

## DEPARTMENT OF THE PREMIER

### 2011 Media Advisories and Statements

#### OCTOBER 2011

##### **Free State Government responds to service delivery challenges (Office of the Premier)**

11 October 2011

Operation Hlasela has effected meaningful change in the lives of the Free Staters. This campaign has enabled government to know where people live; how they live and what can be done to afford them opportunities for dignified and sustainable livelihoods.

To intensify the war against socio-economic challenges that continue to undermine peoples' dignity and government's effort to improve the lives of the people, the Free State Provincial Government will take Operation Hlasela to Senekal on Thursday, 13 October 2011 and Petrus Steyn on Friday, 14 October 2011.

Operation Hlasela is a programme of action of government aimed at accelerating service delivery and improving the lives of people in a different, smart and integrated manner. This campaign involves all stakeholders in a spirit of working together and doing more.

The campaign in the two towns will pay specific attention to community outcry such as high levels of crime, unemployment, inaccessible roads and sewer spillage, amongst others.

It remains the commitment of the Free State Provincial Government to deliver quality services to all citizens of this province. The service delivery agenda under the leadership of Premier Magashule is focused on maintaining development in the urban centres whilst paying particular attention to the previously disadvantaged and marginalised rural areas.

The Executive Council will also interact with unemployed graduates of Fezile Dabi. This is part of on-going interaction with unemployed graduates to ensure that their plight is alleviated and they are part of the growing economy of the Free State. The meeting is scheduled to take place on Thursday, 13 October 2011 in Boiketlong Community Hall in Zamdela (Sasolburg)

For further enquiries, please contact:  
Mondli Mvambi  
Cell: 0820433744

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#### AUGUST 2011

##### **Premier Magashule leads his Cabinet into KwaZulu-Natal hospitals (Office of the Premier)**

25 August 2011

Today, the Free State Premier Mr Ace Magasule is leading his cabinet delegation into KwaZulu-Natal hospitals to exchange best practices in the delivery of healthcare. The delegation composed of all MECs, the Provincial Director-General and the Departmental Heads of Departments are visiting Inkosi Albert Luthuli Central, King Edward VIII and Wentworth Hospitals.

Their visit will be focused on seeing the delivery of specialised healthcare at Inkosi Albert Luthuli Central Hospital which provides a 'paperless' service and where there is high technology in its radiology diagnostics. The hospitals also prides its self with having the only Level 1 trauma unit in the country which caters for those people who suffered traumatic injuries involving more than one organ.

The pharmacy and laboratory sections are fitted with the latest technology, called pneumatic tube system, to transport scripts between wards and the pharmacy as well as to collect and delivery bloods and results to all the wards and sections of the hospital.

KwaZulu-Natal has been receiving accolades in the recent weeks on a number of areas. During the Breastfeeding Conference convened by the Minister of Health, Dr Aaron Motsoaledi, the province was singled out for praise for being the first to promote exclusive breastfeeding in the country. Also, during the South African AIDS Conference the province was praised for reducing mother to child transmission of HIV from 22% five years ago to a mere 2,3% as well as for a successful medical male circumcision.

The delegation will also visit King Edward VIII Hospital where there is great renovation work underway including the rebuilding of a new Children's units. They will then proceed to Wentworth hospital where the highest numbers of circumcisions are taking place.

Journalists are welcome to join the delegation as it tours King Edward and Wentworth Hospitals.

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### **Public Sector Trainers Forum (PSTF) Conference (Department of the Premier)**

5 August 2011

The Free State province in conjunction with the Public Sector Trainers' Forum (PSTF) and the Public Administration Leadership and Management Academy (PALAMA) will be hosting the annual PSTF conference at the Performing Arts Centre of the Free State (PACOFs) from 25 to 28 September 2011.

The theme of the conference is 'Human Resource Development at the Centre of Service Delivery: Unleashing the Cheetah'. The target audience of the conference is the Human Resource Development (HRD) practitioners and managers, trainers, skill development facilitators, and public servants at large.

