Africa is characterised by vestiges of apartheid colonial laws which perpetuate unfair allocation and access to water.

These inequalities have led to the abuse of water due to illegal privatisation-by a minority who have a long standing privilege or preferential rights to water resources. More importantly, this inequitable allocation has led to a lack of access to adequate water supply for the majority of South Africans, particularly the blacks, who are in the majority in this country. This is a regrettable situation which must be addressed decisively.

Central to this problem are the vestiges of the repealed Water Act, Act of 1956, specifically remnants of riparian rights (appearing as existing water use entitlements) which are present in the different forms and clauses in the current piece of legislation which governs the water sector in South Africa today.

Our rural and poor communities have had to bear the brunt of the riparian principle for far too long. This clause needs to be reviewed so as to ensure that the ownership of water will be fully transferred to the state to ensure equitable and fair allocation and access to water in our country.

The military veterans have not been forgotten by the ANC government nor neglected in the life and work of the Department of Human Settlements. Instead, the department's 2018-19 plans and budgets reflect the ANC's 53rd and 54th National Conference resolutions where we committed to improve the living conditions of our military veterans.

We equally note and commend the department's commitment to fast-track and complete the provision of housing to military veterans through appropriate consultation and applicable legislation.

Apart from providing housing, the Minister in her 2018-19 budget speech noted that the Department of Human Settlements, through its entity, the National Home Builders Regulatory Council, NHBRC, would facilitate the training of 450 military veterans in the 2018-19 financial year. The NHBRC is responsible for regulating the home building industry. It will equip our military veterans together with other designated groups with technical and home construction skills that will enable them to actively participate in the construction and home building sector.

This intervention is in line with the commitment made by the ANC-led government to provide and implement structured support and economic opportunities to black-owned companies in the housing and residential property sector, with special attention to those owned by women, youth, military veterans and people with disabilities. The other challenges in terms of poverty, unemployment and inequality. Through the Urban Settlements Development Grant and the Human Settlements Development Grant, the Department of Human Settlements is empowered towards providing sustainable and integrated human settlement and ensuring that our economy grows by including the participation of youth, women and people living with disabilities, through the 30% set asides within the housing value chain.

There is a very important matter of the economic value chain that is associated in the grants aimed at building sustainable human settlements. We call on the department to ensure that women, youth and people living with disabilities find expression in this economic value chain of such projects as this will play a pivotal role in curbing the increasing unemployment rate of the country and will upskill the masses of our people with the necessary skills required for them to enter into the market and be active participants in the economy.

The role and functions performed by the entities of the Department of Human Settlements are crucial in promoting the quality of human settlements, providing social housing, promoting the interests of housing consumers, ensuring more inclusion and participation in the human settlements value chain.

The Estate Agency Affairs Board regulates, maintains and promotes the conduct of estate agents will receive R162,2 million in the 2019-20 financial year. However, much need to be done to ensure that the entity fulfils its mandate of transformation through developing and including our youth.

In conclusion, the foundation for the developmental agenda in South Africa has been set within the Freedom Charter, which is the living soul of our country's progressive Constitution and is the foundation of Vision 2030 of the National Development Plan, NDP. Everything we are doing is in pursuance of the vision of this plan to address the triple challenges of unemployment, poverty and inequality.

What is needed now from all departments in this country, but more especially [Coughs.] [Interjections.] for the Department of Water and Sanitation and Human Settlements is to follow what the founding drafters of the Freedom Charter, the Constitution and the recent National Development Plan have envisioned and use this as a base for all future planning and commitments in the water, sanitation and human settlements sector. I thank you, Chair. [Applause.]

The MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS, WATER AND SANITATION: Deputy Chair, I must apologise to the last speaker that we didn't have water here, we represent water and we should have had. Next time we will remember that.

Deputy Chair, allow me to correct a protocol error I committed a little earlier. I did not recognise the presence of Minister Didiza

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 107

and the Deputy Minister Land Affairs. They are here to pledge their support to give land to Human Settlements so that we can [Applause.]

I would like to thank everybody who has spoken in support of the budget; those who have not spoken in support obviously have their own reasons for that. Nonetheless, I'm happy to have come here and seen that most of us here are enlightened about the issues that we face. And I must confess that listening to everybody here I'm very proud to belong to the ANC. They stand here ANC members and you can see they know what they are talking about, wake up. [Applause.] It was a lecture worth listening to, each one of them. Because we have the responsibility to govern.

I want to thank my Deputy Ministers. I could not have chosen and asked for better, they are very energetic and completely on the ball assisting me in making sure that we get down to the people. Thank you very much. [Applause.]

I want to also acknowledge the Chairperson, hon Dodovu, and I can see that he's been working 24 hours round the clock with specific intent of assisting us to turn the Department of Water Affairs round. We have a plan hon Dodovu and it will be in your disc which

we promised you; just get into the disc and you will find all the plans that we have put out there and we will follow them through.

Informal settlements are with us for some time, I did note that some of you are very concerned about that, it is part and parcel of urbanisation. It is an international phenomenon not just restricted to South Africa and the only internationally plan is to ensure that we can plan for it, it will be with us for many years to come. Therefore, it doesn't help us comparing one city to another and the level of informality that it has.

Hon Seleku, I'm certain that you either slept through a revolution or we have ... I'm not sure. Because we actually have the best policy on human settlements, internationally acknowledged as the best. So, try another way to deflect attention from this. The first thing that you should do is just acknowledge what is there, there could not have been better than what we have. The crisis that you explained is in your hands, the crisis that you talk about, every sentence has relevance to first and foremost the Western Cape. We are not here to discuss the Western Cape; we are here to discuss the country and your responsibility towards the country. And if you are faced with particular problems in the Western Cape, the answer is in

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 109

your hands, you have your MEC here, talk to him and show that we deal with the problem that you have put out there.

Deputy Chair, there is a member here who has been fossilized in some old, old century, who actually seems to think, it must be the Freedom Front Plus, who seems to think that we are overplaying the idea of apartheid spatial planning. I don't know where he comes from. It is the most notable divide that the world has ever come across. It is with us and it will with us. You just wake to the fact and deal with the matter and make sure that you come on board. We should not leave you in the 19th century, we are moving ahead.

I want to indicate to the MEC Peters here from the ... sorry, the MEC for the Western Cape that he is indicating to us the progress that they have made. We have a mean meg in a few days time and you are free to come and boast to mean mag, we have the statistics to show whether or not you've been misleading the House. [Applause.] There has been a hyperbole of things that have not happened at all and you know that. Nonetheless, we will get to that. While we are here, please make sure that you deal with the issue of Crossroads, make sure you deal with the issue of Khayelitsha and all of those matters. And we will deal with the matter of the land that belongs to Denel, etc, because you, again, are one of those of people who

slept through significant part of our history. This land has been redirected and is being used.

To the member of the IFP, I'm very glad that you have mentioned the issue of the hostels. I'll make a request to you that you call a meeting of the dwellers of Glebelands and tell them what we would like to do, with you, and if agreed and they are going to work with us, we will be there to make sure it is done. This is your responsibility and we are willing to work with you to make sure that this is done. [Applause.]

To the EFF, Luthuli, you are an embodiment of total contradiction, from your name to everything you said, completely. [Applause.] I mean, I listened to you so eloquently explaining just how well you understand this sector, I was beaming with pride and then in the end you say you reject the Bill. [Interjections.] I mean, what's wrong with the budget? What's wrong with you? What is wrong with you? [Interjections.] Yes. I mean ... sit down with the other members and explain to them what you stood here and said. I mean it's 80 out of a 100, 80%. And why would you reject the Bill ... reject the vote? [Interjections.]

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 111

Hon Deputy Chair, I want to say to hon Sotashe, hon Sotashe we will unfortunately have to go ahead and top slides from you. if Treasury can do the top slides for municipalities for Eskom it can do it for yourself. You are completely unable to live up to your expectation and pay up, you owe us in the region of sixty-something billion rand, you as municipalities. And you stand here and say let's talk about devolution of power. How can we talk about devolution powers when you can't even pay the most basic rates that are required of you? when you are in a better position to manage the affairs of the resources of municipalities, when you are better able to handle sanitation we will talk about devolution.

Finally, you say we should not claim any easy victories, you should not claim any victories either.

Hon Deputy Chairperson, we've heard what everybody else have said, we've appreciated the amount of time that has been put into this and we would like to make sure that everything that has been raised with us here we will follow through. We will come back to you on a regular basis and follow through with responses to all the matters that you have raised. Thank you for your support. [Applause.]

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 112

The DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE NCOP: [Inaudible.] some of us here because [Laughter.] Ya [yes] that members have been working very hard this week so we can understand that there is some fatigue creeping in but thank you very much Minister, the Deputy Ministers also, the special delegates from SALGA and the MECs, we want to thank you for participating in this debate.

Before we call the next order I will just allow the members to stand for two minutes. Just to feel a bit better, stretch yourselves. [Laughter.] Please, I want the members to stretch, they are still tired. [Laughter.]

We [Inaudible.] two minutes, you can sit down. Members we said two minutes, order, we said two minutes, two minutes. [Interjections.]

Okay, if I knew it will cause so much disorder I would have not allowed it. Order members.

Two minutes have passed can we sit down please. Order. Members, we made sure that there is coffee and tea outside, but we cannot go all at once, so one or two at a time. Just get something and come back. So that we can continue, all of us I'm sure want to finish this. I'm sure about this.

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 113

APPROPRIATION BILL

(Policy debate)

Vote No 39 – Rural Development and Land Reform:

Vote No 24 – Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries:

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, LAND REFORM AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT:
Deputy Chairperson, Chairperson of the NCOP, hon MECs for
Agriculture present here, hon Deputy Minister Mcebisi Skwatsha,
delegates to the National Council of Provinces, leaders of organised
agricultural formations, captains of the industry present,
distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, ever since the land
dispossessions of the late 19th century, with their accompanying
violence, squatting had become rife. Across the country there were
laws regulating such settlements, but it persisted. At its heart was
government policy that prohibited blacks from owning land. Such
prohibitions placed Africans living on farms at the mercy of farm
owners. It became the norm that dispossessed Africans served as
labourers for the land owners hence the emergence of labour tenants
as a distinct category of farm dwellers. It was this practice that
Seme decried. It encouraged indolence among the farmers. He argued
that it exploited workers. Seme called for the abolition of labour
tenancy, an evil associated with squatting. No one should pay with

their labour. Workers should be paid in cash or in kind. Where payment was in kind, there should be a definite cash basis, that the farmer will allow each native to plough so much land, the value of which will be so much in cash, or, if it is a beast, of such and such a value'. To prevent worker abuse, Seme proposed the registration of labour contracts. This is an extract from the book by Thembeke Ngcukaitobi, *The Land is ours*.

Hon members, I have quoted at length from the book of Advocate Thembeke Ngcukaitobi. Ngcukaitobi tells a story of dispossession from a legal vantage point. He looks at the myriad of laws and policies that were promulgated to subjugate the Africans. In the same book he tells the story of how black lawyers tried to use the law to change the circumstances of those who were disenfranchised and dispossessed.

The story of Labour tenancy as narrated by Ngcukaitobi remains an unfinished business to this day. It is for this reason that we need to work together with those who are affected, the organisations that supports them to find closure and a permanent solution to this painful legacy of our past. As we can see from the book of Ngcukaitobi how the law was used to anchor the then system of colonialism and apartheid, it is important that we as the

legislators of the democratic dispensation sitted here use our collective power of law-making to rewrite a positive history of building an equitable and just South African society.

As a department, we have prioritise the resolution of labour tenants claims as per our statues to ensure that indeed we can address their land rights not only in law, but also in how they can utilise that land for their livelihoods.

In his State of the Nation Address in June this year, President Cyril Matalnela Ramaphosa opened with a quote of Sol Plaatjie just after the promulgation of the 1913 Native Land Act once again reminding us of the legacy of our past that continues to haunt us to this day. President Ramaphosa went further to once again affirm the need for us as a country to deal with this past in order to heal our wounds as a society. As a commitment on behalf of government he indicated that government will rapidly release the land that is in its hands for human settlement and agricultural development.

The President's resolve on the land question builds on the work that he has done in the past administration. He had set up the interministerial committee headed by the President Mabuza on land whose task will be to co-ordinate the execution of our land and

agrarian reform by ensuring that there is closer co-operation amongst departments that have land related function in their sphere of operation.

