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OUTCOME 3: ALL PEOPLE IN SOUTH AFRICA ARE AND FEEL SAFE

Khayelitsha Imbizo tackles crime

By Ntandokazi Kukuma and Sikelela Zokufa: GCIS, Western Cape

Over 3 000 people attended the Ministerial Imbizo in Khayelitsha Stadium on 13 April. The Imbizo focused on challenges relating to gang violence in schools and communities. Police Deputy Minister Makgotso Soty, Western Cape Police Commissioner Lieutenant-General Arno Lamoer, Community Safety MEC Don Plato, Mayoral Committee Member for Safety and Security Jean-Pierre Smith, local councillors and many other dignitaries engaged with community members.

Members of the community raised different challenges such as crime, drug abuse and community safety.

Deputy Minister Soty encouraged parents to lay a solid foundation of raising their children in a responsible manner. “It all starts with us as parents, especially women. We should stop allowing our own children to get away with crime. We must not turn a blind eye and only show concern when the crime affects us directly,” she said.

The Deputy Minister also shared different programmes aimed at overcoming the issue of resourcing in security and policing. She mentioned that the police-training programmes have been extended from six months to two years and that the curriculum includes driving lessons to ensure that trainees are fully capacitated, equipped and able to drive.

Other community members raised concerns about the issue of substance abuse and pleaded with everyone to stay away from drugs.

Both Lamoer and Smith unpacked plans of introducing police stations in Makhaza and Khayelitsha by 2016. Many speakers argued that Khayelitsha should have more police stations as its population has doubled in the past five years.



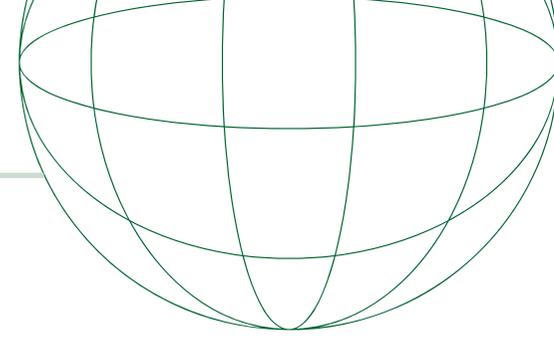
Deputy Minister Soty speaking at the event.



MEC Plato addressing the audience.



Community members at the event.



Community members accessing different services at the exhibition venue.



A community member raising her issues of concern.



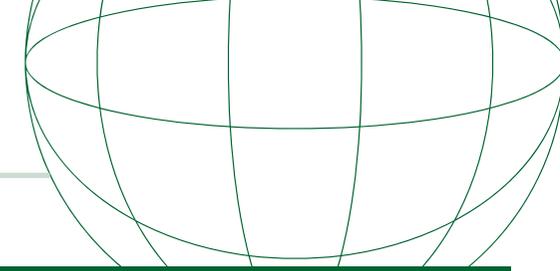
Lieutenant-General Lamoer and Deputy Minister Soty during a radio interview at the venue.



Mpula said:
 "There needs to be a new theory to tackle crime. Police and resources should be deployed to areas according to those areas' crime rates."



Appollis said:
 "The event was a success and we feel very honoured whenever we are invited by government to address us and listen to our concerns, especially crime-related issues. All killers, rapists, abusers and other criminals must be put in jail."



Minister Dlamini addressing senior citizens during the visit.



Georgina said:

“We feel privileged and blessed to be serving our senior citizens; they are our source of knowledge and wisdom.”



Ellyn Luit said:

“I am happy that I saw President Zuma with my own eyes. I will tell my grandchildren.”

OUTCOME 8: SUSTAINABLE HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND AN IMPROVED QUALITY OF HOUSEHOLD LIFE

President Zuma visits Eersterust

By Robbie Senoelo: GCIS, Gauteng

President Jacob Zuma visited Lodewyk P. Spies Old Age Home in Eersterust to assess and evaluate living conditions of senior citizens and also to encourage active ageing. This outreach was done as part of the Siyahlolola Presidential Monitoring Programme on 24 March. The old-age home has 95 residents, with the oldest being 105 years old. President Zuma was accompanied by Social Development Minister Bathabile Dlamini, Police Deputy Minister Makgotso Soty, Gauteng Premier David Makhura, Gauteng Education MEC Panyaza Lesufi, Gauteng Roads and Transport MEC Ismail Vadi and the City of Tshwane Executive Mayor Kgosientso Ramokgopa. The leaders toured around the facility before engaging senior citizens in the dining hall.

The President’s visit followed that of Social Development Deputy Minister Henrietta Bogopane-Zulu, during which number of challenges and needs were identified. In response, the dignitaries brought new mattresses, bedding, linen, toiletry, etc to address some of the challenges. Minister Dlamini said that the perimeter fence will be repaired to ensure residents’ safety and there will be a budget allocation for the general maintenance and running of the home in order to ensure that residents have a better life.

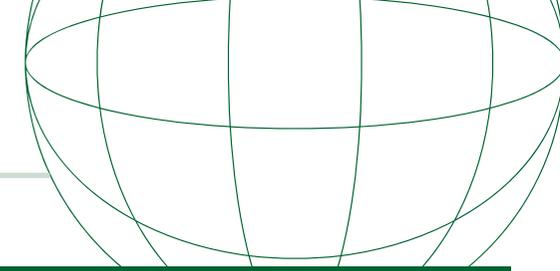
President Zuma addressed and engaged the residents of the home in order to gauge the mood and source feedback on government’s performance. He encouraged the senior citizens to tell their own stories regarding life in South Africa before and after democracy. The President also thanked the home’s staff for looking after the elderly.

“Our government recognises the important role that senior citizens play in our families and communities,” said President Zuma. He said it was a collective responsibility to establish and sustain an environment of safety and security for all the vulnerable sections of society, including the elderly.

“We owe our senior citizens the dignity and respect following many years of sacrifices to build our families and communities. We commit to continue working hard to ensure that our seniors are taken care of in their golden years,” he said.



President Zuma interacting with senior citizens at the old-age home.



Safety officials monitoring the march.



Members of the Sur Riders Crew leading the march.



St Mark High School learner giving message of support at Mbombela Stadium.

OUTCOME 14: A DIVERSE, SOCIALLY COHESIVE SOCIETY WITH A COMMON NATIONAL IDENTITY

Ehlanzeni District tackles attacks on foreign nationals

By Jerry Nkosi: GCIS, Mpumalanga

Ehlanzeni District Municipality Executive Mayor Letta Shongwe led a peaceful march to condemn attacks against foreign nationals on 24 April. The event was attended by many different stakeholders including the Moral Regeneration Movement, South African Council of Churches, taxi associations, Nigerians Union, Ethiopians, Mozambicans, Pakistanis, Indians, Zimbabweans and other foreign nationals who also appreciated the march to unite our rainbow nation.

The march started at Mbombela taxi rank and proceeded to Mbombela Rugby Stadium where the Executive Mayor delivered her keynote address.

“My heart is oozing blood, my eyes burning with tear drops after the barbaric incidents we have recently witnessed as a nation,” said the Executive Mayor. She said these violent acts were reversing all the gains made by the whole African continent. She also said that our hard-won democracy, our pride and image as a country, and the Freedom Charter were also at stake.



Executive Mayor Shongwe and other participants during the march.



Community members, foreign nationals and other stakeholders during the march.



Ehlanzeni District Municipality Speaker Johan Mavuso and Moral Regeneration Movement Chairperson Rev Michah Nthali with other stakeholders during the march.