International, regional and local speakers have been invited to provide their expert perspectives of human resource development in the public sector. The underlying objective of the conference is to facilitate a robust engagement and provide learning opportunities on key areas which impact on human resource development for effective service delivery. This will take the form of paper presentations, workshops and plenary discussions by government officials, training and development practitioners and regulatory agencies.

Registration will start on Sunday, 25 September 2011 at PACOFs from 14h00. The registration fee is R3 000.00 per delegate. Booking can be done online or manually.

In the case of online bookings a unique reference number shall be issued automatically to each individual booking. Kindly use this number when making payment for the conference as the reference number on the deposit slip.

In the case of manual bookings a unique reference number shall be issued to each individual booking by one of the following officials: Ms Annie Hartman: Tel 051 405 4073 or Ms Francinah Froneman: Tel 051 405 5020 or Ms Lydia Louw on 051 403 3411. An after-hours number is 079 693 7007. Kindly use the unique number obtained when making payment for the conference as the reference number on the deposit slip.

The banking details for the registration of delegates are as follows: Account Name: FSPG Public Sector Trainers Registration Account Number: 041309421, Branch Name: Brandwag, Branch Code: 055534

The signed booking form (whether completed online or manually) together with proof of payment should either be faxed to 0866 147 439 or scanned and emailed to [pstf@premier.fs.gov.za](mailto:pstf@premier.fs.gov.za).

For all enquiries on issues relating to the conference kindly contact Mr I Garaba at 051 405 5774 e-mail, [igaraba@premier.fs.gov.za](mailto:igaraba@premier.fs.gov.za) or Ms L Nibe-Nkutha at 082 777 5303, e-mail [pstf@premier.fs.gov.za](mailto:pstf@premier.fs.gov.za). More information about the conference can be obtained on [Free State Provincial Government](#) website.

Kindly note that delegates will be responsible for their own transport and accommodation arrangements. We look forward with great anticipation to this conference and hope to welcome you at PACOFS on Sunday, 25 September 2011.

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## **JULY 2011**

### **Free State reviews the growth and development strategy (Office of the Premier)**

25 July 2011

The Free State Provincial Government will next week embark on a series of workshops as part of the review of the province's growth and development strategy.

The review process is aimed at developing a new Free State Growth and Development Strategy (FSGDS) that will ensure, amongst other things, the acceleration of job creation and economic growth in the province.

The workshops have been convened by the Planning Unit in the Office of the Premier. The aim of the workshops is to encourage meaningful participation by various stakeholders; the public, academic institutions, and professional bodies; in a concerted effort to define a new development and growth path for the province.

The workshops will focus on the economic, social and governance sectors of the province. In the spirit of working together, the University of the Free State has been roped in to facilitate the workshops.

Finance MEC Seiso Mohai, Economic Development, Tourism and Affairs Mxolisi Dukwana and Education MEC Tate Makgoe will lead the discussions during the workshops.

Members of the media, organised formations, professional bodies and the public in general, are invited to attend the workshops, which will be held as follows:

- The Economic Sector Workshop: Tuesday, 26 July 2011
- The Social Sector Workshop: Wednesday, 27 July 2011
- The Governance Sector Workshop: Thursday, 28 July 2011

Time: 08h30 -16h00

Venue: Ilanga Estate, Bloemfontein

Participants are hereby requested to confirm their attendance with:

Mr CJ Ramatiisa

Tel: 051 051 405 4089

Cell: 072 510 6540

Fax at 051 405 4485

E-mail: [ramatiisac@premier.fs.gov.za](mailto:ramatiisac@premier.fs.gov.za)

For further enquiries on the workshops please contact:

Mr Albie Van Rensburg

Tel: 051 405 5507

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**The National Planning Commission to interact with the Free State province on the Diagnostic Overview and elements of the Vision Statement (Office of the Premier)**

15 July 2011

The National Planning Commissioners will, on 19 July 2011, interact with the Free State province key stakeholders as part of the NPC's programme to brief all nine provinces on the diagnostic overview which was released on 9 June 2011.