In the past administration, President Ramaphosa appointed an Advisory Panel on Land and Agrarian Reform. At the centre of the work of the panel was to look at the constraints that face us in the execution of the current program of land reform as well as identifying what can be done to resolve those looking at institutional mechanisms, funding and implementation. The panel reported to Cabinet yesterday and on Sunday they will make the report public.

As the Ministry and Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development, ours will be to ensure that this commitment on land reform is realised. In order to do this work we will fix and build our institutions and position them to be fit for purpose.

[Applause.] We need leadership and diligence at the helm of our organisation. We need to be responsive to what our people say and rekindle the spirit of Batho Pele to become once again a leading reality in our day to day work. Most importantly, we need to be ethical in our conduct and not steal from our people and remember that what is entrusted to us is not ours, but for the people we

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 117

serve - "akusiko okweftu, ngekwe banftu" [is not ours, but for the people we serve].

Chairperson and honourable members, in tabling Vote 24 and Vote 39, we need your support, because the budget is an instrument through which we can attempt to address the challenges of landlessness in our country and the productive use of the land for human settlement, industry development and agriculture. Land has a multifaceted function in any society including ours. It is an economic asset from which we build industries. It supports food security and livelihoods. It is the space in which we build our homes and through which we can build integrated human settlements. Therefore land reform in our country should not be seen as a vehicle for agrarian reform alone, but rather a program through which we can change our special patterns that move us towards integrated settlements. It is through better allocation of land that we can attract industrial development in our townships and rural areas thereby addressing the challenge of underdevelopment.

Deputy Chairperson and hon members, in tabling our annual performance plans to the select committee we indicated that there will be some shifts on the budget as we proceed as a result of the macro-organisation of the state. Secondly, there will be shifts and

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 118

emphasis on certain functions so as to indicate the priorities of the sixth administration as outlined by the President.

Hon members, I wish to inform you that the reorganisation process is already on course. We have signed a memorandum of understanding with my colleague, the Minister of Environment, Fisheries and Forestry, in order to ensure that we manage decision-making collectively. Various work streams that are already in place are looking at a number of functional areas in a bid to fulfil the reorganisation requirements.

Bringing together the Department Of Land Reform, Rural Development and Agriculture will indeed ensure alignment, discarding duplication and maximising human and financial resources that we have. This process will also ensure that we identify necessary partnerships that can be used to improve our delivery model to the farmers in particular. Given that land is a national function with provincial foot prints, it will be of value in complementing the work of provincial departments and districts. This will require strong intergovernmental framework between us at a political level as well as in the administration level.

In our first meeting with the members of the executive council of Agriculture we have agreed on the need for co-operation. We also noted the importance of agriculture as an economic sector that can contribute both to job creation and economic growth. We have highlighted the need for attracting young people and women in the agricultural value chain. It is therefore important that we develop a strong intergovernmental system. We have also agreed that we need to work closer together with our public entities supporting the department and the sector.

Vote 39, which relates to Land Reform and Rural Development, will remain largely unchanged in terms of its functions. However, emphasis will be put on certain areas that need our attention. I want to draw members on the AgriPark system. As a system it has key elements such as famer production support centres which are like a one-stop shop that supports primary production. Secondly, production hubs that will address processing and manufacturing at a local level. Obviously, the scale of such operations will be dictated to by the volumes that will be produced.

The Rural Development is in my view a catalyst in fighting poverty and underdevelopment in our rural areas will focus, firstly, rural infrastructure; secondly, mobilising social infrastructure and work

with municipalities and provinces; thirdly, our farmer production support units as one-stop shop must actually be capacited such that there is mechanisation support, implements, vaccines distribution, dipping services, handling pans, extension services at the local level where the farmers need it. It must also have human resources. Working with my counterparts in the provinces we will have to work closely to ensure that there are extension officers there, animal health specialists, agronomists as well as agricultural researchers. Where we cannot have them full we must have an arrangement where they can come in either biweekly to ensure that indeed we support our farmers where they are.

On land restitution, we will be focusing on the land restitution cases that have not been resolved since 1998. This area of work is very complex. It involves a lot of research and investigation of such claims and also manages the negotiations on the acquisition of such land. Given the fact that post settlement policy was never clear where it resides, the Land Restitution Commission found itself having to address this matter albeit in a limited way owing to available resources.

I must say, hon members, that the remaining claims majority of which are in rural areas offer an opportunity for re-energising our rural

landscape. However, at the same time they are the most complex because some of them are in protected areas such as the Kruger National Park. Their settlement will require a lot of negotiation with claimants and other related departments to ensure that the beneficiaries can get the best economic benefits after such claims have been resolved.

Hon members, it will be amiss of me if I do not indicate the challenges that we face particularly with the communal property associations, CPAs. In the recent past we have experienced, particularly in Mathulini in KwaZulu-Natal in the South Coast, where there has been a violent protest that resulted to some injuries of people in that area around the tensions in communities relating to the management of their assets. We have earmarked resources as a department for the training of CPAs on their responsibilities and financial duties. Some of these resources will ensure that we put regulatory mechanisms in place in order to ensure that community's interests are safeguarded and not plundered by those they had entrusted with the responsibility to hold the land in trust.

Taking from the injunction of the President in his state of the nation address we will work at district levels in order to make a meaningful impact where our people live.

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 122

The rest of the discourse in terms of land will be delivered by my deputy, Deputy Minister Skwatsha.

On Vote 24 which relates to Agriculture, we will continue to insure that we work with the industry to support our farmers. But at the same time we need to transform that sector so that it becomes inclusive and make sure that those who have been historically disadvantaged become part of the agricultural economy.

Market access and trade remains critical. The increase in market for beef in countries such as China bode well for our industry, however it means increasing our production areas as well as improving the animal health of our cattle. Maybe I need to pause here and give you some good news. We had a challenge in Limpopo on foot-and-mouth outbreak. We have dealt with it by ensuring that we vaccinate and put the mechanism so that the spread does not occur. And to this end China has today sent us a note that they have free opened the market for beef. [Applause.] They have also reopened the market for wool. An exciting story! A little bit sad though is that Limpopo at this stage is not allowed to export. We will be working with the province to ensure that whatever little problem that remain there is resolved.

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 123

Hon members, our country is amongst those that have signed and ratified the Africa Continental Free Trade Area. It is therefore important that we undertake detail plan of implementation working with industry and organised labour. We are working very close with the Minister of Trade and Industry in this area and others that cut across the two departments.

Increased market access also needs that we are supported by cutting edge agricultural research. We are proud that we have instruments Such as the Agricultural Research Council, ARC, as one of our entities, has been doing excellent work to support the department as well as farmers. Recently the ARC has developed wheat varieties which will ensure that have more yields and increase our capacity in the wheat production and also identify new areas as opposed to only producing wheat in the Western Cape. It is our view that this intervention by ARC will put us in good stand. We have also developed drought resistant maize seed will ensure that those people who stay in water scarce areas are able to continue planting maize. If you speak about farming smart that's what it is, where we ensure that we integrate technology and research for the betterment of the lives of our people.

Our budget allocation is little bit above R7 billion. An amount of R4 billion is allocated as transfers and subsidies. An amount of R2 381 billion will be transferred to provincial departments of agriculture as conditional grants and the allocations are as follows: R1 538 billion towards Comprehensive Agricultural Support Programme; R583 million towards llima/Letsema projects; and Land Care Programme received R82 million. Allocations to public entities are, ARC almost a billion at R954 million and the National Agricultural Marketing Council at R45 million.

It would be important to say that comprehensive agricultural support is a very good as a programme in assisting us to build necessary capacities in the provinces on on-farm and off-farm infrastructure as well as as production inputs and market information. But I must say that one of the weaknesses that we have realised is that sometimes there is underspending in other provinces, in other provinces you will find that some of those resources are not directed to what cars in particular was designed for. So we have decided as national department to have full time monitors who will be monitoring the use of these transfer towards the provinces. We are in the process of appointing about nine of them - one per province- so that when we receive business plans we can follow up and check what was said is indeed happening.

But it is important to say that where such grants have been used effectively we have seen improved work in the work of the farmers as well as those communities who rely on agriculture for their livelihoods. In areas such as Mpumalanga we have seen how they view the Land Care Programmes towards educating people about managing the environment as well as removing alien plants so that we can put more land into production.

As I close I must indicate that there are risks in agriculture particularly for us who are working in the arid zone which is not actually a good rainfall area in South Africa. It may be necessary that we reflect seriously on agricultural insurance. This will ensure that farmers make their contribution as well to ensure that they protect themselves against risks as we do so when we buy cars and other household items where we prepare for any eventuality. The budget instrument can never be adequate to support farmers against disasters caused by natural elements, be they flood or draught.

Hon members we commit to work with you as public representatives responsible for oversight and making the executive accountable. I therefore wish to table Vote 24 and Vote 29 for your consideration and approval. I thank you. [Applause.]

Ms T C MODISE: Chairperson of the NCOP, hon Deputy Chairperson, hon Minister and Deputy Minister, Members of Executive Council, MECs from various provinces. Members of the NCOP, ...

Setswana:

... baagi ba rona ba ba re etetseng gompiono.

English:

Deputy Chairperson, this policy debate takes place after the international commemoration of Madela Day on 18 July. Please, allow me to quote the two articles written by the prominent international author after the passing of our struggle icon Tata Nelson Mandela, Bernadette Atuahene is a professor of law wrote a book with title: "We Want What's Ours".

He argued that and I quote:

Starting in the 18th century colonial and apartheid government systematically stole property from black South African and gave to whites at a nominal cost and when the state takes white-owned land now it pays full market value but restitution to farm owners who lost their land under apartheid mostly received a standard settlement offer with a payment calculated on the basis of the

value of the land when it was size that is far less than today's market price.

Another author, John Campbell writing for Council for foreign relation in United States said the following and I quote:

Twenty years later, only 10 percent of South Africa's land has been transferred from whites to blacks. When the state has acquired land for restitution or redistribution, it has paid the owners full market value. That means that the pace of land restitution and redistribution is determined by budgetary allocations. And the ANC government has many demands on its resources.

The importance of land reform and rural development in our country is one supreme important. Recently in March this year, hon Deputy President David Mabuza said and I quote: "a well managed land reform programme will pose no threat to agriculture sector and economy in general".

We are here reiterating this statement by the Deputy President that our land reform programme mustn't be seen as an obstacle to economy and grow development, rather, as an initiative building an inclusive

economy that will benefit everyone. We are encouraged by the some of the international authors who have take the note that our land reform program is not an easy endeavours as we have too. Amongst other things, it balances it against the national reconciliation, redress of historical injustice and ensures the growth of economic inclusive.

The ANC has also maintained that our land reform must be based on the three elements: security of tenure, land restitution, and land redistribution. The ANC National Conference that was held in Nasrec reiterated the "Ready to Govern" policy guidelines that our land reform intervention should focus on the government-owned land and prioritise the redistribution of the vacant unused and unutilised state land as well as the land held for market speculation and land that is helpless indebted.

There are many policy initiatives taken by our government that seeks to ensure a progressive and successful land reform programme and this has found explanation in the National Development Plan, the Medium-Term Strategic Framework, and annual performance plan for the department, an industrial policy action.

Your department has said that the land reform remains a critical priority for government and is one of central pillar of the comprehensive rural development. We acknowledge.

Our pace in land reform has been very slow and it has for this reason that the ANC National Conference that was held at Nasrec resolve on the acceleration of the land reform programme in our rural development as a part of radical socio-economic transformation.

As part of our strategic and tactics, the 54th National Conference further resolved that the distribution of land in its productive is used as necessary feature for programme of economic transformation and the creation of employment in the rural area as part of the agrarian transformation strategy.

Do I need to remind the Members of this House that the Freedom Charter put an emphasis that on the redistribution of the land amongst those who work for it? Do I have to do that? We have consistent policy on land reform and therefore there is no need for panic amongst our investors. They must come.

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 130

According to the department's end of term report of 2009-14, from 2009-13, the department redistributed about one million two hundred and forty three thousand one hundred and seventeen hectares out of the target of one million seven hundred and ninety six thousand eight hundred and sixty hectares and this has benefited 18 358 beneficiaries of which 44% of that was women and 33% of the beneficiary were youth because of that ...

Setswana:

... re tseile mo motlhaleng wa go re naga e e sa tlhokomeleng baša ga se naga.

