

**WELCOMING NOTE OF THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR OF THABO MOFUTSANYANA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, DR B.E. MZANGWA, DURING AN EVENT BY THE OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC PROTECTOR TO CELEBRATE HUMAN RIGHTS IN BETHLEHEM**

**20 MARCH 2012**

Motsamaisi wa mosebetsi

Mosereletsi wa Setjhaba wa Afrika Borwa(Public Protector of the Republic of South Africa) Advocate Thuli Madonsela

Motlatsa mosereletsi wa Setjhaba, Advocate Mamiki Shai

Moemedi wa Human Rights Commission, Mokhomishinara L Mokate

Majoro wa phethahatso wa Dihlabeng, Councillor Tjhetane Mofokeng

Motsamaisi wa dipuisano wa Dihlabeng, Councillor Angie Noosi

Moemedi wa Nelson Mandela Children's Fund, Mme J Lingalo

Marena le Makhenselara

Baeti ba bohlokwa

Basebetsi ba mmuso

Setjhaba ka kakaretso,

Re le MaAfrika Borwa re lokela ho ba motlotlo ho ba MaAfrika Borwa naheng ya rona ya Afrika Borwa hobane re phela kahare ho naha eo re tsebang hore ditokelo tsa rona tsa botho ha di hlomphuwe feela empa di tshereditswe ke Molaotheo wa Naha ya rona ya Afrika Borwa.

Re phela ka boiketlo le ka tokoloho ka ho tseba hore re na le matla a ho qosa mang kapa mang ya hatakelang ditokelo tsa rona, ekasitana le wona mmuso wa rona re na le matla a ho o qosa hang feela ha o ka hatakela ditokelo tsa rona.

Bomme le bontate, ditokelo tsa rona di re fa seriti, tlhompheho, botho le boitshepo jwaleka setjhaba le motho ka bomong. Ntlha ena ya tlhompheho ya ditokelo tsa botho ke yona e ileng ya e ba lona lebaka le ileng etsa hore banna le basadi ba kopane mane Kliptown ka di 26 June 1955 ho bopa tokomane ena e tsabahalang ka hore ke Freedom Charter. Molaetsa wa tokomane ena o hlakile bahaeso wa hore "*batho bohle ba na le ditokelo tse tshwanang kapa ka ho lekana.*"

Programme Director, human rights are a set of guarantees that ensure not only living but also those basic conditions to live with dignity as a human being. These sets of rights are designed to protect individuals from the threat to life and human dignity. For a long time we had no cause to celebrate, we had been robbed of our dignity and humanity. Now that the democracy we fought so much hard for, has restored our human dignity we have a cause for celebration.

Never shall we revert back to a state of perpetual violation of human rights and degradation of a human kind, which the Indian thinker and educator Juddi Krishnamurti described as *the clever exploit of the stupid* when he said, “What man has done to man has no limit. He has tortured him, he has burned him, he has killed him, he has exploited him in every possible way – religious, political, economic. This has been the story of man to man; the clever exploit the stupid, the ignorant.”

As we celebrate these rights, let us always keep in mind that human rights apply to every human being irrespective of nationality, religion, sex, social status, occupation, wealth, property or any other differentiating ethnic, cultural or social characteristics. In its opening article the Declaration of the Universal Human Rights by the United Nations states, “All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.”

Ha e le mona kajeno re keteka ditokelo tsa botho, re leboha haholo ho ba le mekgatlo e tshwanang le Kantoro ya Mosereletsi wa Setjhaba e ntseng e tsitlallela moelelong wa tokomane ya Freedom Charter ekasitana Molaotheo wa Afrika Borwa wa tlhomphelele le tshireletso ya ditokelo tsa botho.

Boteng ba mekgatlo ena, e jwaloka kantoro ya mosereletsi wa setjhaba (Office of the Public Protector), ke netefalelo ya hore naha ya rona e hlompha toka, nnete, tsamaiso e nepahetseng le e ntle hammoho le ditokelo tsa baahi.

Ha ke le amohela bohle mosebetsing ona wa letsatsi la kajeno ke rata hore ho lona ha re duleng re tseba hore leha re e na le ditokelo re tlameha ho ba le maikarabelo, hoba ditokelo di tsamaisana mmoho le maikarebelo. Ka mantswe ana ke rata hore ho lona bohle le amohelohile kwano sebakeng sena.

Ke ya leboha.