The visit will see commissioners Pascal Moloi, Joel Netshitenzhe, Mike Muller, Miriam Altman, Jennifer Molwantwa and Christopher Malikane interact with key stakeholders on the elements of the draft vision statement and diagnostic overview, which were released on 9 June and to report on progress made in developing the national vision and plan for South Africa in 2030.

The aim is to visit all nine provinces and so far the Eastern Cape and KwaZulu-Natal provinces have been visited

Members of the media are invited for a media dialogue:

Date: 19 July 2011

Time: 12h00

Venue: Boiketlo Hall, Eric Louw Drive, Sasolburg, Free State Province

Enquiries:

Cameron Dugmore: National Planning Commission

Cell: 079 494 7258

Mondli Mvambi: Office of the Premier

Cell: 082 043 3744

Gunnett Kaaf: Provincial Treasury

Cell: 083 291 6622

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**Nelson Mandela Day celebrations in Free State (All / Office of the Premier)**

13 July 2011

The Free State Provincial Government will join the rest of the world in commemorating the life of one of the greatest statesmen and former President Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela. The International Mandela Day calls on the public to pause and make a change in the lives of ordinary people. With "change" being the main theme of the day, in Free State, Premier Ace Magashule and Members of the Executive Council will spend more than 67 minutes of their time doing community work and assisting other members of their communities such as the elderly, the orphans, the sick, the children, etc.

The main events for International Nelson Mandela Day in Free State will take place in Brandfort and Harrismith.

Brandfort - 16 July 2011 at 09h00

Already there is work in progress which included the grading of access roads, the cleaning of the area, the training of young people for pothole management, the establishment of youth cooperatives for internet café and the cleaning of the schools and clinics. On Saturday, the former occupants of Mrs Winnie Mandela's house will receive a house of their own.

Other activities are:

- handing over of some of 300 houses
- renovation of some houses
- painting of the Re a Kgathalla orphanage
- Party for orphaned and vulnerable children
- Fun games for the elderly.

Enquiries:  
Mondli Mvambi  
Cell: 082 043 3744

Harrismith – 16 July 2011 at 09h00

Mandla Mandela, Nelson Mandela's grandson will join the community of Harrismith in the renovations of the 50 year old Vulindlela School. He will be accompanied by Education MEC Tate Makgoe and hundred unemployed youth who will be receiving free training in Information Technology when Harrismith IT Hub is officially opened.

Enquiries:  
Howard Ndaba  
Cell: 079 503 5485

Members of the media are invited to cover both events.

## **JUNE 2011**

### **Premier Ace Magashule hosts Rivers of the Living Water Ministries in Bloemfontein (Office of the Premier)**

24 June 2011

Hundreds of congregants from various parts of the country will descend on the city of Bloemfontein for the Miracle Fest Crusade of the Rivers of the Living Water Ministries. The crusade will be led by the well-renowned Bishop Stephen B Zondo who will be joined by Premier Ace Magashule and several businessmen.

Under the theme: Moral Regeneration in the form of preaching, healing and salvation, the Bishop and members of his church will visit Omega House in Heidedal and Tshepo House to interact with the children.

The crusade will take place in the evening as follows:

Date: Friday, 24 June 2011  
Time: 18h00 to 06h00  
Place: Bloemfontein  
Venue: Vista University Main Campus

Media is invited to this event.

For more information contact:  
Mr Mofokeng  
Cell: 082 675 7099 (Rivers of Living Water Ministries)  
Mr Mvambi  
Office of the Premier  
Cell: 082 043 3744

## **Swearing-in ceremony of Mr Butana Komphela (Office of the Premier)**

14 June 2011

You are hereby cordially invited to the swearing-in ceremony of Mr Butana Komphela as the new member of the Free State Provincial Legislature. The Free State Premier, ES Magashule, will also make important announcements.