English:

The cost of the program during the period under review was R8 billion, which was a necessary investment. With regard to the provinces, between the years 2009-13, KZN acquired 236 farmers with 7 132 beneficiaries, Bokone Bophirima 157 farmers with 3 326 beneficiaries, Limpopo 139 farmers with 2 857 beneficiaries and Eastern Cape 196 famers with 1 443 beneficiaries.

We take note of the slow land redistribution program in Western Cape. That is the reason because this people are dragging their feet. They don't want to work together with us. They forget that ...

Setswana:

... motsogapele o rile molapo o tladiwa ke melatswana.

English:

They have to work together ...

Setswana:

... gore ba godise ikonomi ya Aforika Borwa

English:

... as a whole.

Setswana:

Ba ipona ba le bosii ba ka kgona go iphetse, motho ga a iphetse wa thusiwa. Jaanong, etlang batho ba Kapa Botlhaba gore re tle go dirisana mmogo.

English:

The department has invested close to R3 billion in the period 2009-2013 under the recapitalisation and development programme. The total of 1 357 farmers were under production with the total of 1 632 farmers receiving training abroad, and 437 strategic partners attached to the farmers as a mentor and coach.

We welcome the success of the programme, however we know that exploitation that many of our farmers in Free State, Eastern Cape, including in other provinces have experienced under strategic partners. We have commended this partner commitment to make our land reform programme work and succeed.

The department has allocated the Budget of R10,4 billion for the past financial year 2018-19 and over R33,2 billion over the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework. This allocation is meant to speed up the infrastructure development as they published Agri-parks, equitable land redistribution, transformation, land tenure and creation of job opportunities and settlement of the land claims.

With such low Budget, we understand a challenge faced by your department, as well we acknowledge the current fiscal consolidation and therefore we call for accountability of this allocation.

It is said that many of the countries rural communities have been abundance of land which is not put to adequate use and therefore not productive use in the national interest. We welcome government engagement with the traditional leaders in seeking to advance in agrarian revolution programme as part of stimulus package announced by our president Ntate Matamela Ramaphosa.

The ANC has always been sensitive to institution of traditional leaders and they remain critical in our advance of our National Development Plan and we welcome the improved relationship between government and this institution of traditional leaders.

We know that the evolution of institutions is over time. We related to this. We call for the increase of democratic transparency in the administration of Consumer Protection Act, CPA, hon Minister and all members that are here or that have interest on the CPA, Please.

Given the history of the South African land eviction and forceful removal, the land claim court is imperative in our time. We understand that importance of establishing an outcome of Commission of Restitution Land Rights and the finalisation of outstanding claim and we need to fund a new claim. There will be a requirement of a huge financial resource ...

Setswana:

... mme wena o neilwe lemmonyana fela Tona ...

English:

... including the cost of association with the appointment of permanent judges to the land claims court.

There are number of factors that have worked against the progress and amongst these is highly property market price. The Office of the Valuer-General is very important in ensuring that the state pays fair and consistent value in determining financial compensation to the land claimant. This offer must be capacitated with personnel that will ensure that efficiency and effectiveness of the work of the Office of the Valuer-General is being supported.

Setswana:

Motl Tona, fa ke tla go garela e re ke go nopolele mafoko mangwe mo lokwalong le le boitshepo go tswa ko Beibeleng, ke go fe gore o nne sekai jaaka mosadi mongwe o bidiwang Ruta.

English:

Be loyal to South Africans. Work extra miles with the South Africans. Don't quit when things get tough.

Setswana:

Tswelela pele o gate mo metlhaleng ya batsogapele boMama Ruta, boMama Lilian Ngoyi, boMama Solofelang Betrand, ba gatileng teng. Ka gone motsogapele o rile tlhako ya morago e gata mo ya pele e gatileng teng.

English:

Lastly, I want to go to you, hon Cloete. I will never forget the exploitation that is happening in Wessels Boom Farm in Free State. Mr Cloete go and tell your brother, that wherever he is that the ancestors of the ANC ...

Setswana:

... ba ka se mo letlelele go tsena ko a tshwanetseng go tseng ...

English:

... because of the exploitation that he did. He took advantage ...

Setswana:

... ka bana ba rona ba ba dikobo di magetleng, ka bana ba rona ba bannye.

English:

Tell him that one day ...

Setswana:

... re santse re le teng, re tla mo latelela. [Legofi.] Tiriso botlhaswa [exploitation] eo ya go tsaya bana go tswa kwa Masepaleng wa Selegae wa Ratlou, koo ke tswang teng, ga re na go mo tlogela. Re

tla nna re ntse ... a ntse a tshela kgotsa a sule re tlile go mo
sala morago.

Ka mafoko a makalo ...

English:

... the ANC [Time expired.] supports this Budget Vote. Ke a leboga
[Thank you.] [Applause.]

Mr C F B SMIT: Hon Deputy Chairperson, hon members, hon Minister
Thoko Didiza, Deputy Minister Skwatsha and fellow South Africans, it
is time that we take off our gloves and talk straight and honest
about the land issue in this House. South Africans have had enough
of this dilly dallying around the real issues on land.

It is time for this government to hand back tribal land to its
private owners as individuals. We can no longer delay this issue or
try to avoid it. We cannot have two sets of rules for South
Africans: One for the truly free that have the individual right to
own their property; and the other that are treated like children and
are not trusted to hold their own land as individuals.

I have been asking myself this question for a few years now: Why does this government not want to issue full title to tribal communities? Well let me tell you why. Firstly, because it is a great mechanism to control the masses and keep them dependent, open to manipulation and fear. Secondly, because tsotsis can hide their wealth through this system, by channelling benefits of crime towards building mansions worth millions on tribal stands. In the process, it cannot ever be taken away from them because 'it does not actually belong to them'. It is also a great measure to evade taxes as it cannot be traced back to an individual.

So, why am I so adamant that tribal communities should own at least their residential stand and the property on it? Can you imagine the door it will open for economic growth and development? People will immediately have real usable wealth at their disposal. They will be able to approach banks for loans to finance a future for them and their children.

As they usually say: You need money to make money. It will expand the South African economy with billions by allowing trade of those properties as well. Job and business opportunities will open up in the newly established real estate market, where people can sell and buy houses, as well as invest in property.

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 138

Additionally, their property will now have value and that value will grow with inflation. Government will be able to expand on its revenue basis by charging property tax and capital gain tax, as well as crack down on tax evasion and illegal gains from criminal activities like fraud and corruption.

The morale of the people will be at an all-time high as they will now be the proud owners of their own properties, empowering them to decide how they will use it to benefit their families. They will be able to transfer wealth from the one generation to the next.

Businesses will open and grow in these areas due to having security of ownership with no risk of losing their capital investment.

This is the dream I have for my fellow South Africans who live in the utmost poverty. Not just a dream, but a reality that is within reach. My question to you Minister: Do you have the political will and the guts to go against both the tribal leaders who want to keep control over the people, as well as your comrades who long for socialist ideas where everything belongs to the state?

The Constitution gives you not only a mandate to do this but, in fact, instructs that this racially discriminatory practice should be stopped and reformed. If you go and look in terms of the

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 139

Constitution in section 25, subsection (5) and (6) clearly explain this.

There is this big drive to end racial divide through changing spatial planning. I heard you mentioning it earlier, as well as the previous Minister on the previous debate around spatial planning. However, on the other hand, this government maintain this apartheid-designed system to keep people separate and under control. Minister, you have an opportunity to leave an everlasting mark and a legacy by being brave and changing this system. Do it now for the sake of the poor!

Hon Minister, when I asked in the Select Committee why there are no plans or a budget allocated to President Cyril Ramaphosa's dream to transfer state owned land which is not used to the landless people, your department's officials quickly jumped to say it is not under their jurisdiction as it is dealt with by an interministerial committee.

Now, I ask you here in front of the entire South Africa, today: What is your role going to be in this process; and what plans and budgets are in place to realize this commitment? Or is it just another dream

that will remain in La-La land? If you are serious about this then show us the money!

We need to invest in infrastructure like railroads to connect rural communities to opportunities that exist in our major cities and towns. Therefore Minister, you need to collaborate with our state-owned entities to ensure that this capital investment is expedited to create a framework for economic development in rural communities.

It is time to take some these fascists in red overalls head on regarding their continuous incitement to illegally invade both state-owned land and privately-owned land. It creates chaos and causes division amongst communities and deceives the poor and the landless.

Sepedi:

Wa bona le botša batho maaka. Le ba dira dibhari! [Interjections.]

English:

We cannot allow this, and I encourage you to condemn both these acts of incitement and illegal land grabs.

Sepedi:

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 141

Ke kgopela le mphe sebaka; ke nyaka go bolela. [Interjections.]

English:

We need to speed up the process of ensuring that state-owned land is released to provide fully serviced stands to people who are flocking to the cities in search of work and a better life. [Interjections.]

There must be a proper co-operation between your department and local municipalities, and more specifically the metros, to ensure a smooth and fast process to address the land needs for residential purposes.

Deputy Chairperson, we can sit here and dream all we want but if we do not face the facts and be honest about the issues that hold us back, time will judge us badly. Believe me: That will not be good for any of us. We came from a long hard past, each person with their own different struggles that made us who we are as a nation - the rainbow nation.

We are tough, patient and full of love for peace and humanity. The foundation has been laid by great people, like the hon Nelson Mandela and Helen Suzman. We now we have a responsibility not to mess it up, but rather to build upon their sweat, blood and tears for a better South Africa for all.

The time has come to give people hope of a better future where everyone has an equal right and opportunity to own their own home and leave something of value to the next generation. Let's take off our gloves Minister and get to work for all South Africans – and I want to focus on all South Africans; not some South Africans, like some politicians are grandstanding here. Let's Build One South Africa for all with individual freedom, fairness and opportunities that embrace our diversity. Thank You

Sesotho:

Tokoloho, tekatekano le menyetla ya bohle! Ke a leboha.

English:

Thank you! [Applause.]

Ms L C BEBEE: Thank you hon Chairperson, Minister, hon Thoko Didiza, Deputy Minister, hon Mcebisi Skwatsha, Chairperson of the NCOP and Deputy Chairperson of the NCOP, the Chief whip of the NCOP, members of Salga, hon Members of this House, MECs, especially Bongiwe Sithole-Moloyi, Deputy General and your team, our guests in the gallery, I greet you all; hon Smit, it's funny that you stand before us and want to remind us of when you were in power three years back together with hon Cloet from the Freedom Front Plus, FF Plus, and

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES
THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 143

you talk about land. You tell our Minister to speed up the process of title deeds. Where should those title deeds come from, when you are the ones who own the land as inheritance from your forefathers? To date, you don't even consider giving a black child a chance to be in that land.

IsiZulu:

So awuzukusitshelake ukuthi ...

English

the land, do this and do that.

IsiXhosa:

Sithi esiphetheyo ngoku.

English:

We are telling you to give us that land. Chairperson, let me take this opportunity, also to welcome the reconfiguration of Agriculture together with Land Reform and Rural Development.

Without land there can be no agriculture and therefore, no life. Agriculture plays an important role in the life-blood of our economy and the society. The 2011 Planning Commission's Diagnostic

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 144

Report highlighted poverty, inequality and unemployment as challenges still faced by the country and called for bold and decisive steps to place our economy on a qualitatively different path that eliminates poverty, creates jobs and sustainable livelihoods. In 2012, the Executive Cabinet adopted a National Developmental Plan, NDP, with a target growth of at least 5% per year and this was further adopted by the ANC's 53rd National Conference held in Mangaung 2012.

The NDP provides key points for an integrated and inclusive rural economy and land reform. It identified the importance of greater social, economic and political opportunities to overcome poverty and called for the introduction of an agrarian and land reform programmes that would ensure job creation and improve the livelihood of rural communities. Through the Industrial Policy Action Plan, IPAP, government aims to support the agricultural sector for local procurement drive, for which the NDP had targeted 75% of procurement from South African producers. The Industrial Policy action plan, IPAP, further identified opportunities with the green economy; the ocean's economy and plans to grow South African agricultural exports in order to grow African markets.

In this regard, we welcome the establishment of the Continental Free Trade Agreement, facilitated through the African Union and we are very optimistic that this agreement will boost intra- African trade, reduce poverty and help grow domestic economies of African member states.

