



**agriculture &
rural development**
Department:
Agriculture and Rural Development
North West Provincial Government
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

CLOSING REMARKS BY

MEC DESBO MOHONO NORTH WEST PROVINCE

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL
DEVELOPMENT DURING THE AGRICULTURAL
MARKET ACCESS
SUMMIT**

HELD AT SUN CITY SUPER BOWL

MOSES KOTANE

BOJANALA DISTRICT

ON THE, 28th FEBRUARY 2023

Programme Director

Office of the Premier

Head of Department –Rre Thupi Mokhatle

Moruti wa rona - Mr. A Naththali

Moses Kotane MMC – Cllr Motsisi

Stakeholder Rep-Mr. R Keothaile

DALRRD AGRO PROCESSING-Dr. V Thindisa

DALRRD MARKETING –Mr.S Manthata

SUN CITY RESORT- Mr. Ramotse

Pilanesburg Platinum Mine

Wesizwe Mine

Anglo Amanda Belt Mine

Northern Platinum Mine

Siyanda Bakgatlha Mine

Anthens Platinum Mine

Bakubung Resort

Kwa Maritana Resort

Black Rhino Resort

All Agricultural Unions and Youth present

All Farmers Present

All Media Houses present

Bagaetsho let me once more take this opportunity to greet you all, after fruitful deliberations and narrations for the past three days of this PAMAS. Let me also take this moment to thank all the presenters from government, mining sector, private sector, Sun City Resorts and everybody else who was hard at work in making sure that the summit becomes a grand spectacle. It is said **"You get what you work for, not what you wish for"**. Now the kind of people gathered here today are hard workers not wishful thinkers, and for that as a department we are grateful to have guided us in our quest for our farmers to enter the relevant markets.

Ladies and Gentlemen, data released by statistics South Africa in the last week of January indicates that consumer food price inflation averaged 9, 5% in 2022, compared with 6, 5 in 2021 and 4, 8% in 2020. Broadly speaking, the high prices of grains, vegetables oils, and meat for much of 2022 were the primary drivers of consumer food price inflation. Now the above statistics clearly shows that we have our work cut out in making sure that we double our efforts in repositioning our farmer's entrance to the bigger and broader gamut. What came out from this summit is that we all need each other no matter; a single leaf working alone provides no shade, as it needs branches, roots, twigs and thorns to prosper.

As government we have a binding contract of servicing our people, **with business and the mining sector it's purely different as it is their interest first and purely making money to breaking even.** Two worlds that are apart but a force to be reckoned with if we put the interest of our farmers first. Challenges and risks will always confront new partnerships, confront farmers, confront the mining sector, confront the tourism industry but we are never without options Ladies and gentlemen. Half the battle is already won by knowing the challenges and risks, but winning the other half entails acting rationally and not emotionally.

For the past three days, **first we have understood the problems faced by our farmers, second step we have to act based on each and every merit of the problems encountered, thirdly is for us to stop talking and create a discipline environment through actions.** Our farmer's wants action not just black and white documents that are just going to be filed. Economic growth and emancipation in the North West province will increase and open new markets for products of our farmers which are the back-bone to this important transition. **It has come out clear in the last three days that our partners gathered here are willing and ready to do business with us as government.**

As partners, I am confident that we will continue to find ways of assisting one another to ensure increased investment in our economies, enhancing local enterprise and most importantly enter the relevant markets together to conclude what we have already started here in Sun City Resorts.

I am glad that all of us leave Rustenburg with a common understanding that the goal of shared prosperity is achievable because human society and business together possesses the capacity, the knowledge and the resources to eradicate poverty underdevelopment and food insecurity. To use these possibilities successfully requires that we also agree to the concept of a common but differentiated responsibility. I urge everybody to take their tasks very serious; because that is the only way we can climb this mountain we are faced with of entering the Promised Land.

Ladies and Gentlemen for this summit to bear sweet fruits we require everybody in attendance here today to be brave, bold, conscious and be principled. Those are the ethos of which this partnership will and should be remembered with. I strongly believe that I am addressing that audience now.

Tomorrow upon working up in the morning, remember that as the sun turns in its tracks and begins its tropical journey bringing the warmth to your farms, mines, offices and resorts you are all anointed into making the Sun City Resort Economic Summit Resolution a reality. Let us for once stop with fiction.

In conclusion I wish to urge all of you to stay resolute in setting your sights towards achieving that which you want for yourselves. I also wish to state categorically that as we draw to an end surely this is not the last time we are conversing on issues before us. Perhaps we will continue because this task is a crawling baby that needs all our energies for it to grow. **Before I sit down, I would like to once more express a word of gratitude for making this summit a success. I am certain that we are all invigorated therefore let us all go back home and work even harder.**

I thank you. Ke a Leboga.

MEC-Desbo Mohono

Department of Agriculture and Rural Development