Arrangements are as follows:

Venue: Fourth Raadsaal, President Brand Street, (opposite the Court of Appeal), Bloemfontein

Time: 09h00

Date: 15 June 2011

Enquiries:

William Bulwane

Spokesperson of the Premier

Cell: 072 592 2221

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## **APRIL 2011**

### **Freedom Day celebration**

14 April 2011

This year's Freedom Day celebration will be staged under the theme "Working Together to Unite the Nation, Promote Democracy and Protect Freedom". The celebration will be held as follows:

Date: 27 April 2011

Time: 10h00

Venue: Kgatholoha Park, Frankfort/Namahadi

The programme of the celebration will be characterised by various activities and service delivery processes which include:

- Exhibitions by various programmes in the department (Library Services as well as museum and heritage services). The exhibitions will be focused on the Centenary celebrations.
- Arts and Culture Craft exhibitions and cultural performances
- Sport and Recreation activities (indigenous, elderly and disability games)
- Social services provision by the South African Social Security Agency (grants registrations) and other state institutions/departments.
- Messages from political principals as well as the satellite link to the President's keynote address.

The emphasis of the celebrations will be on mass participation and true celebration of the spirit of freedom and democracy.

Your media house is cordially invited.

Media enquiries:

Tankiso Zola (Manager: Communication and Marketing)

Cell: 082 940 2392

Tel: 051 410 4742/4786/4719  
E-mail: [tankiso@sacr.fs.gov.za](mailto:tankiso@sacr.fs.gov.za)

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## **MARCH 2011**

### **Free State Provincial Government embarks on budget votes road show (Office of the Premier)**

25 March 2011

Members of the Free State Executive Council led by Premier Ace Magashule will table their budget vote speeches in six different towns across the province.

The hosting of the budget votes in small towns is part of the drive by the Legislature of taking the Parliament to the people. The initiative started with last year's budget votes speeches.

A total of six small towns will host the Legislature starting on Friday, 25 March 2011, until Wednesday, 6 April 2011. Host towns are: Bothaville, Heilbron, Petrus Steyn, Hertzogville, Van Standensrus, and Luckhoff.

Members of the Free State Executive Council will outline strategic areas of focus for the 2011/12 financial year through the tabling their departmental budget votes.

The Speaker of the Legislature Moeketsi Sesele will table the budget vote of the Legislature. Like other provinces, the Free State budget comes from public money which is collected from the taxpayer. It must be spent in ways that will most benefit the public.

Within this context, before the tabling of each of the budget votes, Premier Magashule, MECs and other members of the Legislature will embark on a door-to-door campaign to interact with members of the community to discuss service delivery issues.

A number of activities will also be rolled out in the host towns as part of the budget votes. The Department of Social Development, working with South African Social Security Agency (SASSA), will handover food parcels to indigent households in Lukehof. The Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation will promote sporting activities which will also include arts and craft exhibitions.

The Department of Human Settlement will hand over 14 houses to beneficiaries in Van Standensrus. Other activities will be announced in due course.

Instead of checking in at hotels and guest houses, in some instances, members of the Legislature will be accommodated in various homes by ordinary members of the communities.

Ordinary Free Staters, including women, youth, senior citizens, school children, traditional leaders will be able to interact with and inform members of the Legislature of their daily experiences.

This will indeed build trust and confidence in the institutions of governance and will result in immeasurable possibilities of partnership between government and communities in programmes that geared towards building a better life for all.

Members of the media are invited to cover all the events.

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### **Magashule to host mass prayer service with Zion Christian Church (ZCC) to commemorate Human Rights Day**

17 March 2011

Thousands of Zion Christian Church members and other denominations will flock to the provincial capital Bloemfontein on Sunday, 20 March 2011, as the Free State Provincial Government mark the 51st anniversary of the Sharpeville Massacre.