IsiZulu:

O-Smit azange baze basinikeze lelothuba...

English:

but the African National Congress, ANC, did ...

IsiZulu:

ngokuthi isebenzise abantu abahlakaniphile abazokwazi ukuthi beze nalezi zinto ngaphandle

English:

Chairperson, our progressive government is committed to ensuring that there are no policy impediments to the private sector and this is important for our agricultural sector and for this reason our land reform programme is progressive and brings into cognizant the role of the private sector in building a thriving and inclusive rural economy. Our people need access to land in order to enhance

their productive capabilities and it is for this reason, among many others, that a comprehensive approach to land reform has been adopted by our government and we are going to adopt it.

IsiZulu:

Noze niyivume whether niyathanda noma anithandi.

English:

The Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development derives its priorities through Medium Term Strategic Framework, MTSF, and these are aligned to the NDP. Honourable Members, the MTSF is a government strategic plan, aligned to our electoral term and reflects the commitments made in the ANC Election Manifesto. The aim is to ensure policy coherence, alignment and coordination of government plans and its budgeting. The MTSF has two over-arching strategic themes and that is radical economic transformation and improved service delivery. Departments don't work in silos in Kwazulu Natal, they compliment each other and again working in the ground and close to stake holders. That's what we do. Hon Cloet from the FF Plus ...

IsiZulu:

ake ngikukhumbuze, ngikuvivise ngesiZulu ngoba nawe ungivivisa ngesiBhunu ufuna ngingezwa. Hash tag: Asidlali, siyasebenza, siyaqhuba. Useyokutshela oseduze kwakho ukuthi ngithini.

English:

We note, Honourable Minister that you and your deputies know your story. Agriculture is a significant contributor to the country's Gross Domestic Product, GDP, and the Medium Term Strategic Framework, MTSF, had set a target of increasing GDP growth rate from 2.5% in 2012 to about 5% growth rate in 2019. The growth rate of our GDP is not anywhere near this target and we acknowledge a multiple number of challenges faced by our slow-growing economy.

IsiZulu:

Singcono ngoba siyazivuma izono zethu, kunani eningazivumiyo.

English:

We are, however, convinced that an improved land reform programme, coupled with a productively growing agricultural sector is critical for us to meet the desired growth rate for our economy.

If this sector is fully exploited, including its related value-chain, we will be able to realise our growth targets. Our rural

strategy aims to strengthen food security and agricultural competitiveness. We note that chronic underdevelopment with its social, economic and cultural dimensions, still continues in many rural areas. In order to transform our rural landscape, investment is required in infrastructure and skills development. One of the most important programmes of the department is skills development through the National Youth Service Corps, NARYSEC. This programme has benefited an impressive number of young people and women, including people with disabilities.

IsiZulu:

Sithi abo, ingabe nina nanikwenza yini ngoko?

English:

We call upon the department to reflect and address issues raised in the Budget Review and Recommendation Report, BRRR, on the compilation and submission of the training programme and an outline on the assessments standards and qualification that each graduate receive, as well as post-training and monitoring of graduates in order to ensure that they are placed within the employment market. That is what we do in KZN. We ensure that all the graduates are absorbed within the department or that they go out to the field.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES
THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 149

IsiZulu:

Akekho umuntu ohlezi ekhaya.

English:

With this configuration of the department, we welcome progressive programmes that this department has embarked upon. Let me outline them for Freedom Front Plus, FF Plus, and the Democratic Alliance, DA, as they don't know them. When we talk about CASP, you don't know what that is, so let me tell you, it stands for Comprehensive Agricultural Support Programme, CASP, and llima/Letsema which "aims to provide post-settlement support to the targeted beneficiaries of land reform and other producers who have acquired land through private means,

IsiZulu:

sisemva kwenu.

English:

The Deputy Chairperson: Sorry hon Bebee, just one moment. Hon Smit?

Mr C F B Smit: Point of Order: Thank you hon Deputy Chair, I would like to find out if the hon member would take a question and a comment now?

Ms L C Bebee: Not now bab' u-Smit, when we are done...

IsiZulu:

singadibana emnyango.

English:

I'm taking you through a workshop, we further talk about MAFISA, you don't know what MAFISA is.

IsiZulu:

Awuthi sikutsheleke thina,

English:

it stands for, Micro Agricultural Financial Institutions of South Africa, a scheme developed to address the financial services needs of smallholder farmers in the agribusinesses; we also have AgriBEE, which aims to promote the entity and participation of black people in the entire agricultural value-chain; there is also what we call, Black Producers Commercialisation Strategy and Blended Funding Model, BFM, to commercialise smallholders through loan and grant funding.

Chairperson, this blended finance model is a radical programme and we ask the department to consider the model that would be used to commercialise smallholder producers and ensure that the most marginalized producers are targeted as beneficiaries under this model. The department has told this Parliament that Government Food Procurement Model will ensure prioritization of smallholder produces as suppliers and the department has been working with partners such as the World Food Programme, Radical Agricultural Sector Economic Transformation, RASET, in KZN; North West Economic Development Cooperation, NWEDC, and Mpumalanga Economic Growth Agency, MEGA,; and the Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment and Promotion, SHEP, in collaboration with the Japan International Cooperation Agency, JICA. We make sure that wherever you go, we follow you, sise-Japan manje. Chairperson, the former Minister of Agriculture said that "partnerships with local and international partners have improved the extent of support to land reform beneficiaries'.

We welcome this partnership and this further serves as an expression that our strategic and local partners understand very well the importance of our land reform programme with clear policy objectives. In conclusion, we welcome the presentations made by the department to this House and we are confident that, the monies

allocated to the department will be used in the good advancement to departmental mandates.

IsiZulu:

Sesisho kuwenake mhlonishwa u-Smit nomhlonishwa u-Cloet, ukuthi nje sikhona, asigudluki futhi asiyi ndawo. Simile ku ...

English:

agriculture and the land. The ANC supports this budget.

Ms N METH (Eastern Cape): Hon Deputy Chairperson, hon Minister, hon Deputy Minister, hon members, ladies and gentlemen. Eastern Cape congratulates the Minister on her appointment to the department and welcomes you back to the sector.

The Minister's budget speech provided an overarching policy and programmatic initiatives, I quote: "making the land productive again". As the province of the Eastern Cape we have taken a decision to build the Eastern Cape we want; the green Eastern Cape.

In 2018-19 financial year, the Department of Rural Development and Agrarian Reform, DRDAR, held a Provincial Land Dialogue, which advocated for an inclusive approach to all issues with respect to

land, and supported the proposed expropriation of land without compensation.

In this context the land dialogue proposed that the land debate and its outcomes must not be seen as the exclusive and sole responsibility of government; rather it must be the collective responsibility of government, business and social partners.

Whilst delivering the budget vote speech, the Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development vindicated us as the province when she said:

commercialisation of Black farmers remains an important objective if we are to transform the country's agricultural sector.

Whilst delivering the budget speech to the provincial legislature, as the department we had committed on a decision to drive commercialisation of agriculture through commodity partnerships to improve productivity and competitiveness of our smallholder farmers.

Hon Deputy Chair, similar to the country as a whole, the province of the Eastern Cape has too, been governed by racial segregation and

white supremacy as central aspects of South African policy of Apartheid. This racial segregation created western part of the province with irrigation schemes, thereby 'green', and the Eastern part of the province that remains 'brown'.

To this end, the Department has a focus of the revitalisation of the irrigation schemes. Through partnerships the Ncora, Keiskammahoek, and Shiloh schemes have commercially operational dairy units. In addition, the high potential vegetable production areas along the Umzimvubu River at Port St Johns have been provided with irrigation infrastructure to support farmer to produce vegetable at a commercial level.

Notwithstanding the progress, we are determined to turn the situation for the better for the people situated in the eastern part of the province. We shall establish irrigation support at Ingquza Hill, Port St Johns and Mbizana for the production of high value sub-tropical crops.

The feasibility assessments will be completed in 2019-20 and implementation to commence in 2020-21 financial year.

We have seen the open letter to President by the 2016 Free State Farmer of the Year and Mentor of the Year, Mr Nick Serfontein, asking the President to include commercial farmers in the plans for effective land reform. As the province, we have already issued an invitation to all commercial farmers and private sector to support the initiatives that are aimed at developing emerging farmers to be commercially viable enterprises.

The high value crops are the main drivers of agricultural exports, foreign earning and employment opportunities in the province. The citrus partnership with Citrus Growers Association provided an opportunity to increase production and enable black farmers to optimally operate their state of the art Ripplemead Packshed in Ngqushwa.

Hon Deputy Chair, on grain, the partnerships improved the average yield increased from 2 to 3 tons per hectare to 4 to 6 tons per hectare. This has led to 14 black farmers from Alfred Nzo District for the first time export their yellow maize to Vietnam through the support of Grain Farmer Development Association, GFADA.

In areas where black farmers experienced disasters, all those that formed partnership with GFADA received payment from their crop insurance.

The successes of the grain partnership have led to a huge demand and consequently, required additional funding. It is in this context that the department has initiated a partnership agreement with Rural Agro Finance Initiative, RAFI, with Argentina to promote conservation agriculture through co-funding in the prioritised districts, which are Joe Gqabi, O.R Tambo, Chris Hani and Alfred Nzo and Amathole. The partnership is expected to be concluded in the 2019-20 financial year.

On the commercialisation of livestock, the partnership with University of Fort Hare led to the initiation of Vet School in the Eastern Cape. The department has allocated funding for the establishment of the project office at University of Fort Hare to mobilise support and funding for the Vet School.

Furthermore, the partnership with the University of Fort Hare Nguni Trust provided black farmers with breeding stock and animal traceability to enhance their commercial viability and access to markets.

The National Agricultural Marketing Council supported the establishment of new feedlots and maintenance of 14 custom feedlots across the province to increase the commercial beef trade in the red meat value chain.

The commodity partnership approach, hon Deputy Chairperson, has also enabled the department to support Karoo Catch, an aquaculture incubation programme in Beyers Naude. A total of 3 catfish production tunnels with the capacity of 20 tons fish per month were completed.

These tunnels will afford an opportunity to 45 people per year to participate in the incubation programme. The provincial government in partnership with Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, then, received a total of R59 million from the National Treasury and European Union, EU, funding for the implementation Marine Tilapia industry incubation programme at Amathole, Qholorha, over the next three years.

Hon Deputy Chair, the infrastructure development programme is designed to support prioritised commodities for increasing production, marketing and value chain information. In the period

under review, 167 on-farm livestock infrastructure projects were completed including fencing, stock-water systems, and dip tanks.

This resulted in 1 837 smallholder producers benefiting from the support and 863 jobs created. This includes the erection of 246km of fencing in various districts of our province, and 256km worth of fencing materials to be constructed by local labourers using Expanded Public Works Programme, EPWP, methods; further 60km for wool and mohair, 25 stock water systems, 16 dam scooping, 25 multi-purpose sheds; five on-farm small scale irrigation systems, one custom feedlot, two grow-out fish tunnel and three piggery structures.

The province has two agricultural colleges to contribute to produce the next generation of farmers with a focus on animal production, cropping, forestry and agri-business. In addition the province is also training farmers to improve their productivity and competitiveness.

The partnership with Technology Innovation Agency of the Department of Science and Technology has led to the Eastern Cape receiving 30 FibreLux wool fibre testing machine for wool producers. The FibreLux

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 159

wool fibre testing will enable farmers to increase classing, effectiveness and sale price of wool from black farmers.

The Eastern Cape Province in partnership with Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry received a total of R54m from the National Treasury European Union Funding for the implementation commercialisation of sheep production in Alfred Nzo District over the next three years.

The department will be working with the Agricultural Research Council to improve water efficient maize varieties and assist farmers in water scarce areas of the province.

Hon Deputy Chair, furthermore, the Department of Rural Development and Agrarian Reform and Land Bank partnership attracted more than R100 million investment in the Amajingqi for Macadamia nut production, the investment for planting of 100 hectare of the 300 hectare and created more than 148 jobs for young people who are participating in the programme over three years.

During the 2018-19 financial year, the provincial department initiated agricultural economic sector business plans to leverage

funding from the provincial economic stimulus, which is expected to be implemented in 2019-20 financial year.

The Agriculture economic sector business plans mainly focusing on catalytic projects have the greatest potential to contribute to economic growth and employment. The catalytic initiatives are Rural Agro-Industry and Finance Initiative, Red Meat Value Chain through feedlots and sales pens, animal fibre through wool processing plant, crop production through establishment of innovative mechanisation centres on all districts and establishment of the fertiliser manufacturing stock blending plant.

The province has secured R54 million from General Budget Support of the EU through National Treasury to support the sheep value chain development in the Alfred Nzo District Municipality.

Funding for a marine aquaculture incubator programme to be initiated in the Qholora Aquaculture Development Zone, as I said earlier on, is from an allocation of R59 million through the European Union.

These projects will be implemented over the next three coming years, and it is the reason why we stand here to say that we support the

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 161

department because we have seen that working together, we can do more.

Hon Deputy Chair, the intensification of production, agro-processing, partnership and marketing in grain continued at the Rural Enterprise Development, RED, Hubs in Mqanduli, Ncora, Emalahleni and Mbizana to ensure food secured communities, increased household income and to create job opportunities.

The marketing outlets such as retail stores stimulated intensive processing, maize meal and animal feed processing. The Farmer Production Support Units in support of the Hubs, further support the commercialisation initiatives through logistical support in primary production, extension services and mechanization.

This enables delivery of farming inputs and transportation of harvest to local markets and to the hubs for agro-processing. We stand here as the Eastern Cape and say, the ANC has done the right thing to choose who is to be the leader of the sector and we are saying 'forward with women and forward with the leadership that has clarity'.

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 162

We support the budget that was presented by the Minister. Thank you very much.

Mr A ARNOLDS: Hon Deputy Chairperson of the NCOP, Minister, Deputy Minister, hon members, I also greet the nine strong hon members of the EFF in the House, EFF fighters, as a consequence of colonial land dispossession and apartheid forced removals, our agricultural sector has not been able to develop in the way it has developed in other countries.

Minister, for the better part of 200 years the agricultural sector in this country has been built on the dispossession of black land and cattle, and on the legalised exploitation of cheap and disposable black labour. This created two agricultural sectors, one white, highly capitalised by the state and with unlimited supply of land and labour; and the other black, with limited land, without access to capital, limited to subsistence farming.

The results of this are still evident today, there are currently only 35 000 to 37 000 commercial farmers in South Africa, with an annual turnaround in the billions of rands and the majority of them are white. Since the opening up of markets and the economy the agricultural sector has been an aggressive accumulation of

agricultural land by a small minority, who have bought off struggling smaller farms, and consolidated these into bigger farms, and increasingly, these farms are owned by corporations.

Yet, on the flipside, we have around 2,3 million agricultural households in South Africa, the bulk of them in KwaZulu-Natal, the Eastern Cape and Limpopo. They are mostly landless and engage in agriculture on a subsistence basis, with no government support. Every aspect of the agricultural industry including downstream and upstream activities are dominated by white monopolies who rely on their resources and the ANC's lack of spine to block an attempt at transforming the agricultural sector.

The agricultural sector is like a cartel, and it requires a bold state to transform this industry. The basis of this transformation must entail the radical and swift expropriation of land without compensation, for equal redistribution and use. The main beneficiaries of redistributed agricultural land must be these agricultural households already engaged in agricultural production.

Also, they must be the farmworkers who are the ones that are doing the bulk of the work on the farms and the farm dwellers who know no other life but agriculture. But the state mustn't just give people

land; it must support emerging black farmers by doing the following: Providing support to farmers by providing equipment, seeds, storage facilities, advertising and access to markets.

The state must also increase tariff and nontariff barriers to reduce the importation of agricultural products which the country can produce. We cannot allow the local agricultural industry to continue collapsing simply because of cheap imports. We need to build and support fresh produce markets in each municipality for access by small-scale food producers.

We need to reintroduce agricultural product marketing boards to ensure that farmers derive the most benefits from the sale of agricultural products while at the same time, opening up market opportunities for emerging black farmers. We need to identify agricultural development nodes and offer tax breaks to companies that invest in agricultural production in any of these nodes, provided that such investment is based on strict principles of empowering local farmers to develop into independent farmers.

Government must outlaw the use of genetically modified seed in South Africa until the health hazards of these seeds are fully understood. Government also needs to outlaw monopoly of the seed industry by a

few companies. This will allow for the local production of seeds for agricultural development. The fishing industry like the agricultural sector, is dominated by a small number of companies, and whites, at the expense of the majority of our people.

For centuries our people relied on the ocean as a means of subsistence, but over the years, this access to the ocean has been taken away from them. During colonialism and apartheid it was done through apartheid spatial planning, today the ANC government denies our people access to the ocean economy with fishing quotas and licences. While companies like I and J receive huge quotas which are destroying our oceans, local community fishermen do not receive enough fishing quotas to support themselves and their families.

Government must also upgrade the infrastructure that local fishermen are using. Harbours must be upgraded, and new ones need to be built. Storage facilities must be established and local fishermen must be given access to markets to transform the fishing industry. It is clear that this government does not have the will or capacity to transform the agricultural and fishing sectors. That is why we reject this budget. I thank you. [Applause.]

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 166

Ms B N SITHOLE-MOLOI - KWAZULU-NATAL - MEC - AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT: Hon Deputy Chair, hon Chair of the NCOP, Minister Didiza present, Deputy Minister, hon members of the NCOP, all delegates that are present today ...

IsiZulu:

... ngiyathanda nokubulisa abakhaya, ngibulise bonke abakhona nalabo abalaphaya phezulu izichukuthwane zethu ezikhona kule ntambama lapho sizokhulumisana ngezindaba zezolimo nokuthuthukiswa kwemiphakathi engaphandle kwasemadolobheni. Ngisukuma-ke ngenkulu intobeko, ukuba yingxenye yokuba sizoxoxa ngenkulumo-mbiko yohlahllo lokwabiwa kwezimali ethulwe nguNgqongqoshe Wezolimo, Ezomhlaba Nezokuthuthukiswa Kwezindawo Zasemakhaya.

English:

I rise to address hon members during this important month of July, the month that we take highly as the month that gives us pride as South African people where we dedicate this month to Tata Mandela, our first democratically elected President of South Africa. I believe that all of us seated here we recognise and appreciate the work that Tata Mandela did before he became the President and the time he was President. Tata Mandela is synonymous with the fight against injustices and also inequality. He dedicated his life to

create a better life for the people of this country across all the racial lines. I believe that when we celebrate him this month, we will have to look back and say, how much have we done to come together as South Africans and fought the scourge of poverty, inequality and unemployment.

Because he would stand here today and say to us, "I said to you that we must reconcile." It doesn't take one party to lend a hand of reconciliation, it takes all the parties to give a hand and say, we are reconciled. And, as I am standing here, I am seeing a nation that is one-sided, where African people who have been wronged, they lend a hand of saying, let us have peace, let us reconcile. The other hand tried to explain why it has to be like that and should continue like that. I believe that Tata Mandela would not agree with us and we need to change the attitude and the way we do things so that we better the lives of our people. I believe that Tata Mandela used the public service as an instrument to transform society. He believed that the resources of the state have to be used to uplift the ordinary members of society out of abject poverty. I want to quote him:

Like slavery and apartheid, poverty is not natural. It is man-made and it can be overcome and eradicated by the action of

human beings. Overcoming poverty is not a gesture of charity. It is the protection of the fundamental right, the right to dignity and a decent life.

As I stand here before this House and before these hon members, we have been talking about the level of unemployment and the figures that we have been debating and arguing about and that also we should have been an understanding that it reflects on the issue of food insecurity. I think we have to agree on this one, to say, whilst we are saying that we want to grow the economy through the agricultural sector but at the same time we should agree that there is a need for alignment of how we are going to deal with the programmes that we have. We have to deal with the issue of saying, how can we ensure that our community out there are not going to bed without eating anything which is the food security programme that we need to look at, and also to clarify ourselves and our communities on the importance of engaging in agricultural activities in their homes so that they do not starve whilst they have a small piece of land outside of their houses. That is why in KwaZulu-Natal we have One Home One Garden programme which is meant to say that there is no house that cannot have a space at least to plant two lines of spinach, two lines of cabbage, tomatoes and others so that you have something to eat before you go to bed. These programmes must have an

impact on our societies. And I believe that, whilst we are saying that it is a start and we are moving on, the agricultural sector has not only proven to be labour absorptive but also has the potential to be expanded to strategically position KwaZulu-Natal as a leading supplier of agricultural products for domestic consumption and for export. The spatial distribution of Agricultural Colleges covers all the agro-ecological zones of our nation and is also fairly distributed in most provinces.

We have graduates that have graduated in agriculture as hon member Bebee indicated earlier on and I am not going to expand on that one and I am going to move on. The escalating fuel prices have also caused a drastic increase in food prices. These higher prices, together with high interest rates, have reduced the purchasing power of households and have exposed millions of people to food insecurity. In view of this, we undertake to work with the national government to ensure support to both fully fledged commercial and emerging farmers. I would like to say that, as KwaZulu-Natal, recently, last month, we co-ordinated all small-scale farmers to say that, when you produce, this where you can go and sell your food. And also, we have made it our responsibility that we are going to ensure that we support all the districts that have implemented the first food markets so that those people can sell their produce to

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 170

those markets and we are going to ensure that happens and people ... the value chain is being linked and aligned and is making a difference in the province and also in the country. Because when KwaZulu-Natal is striving in the agricultural sector then the nation will also strive. I think that also we want to welcome the gesture by the hon Minister that you are going to support the colleges and I think that we must also say that; we have two colleges but we are saying further that we must utilise them also to have nurseries that are going to produce seeds so that we do not go out all the time and buy seed and find that it is very expensive and then we do not see the importance of that. But the impact is not seen as well if we are doing that because we are paying more and we are unable then to produce as expected.

As KwaZulu-Natal, we have a plan and we are pleased to say that our premier is supporting our plan of saying how best can we revitalise our agricultural sector and rural development in our province. And I am sure that the Minister will know that even Isilo Samabandla has also pledged that the Ingonyama Trust land will also be utilised and the within tribal chiefs, they have pledged that they are going to give us, at least in each traditional council, 100 hectares as a start so that we start saying that to the communities out there in rural areas that, "this is the place, go and plough and do that

together." I believe that you are also going to support us. I know, hon Minister, you talked of the issues that pertain to the fight that is going on in our province between our farmers and also those farm workers and also between the Communal Property Associations CPAs, trusts and the traditional leaders, I believe that your intervention, as you have started, will need a result and also the change in the policy that will assist in training these CPAs and also train the trusts and the traditional leaders on how they will be utilised and how to work because all of these trusts have not been reviewed and have not held any annual general meetings. And I believe that the policy that you are proposing is going to assist us as well. As KwaZulu-Natal, we are also of a view that working together we can do more because we need each other to be able to pull together.

There is one government in South Africa, even if you want to deny it, in KwaZulu-Natal we cannot do better when other provinces are not doing their part. [Applause.] And also we cannot drag the whole country to be part of KwaZulu-Natal. We are saying that, let us play our part as KwaZulu-Natal but also let us pull together to say, what is the best that we can learn from Mpumalanga and what is the best that we can learn from other provinces and find a shared kind of initiatives and programmes that will prosper the country and take

our country forward. [Applause.] I am saying that because when we are given a responsibility as public representatives; we are expected to do our part. I stand here and say that, if I cannot be honest with the work and am diligent to the work that I am supposed to be doing, why should I be there? As I go towards my conclusion, I know Chair you want to ... it is a maiden speech, I am told from the other ... [Inaudible.] that when you are doing a maiden speech; you are given at least an additional second, but I think we need to have public servants that are committed. Public representatives that are committed because without that we can have any programme and any budget that we can have but if those people that are supposed to implement and those that are supposed to direct the policies are not committed and do not have the will then all what you are doing is wasting time and energy of the nation. The nation looks upon us and they trust us. Why can we not be trusted on the work that we are doing? I am taking that from the word of God in Ruth 1:16 where Ruth says to her mother-in-law, "Don't beg me" Thank you very much. I hope all of us will be Ruth and be Esthers of the day so that we change the lives of our nation. I thank you. KwaZulu-Natal supports the budget. [Applause.]

Mr A B CLOETE: Chairperson, I would like to congratulate the programming committee for keeping the best for last because this is

the debate. [Laughter.] We have all been asleep and now we are suddenly awake so thank you very much for that. [Interjections.] I wasn't asleep. The land and land reform is a highly emotional debate and we have seen that today. But when emotions run high it is important to apply reason; and for that we need facts.