Premier Magashule will host ZCC leader his Grace, Bishop Barnabas Lekganyane who will deliver a sermon at mass prayer service to be held at the Free Sate Stadium. Accompanied by members of the Free State Executive Council and other dignitaries, Premier Magashule will speak at the event. In addition to speeches, the programme will include an interdenominational church service, and performances by the Attredgeville Male Choir and ZCC Band.

The prayer service is part of the build up to the national Human Rights Day event on Monday, 21 March 2011, to be held at the Athlone Stadium in Cape Town under the theme: "Working together to protect human dignity for all".

The Sharpeville massacre represents a watershed moment in the history of South Africa because it triggered a number of events which intensified the struggle against apartheid. "We hope that this year's Human Rights Day commemoration will renew our commitment towards building a non-racial, non-sexist, prosperous and democratic society," said Premier Magashule.

The mass prayer service will be held as follows:

Date: Sunday, 20 March 2011  
Venue: Free State Stadium  
Time: To be announced

Members of the media are invited to cover the event and advised to confirm attendance before end of business on Friday, 18 May 2011

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## **Launch of end-user computing learnership for 600 unemployed youth**

16 March 2011

Free State Provincial Government will on Friday, 18 March 2011, launch the end-user computing learnership for 600 unemployed youth from Bloemfontein, Botshabelo, Odendaalsrus, Steynsrus and Thaba Nchu.

The youth will undergo a 12 month training programme through the Information Systems Electronics and Telecommunication Sector Education and Training Authority (ISETT SETA) until February 2012. Learners will each receive a stipend of R 1 200 per month for living expenses.

This launch takes place as part of government's efforts to address high levels of unemployment and persistent scarcity of skills required by the labour market; to provide unemployed youth with the necessary skills to become self-sufficient and productive.

The success of this launch is the culmination of the partnership the Free State provincial government has established with a number of sector education and training authorities to ensure coordination and focus in skills development approach for the youth in the province. A total of 5 000 people from the above mentioned towns as well as townships in and around Bloemfontein are targeted.

Members of the media are invited to attend the event.

Details of the launch:

Date: Friday, 18 March 2011  
Venue: Mangaung University Community Partnership Programme (MUCPP), next Comptech Comprehensive School, Phelindaba  
Time: 10h00

For more information contact:  
Wisani Ngobeni  
Cell: 072 583 9099

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## **FEBRUARY 2011**

### **Media Invite: Executive reshuffle (Office of the Premier)**

3 February 2011

Dear colleagues,

Kindly note that Premier of the Free State Provincial Government ES Magashule will be announcing his reshuffling of the Free State Provincial Executive in Bloemfontein. Details are as follows:

Date: 4 February 2011

Time: 10:45

Venue: Louis Botha, Ground Floor, Lebohang Building

For more information, please contact:

Mr William Bulwane

Cell: 072 592 2221

NB: Members of the media are kindly requested to confirm their presence.

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## **JANUARY 2011**

### **Free State Provincial Executive Council to hold Provincial EXCO Lekgotla**

24 January 2011

The Free State Provincial Executive Council will this week hold a three-day Provincial EXCO Lekgotla to amongst others look into plans to increase employment in the province. Job creation is one of the key priorities of government along with education, health, and rural development. The Executive Council will review the performance of both the provincial and local government in respect of all these priorities and more.

The meeting, which follows last week's national Cabinet Lekgotla, will assess the progress on the following:

- The review of the Free State Growth and Development Strategy, which is being led by the Human Science Research Council;
- The implementation of economic flagship projects such as the Harrismith Logistics Hub, the N8 corridor development and the Xhariep Fish Hatchery; and
- The development of the Provincial Infrastructure Masterplan, which will chart a 15-year map for infrastructure development throughout the province.

Members of the media are invited to attend a media briefing on the outcomes of the Provincial EXCO Lekgotla to be addressed by Premier Magashule and other members of the Executive Council.

Details of the media briefing are as follows:

Date: Friday, January 28

Time: 13h00

Venue: Phillip Sanders Resort

For media enquiries:  
Wisani Ngobeni  
Cell: 072 594 9099