Afrikaans:

So, Minister, die Minister van Landbou se grondoudit moet nou bekendgemaak word, sodat dit bestudeer kan word. Ons kan nie toelaat dat onwaarhede oor grondbesit in Suid-Afrika en die voorlopige aanbevelings in die verslag, wat skynbaar suiwer plagiaat is uit 'n ou Verenigde Nasies, VN-verslag van wat handel oor Oos-Europa en niks met Suid-Afrika te doen nie, versprei word nie.

Ons kan nie aanhou om sondebokke te maak van dié wat grond besit en hulle die skuld gee vir die regering se onvermoë om grondhervormingsteikens te haal nie.

Deur aan te hou om te sê dat hierdie persoon êrens grond by daardie persoon gesteel het, skep ruimte vir geweld, vir aanvalle, vir moorde. En die VF Plus ag dit as deel van die landelike beveiligingsprobleem, waaroor ons baie praat. Ons kan nie meer deur mites mislei word nie. Gee vir ons feite.

English:

Chairperson, we see the ANC opening their speeches with the piece of history that means something dear to them and we all like history because in our history we learned something from our people earlier in our lives. But history is unfortunately, more complex.

Hon Minister, I am sure that you are a reasonable person so let me remind you of what happened in the Soviet Ukraine, with the Gulag camps and kulaks who were farmers, in fact they were in business at first and they became farmers. As they laboured and farmed, they became more successful and made more money. The Soviet government did not like this and expropriated the land, sounds too familiar. The Gulags were thrown in labour camps and the land was redistributed. The effect was that food and security led to famine. By the way, as much as 1 million people died in Gulags camps - innocent people - anyone who appeared to be slightly against the cause was thrown into the camps.

What is happening here is that people who are supposed to be working for the people are throwing people into camps where they need to be labouring. No one denies a black farmer becoming a successful one. In fact, more successful farmers in South Africa, the better it is for our economy but here we need to be very rational. We still don't

know much land is state-owned. We also don't know how much of that land is utilised. Let's build programmes on facts and not emotions.

Just quickly on emotions; I would like to reply to the hon Modise. I was a little late on putting on my interpretation service. So, understand that apparently there was a farmer who abused a farmer worker, am I correct? [Interjections.] That's horrible. I will condemn that, totally. [Interjections.] I will condemn that but I want you to taste your stereotypes and generalisations. I want to speak about a farmer in Frankfort Heilbron, this week ...

[Interjections.] ... I have condemned that. We have issued a statement on a farm murder in Heilbron, a cattle farmer. His throat was slit and his name was Johannes Mazibuko. He was 71 and we have issued a statement about that. Where were the EFF and the ANC on that? Thank you. [Interjections.]

Setswana:

Moh N P KONI: Modulasetulo, ere ke tseye tšhono e ke leboge balwantwa Aforikaborwa ka bophara. Ke tswe gape ke eleletse ...

English:

... EFF, a happy blessed 6th anniversary we will be celebrating this weekend, I thank you. Minister, it was Frantz Fanon who said:

"For a colonized people the most essential value, because the most concrete, is first and foremost the land: the land which will bring them bread and, above all, dignity."

South Africa is a country of 122 million hectares, a 25th largest country in the world. Yet, a quarter years after our first democratic elections, white people still owns 72% of all privately-owned land in the country while black Africans only owns 4%. In no country in the world you have a situation where a settler minority groups owns the majority of the land at the expense of the majority, but in South Africa, the abnormal has become normal.

The consequences of this unequal distribution of wealth we see it all around us. We see it in the poverty. We see it in mass unemployment. And, we see it in our overcrowded townships.

Setswana:

Batho ba betagane ekere ke ditlhapi ...

English:

... without access to basic services. We see it in the former homelands where our people have no economic opportunities. We see it

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 177

in the fact that farm workers continue to be exploited and abused by white farm bosses.

Setswana:

Badiri ba kwa dipolaseng fa ba patelwa, ba patelwa ka mofine. Ke gore fa ba tshwanetse go bona mogolo wa tšhelete, ba duelwa ka bojalwa gore ba nne ba tagilwe gore go tsiediwa ga bona, go tswelele. [Setshego.]

English:

Minister, the question of land is central to resolving the questions of the country. That is why cardinal pillar number one of the EFF calls for the expropriation of land without compensation for equal redistribution. The very existence of the EFF is formed by the current government's failure to resolve the land question and lead the struggle for economic freedom in our lifetime.

The land was taken from our people through the barrel of a gun and through legislation, with the two often going hand in hand. There were laws such as Glen Grey Act of 1894 and the Native Land Act of 1913, which confined African majority to only 7% of the land. There was also the Urban Areas Act of 1923, the Native Trust and Land Act, 1936 and the Group Areas Act of 1950.

For the last 200 years, the law has been used to dispossess our people. The law must now be used to take back what is rightfully ours. For 25 years, willing buyer, willing seller has failed dismally. Until today, government has redistributed less than 9% of the land to black people. Section 25 of our Constitution prevents justice and economic development of our country from taking place. It protects white wealth that was built on the dispossession, blood and sweat of black South Africans.

Millions of black South Africans, especially young people and women, live in poverty without jobs and rely on grants to survive. This is the legacy and consequence of the continued unequal distribution of land in this country and it will continue as long as the land question is not resolved.

Today, the process of amending the Constitution has begun in the National Assembly and under the leadership and guidance from the EFF; this Parliament must and will fast track all efforts in this regard. No matter what the DA and the FF Plus says or does, this Parliament will change the Constitution and will begin the process of expropriation of land without compensation; they must just watch the space.

We want to remind you that it is constitutional to amend the Constitution, Minister. Once Parliament committee is established, we will then change the property clause in the Constitution to allow the state to expropriate land without compensation. But, it cannot only end here; all land must be under the custodianship of the state for equal redistribution to all. This must be done in a manner that gives maximum security of tenure to citizens and to businesses.

We must be in possession of this term to pass overarching legislations such as the Land Redistribution Act and Agrarian Reform Act, to give effort to the goals of complete restructuring of land holding in this country. This must be geared towards promoting value adding activities such as aquaculture to create millions of jobs, in vitro agricultural activities and other job including inducing land based economic activities.

The state must establish a land ombudsman to ensure that people's rights to the land are protected and not subjected to arbitrary abuse by state officials and injudicious mining companies. There needs to be a reconfiguration of the land claims courts into the people's land court with not less than 12 permanent judges to adjudicate on land matters on a full time basis.

Minister, your department is in position to fundamentally transform the South African economy and society, but that requires your government to have backbone, a revolutionary vision and then we will transform the lives of our people. But this government has allowed the elite to dictate economic policy for too long, it has been long overdue and there is little to show that things will change. Until section 25 of the Constitution is amended, unfortunately the EFF will continue to reject this Budget Vote.

Now, the MEC of the Eastern Cape, you come here and grind stand about the Expanded Public Works Programme, EPWP and calling it a job. Where is the dignity in earning R680 per month? Why don't you do yourself a favour and resign from your job and go work as an EPWP employee and earn R680 per month, then you can come back and tell us if you are able to make ends meets.

Cloete, you said we all like history – no we don't. How can you like pain and death? How can you like the splitting of blood? We don't like history at all. And, by the way, we don't need advice from you and your so-called friends, the DA. We know what we want. We know what we are going to do. And, we are going to get the land and give it back to its people and we are not going to pay any compensation. I thank you. [Applause.]

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 181

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, LAND REFORM AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (Mr M Skwatsha): Hon Chairperson, hon Minister, hon MEC's Sithole-Moloi and Meth, hon members, Director Generals everybody present here, good afternoon. Today I would like to echo a call to action to all spheres of government. To rally behind the common course of speeding up land reform and eradicate the vestiges of oppression, colonial domination.

While undertaking this mammoth task, we must be mindful that we are a constitutional democratic state. We must act within the prescripts of the law. Our people are impatient, thank you very much Mam. Yes the task is long overdue but it is no licence to embark on land grabbing campaigns to make headlines. It is not the time to sow hatred, our country has enough of racial conflicts. To those who resisted temptation of spewing inflammatory rhetoric, only to get applause and score cheap political points. We will never encourage the contravention of the law, simply because we want to generate popular peacetime heroes.

The land dispossessed people deserve better than being used for fodder that does not even translate into concrete electoral support. Anyway, a Marxist worth his or her sword will tell you that there is no relationship indiscipline and radicalism. A famously quoted

revolutionary Falorn, never believed in illegal criminal land grabs. He really believed that land must be redistributed equally to the people.

Let us use the legal means at our disposal. We all know that the legislation that will eventually allow large scale land expropriation without compensation, is soon to be a reality. The amendment of Section 25 in our Constitution in order to speed up land redistribution, is no longer a matter of a story. It is a reality and it is actually the legislators that must make this a reality. It is common course that restoring the dignity of the land dispossessed people is an immense task.

We need trusted partners. There is no way that we can romanticise over this. No single sphere of government can carry out this task on its own. All spheres of government should enjoy cordial relations with each other in executing this mammoth task. We are all committed to upholding the Constitution while delivering on the respective constitutional mandates. Our experience in the struggle against colonialism and apartheid has taught us the importance of strong partnerships.

In the service delivery value chain, provinces and municipalities are crucial in this battle to redress the imbalances of the past. They are the coalface of crisis and suffering of many communities in the country. Ladies and gentlemen, with the work that we been tackling in the land reform programmes, which comprises redistribution, security of tenure and restitution, some of the key interventions include the promotion of food security, the rapid release of land for urban human settlements and the importance of growing our economy. These programmes are geared to speed the resolution of land ownership patterns and tackling the triple challenge of poverty, inequality and unemployment.

Furthermore, the NDP is instructive about its vision and I quote: "We must attack the blight of poverty and exclusion and nurture economic growth at the same time. Creating a virtual cycle of expanding opportunities, building capabilities and reducing poverty involving communities in their development, all leading to rising living standards."

Our deputy President during the President's budget debate reiterated this crucial aspect and I quote him: "Poverty and inequality are not only a consequences of historical injustices of the past, but the continuing spewed capital and land ownership

patterns that hampered broad based participation in economic productive activities.”

The acceleration of our land reform programme will continue to focus on improving access to land for Agriculture, economic developments and sustainable human settlements. On land administration we are in the process of revamping the extension of security tenure Act of 1997 to protect one of the most vulnerable groups in our society, farm workers. This piece of legislation should not be taken for granted. It could be one of the last hopes of restoring the dignity of farm workers. Most of whom still bear the brunt of oppressive conditions.

In the next few months, our department will table the relevant regulations for public comments. Another important development in this financial year will be the tabling of the Deeds Registration Amendment Act to cabinet. It will be amiss not to mention the programmes that are being implemented to strengthen the capacity of CPA's. The Minister has gone at length in speaking about CPA's, something needs to be fixed there.

In our sphere we are getting to grip the strengthening of the office of the Valuer General, which is an important aspect of delivering

land to our people. All land earmarked in our land property registrar must go through the evaluation process of the OVG.

Therefore it is critical that this body should operate optimally and effectively. Top of the remedial list of the OVG, the re-alignment and approval of the new organisational structure. We are also going to set up a project management office within OVG, to help speed up service delivery and eliminate the property evaluation backlog.

We have noted that these matters adversely impact the meeting of annual targets, which in turn lead to the frustration of potential beneficiary. Strengthening the working relationships between the OVG and our commission on restitution of land rights, this help a lot in speeding up delivery of land.

Few words of caution, the issue that has been raised by speakers here, the frustrations of our people, so many people have taken advantage of our people in the processes that have unfolded before. Some of them, include those that engage in corrupt practices. Such people are to be found in the private sector and also in the public sector. Let them be warned that the law is going to be catching up with them.

Properties should not be priced unrealistically high values just because the client happens to be the government as it is mostly the case. Even the market must be sensitive to the bigger course of land reform. These greedy land owners contributed in the past to the slowing down of the pace of the land reform programme. Under our wards we handle the three prong programmes, referred to restitution, redistribution and tenure.

Let me quickly deal with how we have allocated the scarce financial resources for our provinces that are most important are our delivery agents. Collectively, our nine provinces have been allocated a total of just over 7 billion for the financial year. This is the household budget, for the implementation of various programmes. READ, RATE and all our related programme.

The breakdown for provinces is as follows: Mpumalanga 980 millions, Eastern Cape 789 million, Western Cape 575 million, Gauteng 434 million, Northern Cape 403, Free State 456 million. This programme has received more that 2.9 billion for all its national projects that are being executed by the provinces.

I want to say in closing, that this project of land reform needs sanity, no emotions. To the EFF as I live, you cannot say the DA is

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 187

our friends when you have propelled them into governing in many provinces, in Gauteng and in Tshwane. Thank you very much.

Mr S E MFAYELA: Hon Chair, rural development and land reform remains yet another unfulfilled state promise in jobs in rural economies namely: agriculture, agribusiness and sustainable tourism are yet to benefit the poor and most vulnerable in this area.

South Africa cannot be transformed until all rural areas are transformed such that they are unable to take their rightful place in the development of their country. In this country we no longer have second plus citizens, our rural citizens cannot be dead.

The first priority in our view is that rural people must be assisted to live fully positive lives. There are so many food items that we are importing simply because we have not harness the capacity of our rural people. Education and healthy provision must be improved. Land reform is crucial to the development of this country. These programmes must seek not only to correct historical matters. We live with this programme today; the descended who gained and are richer for it, the descended of those who lost land remain poor.

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 188

We are happy that the President has deemed it fit to bring you back to the department Madam Minister. Your experience in the department could help deal with the corruption and efficiency that sometimes hold the programmes back. The IFP supports this Budget Vote and we are aware of the challenges you face hon Minister. We commit to work with you to build South Africa together and achieve the department's goal. I thank you.

Cllr M SIYONZANA (SALGA): Hon Chairperson, Minister and the Deputy Minister, hon members, MECs present, my fellow colleagues representing local government in the NCOP, ladies and gentlemen, I firstly would like to welcome and congratulate the new Minister and the two Deputies on their appointment to such a critical portfolio, particularly at this time in the history of our country.

We have engaged with department of Agriculture and actively worked with Department of Rural Development and Land Reform in the Fifth Administration and look forward to working well with the new merged department in addressing numerous challenges and opportunities that the country currently faces. Effectively, collaboration through the various intergovernmental relations platforms will ensure that the various communities that we lead emerge victoriously.

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 189

The Minister made reference to agri-parks that were initiated by the establishment, est. wild Department of Rural Development and Land Reform has indicated that this can change the phase of agriculture in a big way if managed well. District mayors have been given the responsibility to coordinate the support of these parks and SALGA welcomes this opportunity. It will work well to re-engage with the district mayors to reaffirm the support of the local government sector regarding this initiative. It will be critical to clarify and consolidate the role that is expected from them. It is also critical to align and coordinate the various initiatives undertaken by the former Department of Agriculture noting that all the initiatives learned on the table of the one mayor in respect of a district.

Poor coordination may risk undermining otherwise potential useful initiatives. The merging of the two departments will go a long way to enhance this coordination under your leadership and we stand ready to work with you in this regard. We invite you to engage with the leadership of SALGA to explore how best the department and the sector can assist one another in pursue of our common goals.

It will be amice not recognise that a lot has achieved in the delivery of basic services since 1994 including access to housing, water and electricity as indicated in the various reports. Not

withstanding this however, as you indicated the triple challenges of poverty, unemployment and inequality remains stubbornly with us. The objectives of special justice, equality, special transformation inclusive economic growth and development remain illusive.

Many disenfranchised communities continue to be denied access to employment and economic opportunities by among others being geographically located far from such opportunities and by being structurally excluded from land markets in metropolitan areas, intermediary cities, small towns and rural areas. This denies them the opportunity to participate meaningfully in socio economic activities ranging from agricultural and food production to real estate in urban areas.

While we know the land reform process that seeks to enable more previously disadvantaged people to participate in agricultural and food production, we would also like to highlight the importance of land reform in our cities and towns. Challenges in urban land reform have compromised the ability of government in general and local government in particular to facilitate special transformation and thus more efficient urban economies.

The key sign of challenges regarding urban land reforms include but are not limited to: increasing unauthorised land or occupation in many cities and towns; urban growth patterns that are driven by market forces and not aligned to long term strategic visions of inclusive growth and development as articulated in the municipalities' Integrated Development Plan, IDPs, and Spatial Development Frameworks, SDFs; and housing developments for poor people are generally located on the periphery of urban areas away from economic and employment opportunities.

It is against this background that SALGA resolved at its national conference in 2016 to undertake a process that will assist municipalities with their land acquisition and release processes in support of land reform and gear towards special transformation especially in urban areas. This must lead to sustainable integrated and inclusive development.

Research has been undertaken which has proposed recommendations in support of municipalities, land acquisition and release processes. The recommendation has been processed through various structures including the minmak on rural development and land reforms in the Fifth Administration.

A key trust of these is collaboration where municipalities are empowered to acquire and dispose of land in a manner that is anchored on their respective spatial development framework, thus enabling them to drive special transformation more effectively. In the same token the disposal process of land owned by others spheres of government and state owned entities must consider special transformation informed by the spatial development framework.

We pledge to continue working with the department to ensure the effective implementation of these objectives related to special justice, equalities, special transformation, inclusive economic growth and development. This includes the need to work together, request for the department to support municipalities in the development of such audits. When we talk about these audits, if you go to different municipalities, I would like to make an example about Buffalo City as well as Mangaung and others, they are state owned entities, they own a lot of land and there is nothing that they are doing about that.

So, it is very important to audit this land so that there is a relationship between the department and different municipalities. The department has committed to provide the necessary report as requested; once again, I wish you and the entire leadership of the

department well on the task ahead and further pledge our commitment to work with you in pursuit of improving the lives of our communities in municipalities across the length and breadth of our country. I thank you.

Mr W A S AUCAMP: Hon House Chair, hon Minister, hon Deputy Minister, hon members of the NCOP, fellow health members, fellow South Africans, ...

Afrikaans:

... dit is vir my werklik vandag 'n groot voorreg om die hoër Huis van die Parlement van Suid-Afrika oor 'n belangrike aangeleentheid soos dié van grondhervorming en landelike ontwikkeling toe te kan spreek.

English:

Rural development and land reform is arguably one of the most sensitive topics in our country today, and if it is not handled correctly, it will have dire and long-lasting consequences for every South African.

Hon Minister, the vision statement of your Ministry states that it wants "vibrant, equitable, sustainable rural communities". However,

should you travel the back roads into the deep rural areas of our country, you will realise how far your Ministry is from achieving the goals stated in your vision statement.

Just last week, I spoke to Mrs Koketso Paul of Batlharos in the Northern Cape, where there are many subsistence farmers that struggle to make ends meet. The only source of water for their life stock is a small natural dam that is filled in the rainy season, and usually dries up during winter time. This small filthy dam is also the only source of water available for human consumption in that specific area. It is unacceptable that people must still fetch the water for their households with old plastic paint buckets from the same small dirty dam that their cattle, sheep and goats are drinking from.

In the Kalahari, there are many medium to small-scale farmers who realised a long time ago that they are interdependent, and need each other, because government is not assisting them with the supply of a basic need such as water for their livestock.

Afrikaans:

Heelwat van hierdie opkomende boere het steeds nie 'n enkele boorgat om aan hulle water te voorsien nie. As dit nie was vir die feit dat

kommersiële boere in daardie area behulpsaam was en daardie opkomende boere gehelp het om water aan hulle te voorsien nie, sou daardie opkomende boere nie water gehad het om te kan boer nie.

English:

These are but a few of the problems that people must deal with when you travel in the rural areas of our country. Hon Minister, when you reflect on this, I hope that you realise that your department is still a very long way off from achieving your vision of "vibrant, equitable, sustainable rural communities".

The facts are however letting me believe that the ANC government is not serious about rural development. At Umzimvubu in the Eastern Cape, where almost a third of South Africa's water is flowing into the Indian Ocean via the Umzimvubu River, for years, there have been plans to establish a hydro electrical scheme. Should this hydro electrical system be built, it will have huge economical benefits for that whole rural area.

The building of these dams will ensure water supply to households and the industry, as well as to irrigate agriculture and to generate a large amount of hydropower. This however raises the question why this government has not implemented this long overdue plan, but

rather opted for failures such as Medupi and Kusile power stations in order to generate power to our country.

Afrikaans:

Die droogte wat boere tans in die Noord-Kaap in die gesig staar is van die ergste en langste droogtes ooit. Hierdie droogte raak alle boere, klein of groot, wit, swart of bruin. Almal se diere vrek op strepe, en indien daar nie vinnig hulp kom nie, gaan hierdie probleem net groter word. Die geld wat daardie boere van die regering kry om hulle tydens hierdie droogte by te staan, is nie 'n druppel in die emmer van wat hulle nodig het om deur die droogte te kan kom nie. Die leier van die DA, Mmusi Maimane, het daarom in hierdie week versoek dat die Premier van die Noord-Kaap die gebied as 'n droogte rampgebied moet verklaar.

Indien daar nie spoedig bogemiddelde reënval plaasvind nie, is die vooruitskatting dat daar teen Desember 2019, meer as een miljoen groot veë-eenhede soos beeste sal vrek, om nie eers van die wild te praat nie. Dit is verliese van meer as R10 biljoen wat die boere van die Noord-Kaap kan ly. Ek sê weer, swart, wit en bruin boere.

Indien die regering werklik ernstig is oor die beskerming van ons boere, asook die ontwikkeling van ons landelike gebiede sal hulle

spoedig gehoor moet gee aan hierdie versoek wat mnr Maimane namens die boere van die Noord-Kaap gerig het.

Indien dit nie gedoen word nie, sal die gevolge absoluut ramspoedig wees. Buiten die meer as 'n miljoen diere wat kan vrek, is daar ook tot soveel as 62 000 werksgeleenhede wat tot niet kan gaan. Dink daaraan. Daar is 62 000 mense wat as gevolg van hierdie droogte nie meer werk sal hê nie.

Die hele kwessie rondom grondhervorming is sekerlik een van die mees sensitiewe aangeleenthede in Suid-Afrika. Die agb Minister het in haar begrotingsdebat in die Nasionale Vergadering gesê dat sy 'n langtermyn oplossing hieroor wil vind. Agb Minister, ek kan u die versekering gee dat die langtermynoplossing nie is om grond te onteien sonder vergoeding nie. Hierdie is 'n beleidsrigting wat die ANC skaars twee jaar gelede nog eenparig in hierdie Parlement teengestaan het en nou verander hulle hul deuntjie. Agb Minister, u weet so goed soos ek dat dit maar slegs 'n rookskerm en 'n weerligafleier is vir die feit dat hierdie ANC-regering nie grondhervorming korrek toegepas het nie.

Die probleem met grondhervorming is nie die Grondwet nie. Dit is ook nie die onwilligheid van boere in Suid-Afrika om grondhervorming te

maak werk nie. Nee, dit is die korrupsie en swak regering binne die ANC wat in die pad staan van suksesvolle grondhervorming.

English:

It is not me that says this. This statement was supported by the high-level panel under the leadership of former President Kgalema Motlanthe, which stated that the Constitution was not the reason for the failure of land reform, but that the failures were due to poor implementation of policy, corruption and a lack of urgency by this government.

The hon President said in his state of the nation address that government will rapidly release state land for human settlement and agriculture. We do however need to ask why this is only addressed now. This should have been done a long time ago.

Afrikaans:

Dit bring my by die vraag: Hoe is dit moontlik – ek sluit aan by die agb Beyers Smit – dat hierdie aankondiging deur die President gemaak is, as daar geen geld in die begroting hiervoor bewillig is nie? Kan die President werklik ernstig wees met dit wat hy in die state of the nation address [staatsrede] aan ons sê, as daar geen geld daarvoor is nie?

English:

Some of the best arable land in our country is in the hands of the government, while some of the poorest people are living on this land. We need to transfer the land to that people so that they can work their own land and earn their own living.

It is furthermore of utmost importance that training and further assistance must be given to emerging farmers that get land from the government. This week, the Select Committee on Appropriations received a letter from Mr Joseph Kanyile from Melmoth in KwaZulu-Natal. In his letter, he states that in 2000, they have received land through the willing-buyer, willing-seller concept. They have however since then never received any training or further assistance from government. Hon Bebee used many abbreviations and she used the Comprehensive Agricultural Support Programme, Casp. If Casp was successful, then Mr Joseph Kanyile from Melmoth would have received money and assistance. I think we are setting these people up for failure, if we do not help them afterwards.

Through you, Chair, the hon Bebee used a lot of abbreviations today – a huge lot. I wonder whether you know the abbreviation:

N.O.N.S.E.N.S.E. That is what you and the hon Koni talked a lot about today. [Interjections.] N.O.N.S.E.N.S.E. stands for nonsense,

because it was a lot of nonsense that you spoke here today.

[Interjections.]

Hon Minister, successful voluntary partnerships in the form of share-equity schemes can drive transformation in the agricultural sector as a celebrated act of nonracial unity, ... I am checking my time.

Ms N P KONI: Chair, on a point of order: The member on the podium is misleading this House and the country that I used abbreviations. I did not use any abbreviation today. I used abbreviations yesterday. If he wants meanings to those abbreviations, I can kindly WhatsApp them to him. So, now, I can kindly give him my speech. There is no abbreviation, not even one. If speaking my mother tongue is like abbreviations to him, then, right back at him for speaking Afrikaans. Thank you.

Setswana:

Ntate W A S AUCAMP: Modulasetulo, ke itse Setswana.

English:

There is a saying: The fool's camouflage is silence and for the fool to remain undetected, he must remain silent.

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 201

Hon Minister, successful voluntary partnerships in the form of share-equity schemes can drive transformation in the agricultural sector as a celebrated act of nonracial unity. The divisive and corrupt rural state capture of the ANC ...

Mr E N MTHETHWA: Chair, on a point of order: The speaker is using unparliamentary language. I think he must refrain from doing that. We understood the first time when he made his own abbreviation and at the end, he insulted the member. Now, he continued at the same pace. Let the member respect the House and withdraw those insults. [Interjections.]

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON: OVERSIGHT AND INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT (Ms W Ngwenya): Hon members, I did not hear him. Therefore, I will check Hansard and come back to the House. [Interjections.]

Mr W A S AUCAMP: In contrast with what should be done, the ANC is busy with a divisive and corrupt rural state capture that the tenderpreneur cartels got their tentacles inserted into.

We will not support this budget. I thank you.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON: OVERSIGHT AND INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT: (Mnu A J NYAMBI): Chairperson,

SiSwati:

Sihlalo waleNdlu, Sekela Sihlalo Wemkhandlu Wavelonkhe Wetifundza, soSwebhu Wemkhandlu Wavelonkhe Wetifundza, Mphatsiswa kanye neliSekela lelitiko, malunga lahloniphekile, nine bekunene, ngiyanibingelela kulentsambama yalamuhla,

English:

James Baldwin said "we can disagree and still love each other unless our disagreement is rooted in my oppression and denial of my humanity and right to exist."

Hon Chairperson, the last time I was at this podium last week I invited hon Smith that he must visit the preamble of the Constitution which says:

"We the people of South Africa recognises the injustices of the past, honour those who suffered for justice and freedom in our land." And have someone who is an hon member to assist you to interpret that and you won't have this problem that you are displaying today.

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 203

The Department of Land Reform and Rural Development Budget Vote 39, and Budget Vote 24 of Agriculture, forestry and fisheries – let me indicate upfront that we support it. We are supporting it because we ANC or it is fashionable. To those that do not have ovation of the theory of creation, the furniture that you see in this Council and in your house and the food that you eat is because of the importance of what we are dealing with today. If you are opposing that it means you don't understand the theory of creation.

The Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development is tasked among other priority mandates to address inequalities, associated with apartheid spatial development patterns. Apartheid spatial development patterns made possible the subjugation of our black majority into poverty and created townships that were meant to serve as labour majority and as reserve to the apartheid economy.

The apartheid economy, a continuation of imperialism did not see fit include the majority of our black people and literally pushed them to the peripheries of the main economic activity.

In dealing with the historical injustices of the past, it will require massive resources investment in the poorest of our poor villages and townships that you want to teach us about today.

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 204

The ANC Policy on Land Reform is very progressive and is informed by the Freedom Charter adopted in 1955. It is important to note that since the adoption of the Charter in 1955, the ANC has never promoted populist stance on land. The Minister and Deputy Minister have commendably outlined the mandate of the department and we acknowledge the progress made and the journey ahead of us.

We would like to emphasize that the security and safety of all South Africans is our national priority and our 2019 election manifesto spoke about building safer communities. We reject with the contempt it deserve the insinuation that the ANC-led government promotes the killing of our farmers and call upon all those making such scandalous claims to desist from making such statements. The safety of our farmers is our collective responsibility. We understand the negative impact that crime has on our agricultural production and we will continue to work closely with our law enforcement agencies to ensure that we improve on the safety of our farming communities.

Let us all partner with government in bringing general safety to our communities and let us stop spreading malicious lies that these are political killings and therefore linked with our land reform programme.

We confidently stand here today to express our conviction that the ANC-led government has a progressive and reconciliatory land reform programme. The wellbeing of our farm workers and farm dwellers is very dear to us. When carrying out this function special emphasis should be put on the vulnerability of women, youth including people living with disabilities in those farming communities.

Criminal activities on our farmers has driven most of our small holder farmers out of the agricultural business. One farmer in eMjindini, in Ehlanzeni District in Mpumalanga lost almost 90% of his livestock to illegal miners known as the Zama Zamas. This small emerging farmer was left distraught. Farmers lost their crop through theft and other illegal activities. This is totally unacceptable and we are confident that the relevant institutions are doing their best to combat the unwanted activity. Economic and social safety of all our farmers is paramount and without these we cannot realise the desired agricultural productivity and growth.

Hon Minister and Deputy Minister, local economic development in our local municipalities is very important. It is important the progress made in our municipalities in availing municipal commonage to our small farmers. In many of our municipalities land is made available

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 206

to aspiring farmers and this is important not only in encouraging sustenance farming, but also the emergence of small holder farmers.

We welcome the collaboration between department district offices with their respective localities. We need this pulling together of resources to take route in more of our local municipalities to realise our progressive Land Reform Programme. Linked to this is the release of the state-owned land in order to radically fast-track our Land Reform Programme as indicated by His Excellency President Ramaphosa during the state of the nation, Sona, debate.

According to the land audit of 2013, the majority of Africans largely occupies 13% of land and this 13% is constituted by former Bantustan the former Ciskei, Gazankulu, KwaNgwane, Lebowa, kwaNdebele, Qwa-Qwa and Transkei. You will take note that our government made considerable progress in this former Bantustans and slow progress in other areas that were exclusively under the apartheid government. What is the cause of this delay?

However, we want reiterate the call made by the President that state-owned land must be released and we call upon all municipalities in the provinces to heed the call that says "Khawuleza." [Hurry up!]

We further call on our people not to occupy our land illegally. We hope that political parties represented here today and those outside of this House will help our government deal with land grabs. Please tell your members to stop land grabs. This call is not only limited to political parties but to civil formations.

We, as the ANC understand the frustrations of our people and we will not seek to exploit this by making populist statements. It is important to maintain peace of our beloved country South Africa. It is the intension of the ANC-led government that our people must have access to land for housing, for clinics, for schools, for their small businesses, recreational facilities and other utilities. In order to achieve these, the department branch of geospatial must be adequately capacitated.

We welcome the increase in funding from R497 million to R512,8 million for this programme of the department whose mandate includes cadastral surveys, deeds registration and spatial planning information that is very important for our provinces and our municipalities. We must indicate that this funding is not sufficient given the enormity of the task given to branches concerns. However, we welcome this budget given our fiscal consolidation.

Chairperson, it is not the intention of the ANC to make any race group landless. It is not right and it can never be right and that would be tantamount to the violation of the most basic of our cherished human rights. The DA will help us recall how it was a policy of apartheid government to make many of our people landless. This monstrous policy has impoverished many of our people and the whips of that unjust administration still linger on our people's minds. The DA must not attempt to replicate the fallen state with gentrification policies in the Western Cape.

We are not vengeful as the ANC and we will never embrace any form of bitterness and we call upon our counterparts to stop running wild in foreign lands and causing unnecessary panic. We did not come this far from 1912 only to display some form of hatred or bitterness against other human beings.

We are always mindful as the ANC of the international support and solidarity that we have received during our most trying times. We want a South Africa that is equal, just and at peace with itself and the entire world community. Land redistribution will remain a condition that will make such a reality. So it is not right that 82 million hectares of land is in the hands of you, white minority. A Nigeria Chief once said:

"I conceive that land belongs to a vast family of which many are dead, few are living, and countless members are yet unborn."

I am reminded that anything that you say here hon Cloete and hon Smit - Plato once summarised simple for us when he said:

"Wise men speak because they have something to say; Fools because they have to say something."

Allow me to conclude, but before I do so - anything that you say here not an effective and efficient at all time you must know that it is very reactionary.

In conclusion, Martin Luther King Junior said:

"Returning hate for hate multiplies hate adding deeper darkness to a night already devoid of stars. Darkness cannot drive out darkness only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate only love can do that."

That is why our African revolutionary Thomas Sankara when he talks about love he says:

With love and inspiration for our revolution invariably revolutionaries out to remain immaculate."

Hon Chairperson, as the ANC we support this budget because it is taking the country forward. I thank you.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, LAND REFORM AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT:

Thank you very much House Chairperson, and thank you to the colleagues for responding to the debate and the proposals that were made. I am not going to mention one by one what members have said; I am appreciating all of your contributions. I thought it was necessary as hon Cloete apologised that when I respond he won't be here, that indeed history is important. It enables us to know where we come from in order to understand where we have to go.

It may be good, as the hon member of the EFF took us a bit on the various legislative mechanisms that were put in place deliberately to actually redefine South Africa. I just wanted to say in addition to those that there was the Group Areas Act of 1950; there were the Koornhof Bills which actually decided to create the Bantustan and self-governing territories as we knew it. There was also the Beaumont Commission in 1916 that decided where blacks and whites should stay in South Africa. I think it is necessary for us to

remind ourselves of this history, so that we can know how to move forward and become an inclusive society.

Hon Smit, you talked about tribal lands - the 13% of the reserves, because the African majority were driven away from the fertile land where they were actually farming as successful farmers. If you read the Beaumont Commission of 1916, it actually affirms that even after the 1913 Land Act, black farmers bought land from some white farmers who were willing to sell and they remained very successful.

For me it is important today that before we can determine what should happen in those areas with regard to what legislation, what tenure system we must find, let's engage with those communities and listen to understand what they want. In this instance, I want to actually applaud Wiphold Trust led by Gloria Tomato Serobe and Louisa Mojela for taking their investments as cooperate citizens and go and work with the people of Centane and Mbhashe in the Eastern Cape; investing their resources in developing those areas agriculturally.

There are farmers in Limpopo who were given land by their chiefs in *Xitlakati*, who are farming and exporting citrus in communal areas. What these show us is that people know and are able to do what they

can, albeit the circumstances in which they are in. What is important for me as we engage in this conversation is that if we want to build a united prosperous South Africa, we need to do so, with honesty, appreciating the pain and be able to heal those wounds of the past. We appreciate the share ownership schemes – yes, it is important, but let's us also appreciate that, the system has been abused by some farmers who actually robbed the workers who were given shares and not give them.

Here in the Western Cape, we have examples of those, even the latest share equity scheme of the 50/50 policy that came up with the hon Nkwinti. There have been some farmers who sold the dead duck to our people and we can't allow that. We have a collective responsibility, all of us as members here. I want to say that the amendment of the Constitution has gone through a process where we listened to the constraints that our people present.

It is important to say that our people don't see land expropriation without compensation as the panacea to solve the land problem in our country, but they see it as just but one instrument to assist us to deal with some of these problems. The state is saying that we are willing to release the land that is owned by the state to our people. I want to say that that work has begun – we actually know

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Page: 213

where those lands are, what is it for agriculture, what is for human settlement and in due course we will be announcing where those land are. [Time expired.]

As I close, I also want to indicate that as we go forward, it might be necessary that beyond this debate, we should have an engagement with the select committee so that we can see what are the best solutions to the problems of agriculture in South Africa. How do we ensure that we inclusively share the experience - as we have heard from the MECs - on best models that are working, but also acknowledging where there are problems? Issues of integrity and ethical conduct are not only the issues that we must address administrators, it is equally for our partners in the sector who have acted unethically at times. Thank you very much.

[Interjections.] [Applause.]

The Council adjourned at 19:48