

Address by MEC Neliswa Nkonyeni on the occasion of the inauguration of Ward Committees at Umzumbe

28 July 2006

His Excellency, the Mayor
The Deputy Mayor
The Municipal Manager
Honourable Speaker
Distinguished Councillors
Respected Ward Committee Members
Esteemed Guests from the district
Ladies and gentlemen
All protocol observed

It is with utmost sincerity that I thank all of you for granting me an opportunity to share a platform as well as ideas with you.

Fellow compatriots, the sphere of local government is the most crucial one in terms of service delivery and also in terms of assessing the impact of the policies and programmes of the democratic movement as a whole.

Before we even look deep into what you, as ward committee members, have to accomplish during your tenure, I, on behalf of the provincial executive, would like to voice our appreciation to you, for having availed yourselves to serve our people. We trust that the community of Umzumbe will be a better one by the time your term ends.

Ladies and gentlemen, the seeds for success in terms of what is to be accomplished lies with understanding broadly and clearly and what Umzumbe Municipality is all about.

Here, we have a total household is **38 280**, with a population of **193 767** people. This consists of **193 434** Africans, **185** Coloureds, **49** Indians and **99** Whites.

In as far as the population by age is concerned, the majority of people we are serving here are those between the ages of **15 to 34**.

Kubalulekile ukuthi uma singena kulelikomiti sazi ukuthi lo Masipala zithini izinhlelo zawo ngokuphathelene nezentsuthuko. Loku kuzosisiza ukuthi sibe negalelo elinohlonzo kulezinhlelo.

Okuphambili lomkhandlu ozimisele ngakho yiloku:

- Ukuphakelwa kwamanzi ngompompi, ngamathangi kanye nokumba ezindaweni ezidinga loko.
- Ukuphakelwa kukagesi ukuthi kuthi kuphela lonyaka ozayo u 80% wemizi ube usunawo.
- Ukulungisa imigwaqo ukuze kuzobalula ukuthi amabhasi kanye nezingola zosizo lokuqala zifinyelele emiphathakathini.
- Ukwakha amathuba emisebenzi ngokucocwa kwemfucuza.
- Ukwehliswa kwezinga labantu abangafundile kulendawo.
- Ukusekwa kwezizinda ezizobhekana nalabo Bantu asebaphila negcewane lengculazi kanye nezizukulwane zabo.
- Ukuqikelela ukuthi izindawo ezihanjelwa umphakathi zicolisisekile
- Ukuthuthukisa izizinda okukhokhelwa kuzo impesheni
- Ukufundisa amalunga omphakathi ukuthi azenzele izingadi ezinhlelweni zokulwisana nobubha.
- Ukwenza ngcono amathuna lapho sifihla khona izihlobo zethu, kanye
- Nokulekelela osomabhizinisi abasafufusa ukuthi basimame ukuze kuzokwakheka amathuba emisebenzi.

Lezinhlelo sizisho njengoba zinjalo ngoba sifuna nazi ukuthi kubhekwe kuphi.

Kubalulekile ke ukuthi sazi ukuthi thina njengamalunga e Ward Committee asiqokwelanga ukuthatha imisebenzi yamakhansela. Ukungena kwethu kulezinhlelo masikuqonde ukuthi kuyingxenye yezinsika ze **PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY**

U Section 16, we Systems Act uyacacisa ukuthi:

Participatory governance should not permit interference with a municipal council's right to govern and to exercise the executive and legislative authority of the municipality. The municipal council, which is the product of representative democracy, not only has the sole legal mandate to govern but also, and more importantly, the political legitimacy to do so.

Ukusekwa kwama Ward Committees kungukuhambisana nezimiso ze *Local Government: Municipal Structures Act, No. 117 of 1998*, ecacisayo ukuthi azosiza ekubhekeni loku okulandelayo:

1. to monitor performance of municipalities against their Integrated Development Plans
2. to promote accountability in local government;
3. to improve service delivery and maximise development at a local level
4. to create a performance related culture in local government; and
5. to bring about the desired institutional and organisational changes.

Masiqaphele naku okulandelayo ngokusebenza kwama Ward Committees

A ward committee should, in a broad sense, be a communication channel for the entire ward community. *Lapha kumelwe wonke umuntu*

The ward committee cannot merely reflect and replicate the existing configuration of the elected council. *Masingabangisani namakhansela*

Nor should it function as a communication channel for the winning party only as the councillor already perform this function. *Masingachemi kulelikomiti*

A ward committee should also not provide a forum for the losing candidates to fight the municipal election all over again. *Akuyona inkundla yokuphikisa amakhansela aqokwe ngokwentando yeningi*

Internal procedures of ward committees

- Kuzoba umkhandlu ozonquma ukuthi ama Ward Committees ahlangana kangaki
- Ikhansela lesigceme ilona iliba ngusihlalo emhlanganweni
- Indlela okuthathwa ngayo izinqumo yileyo ebekwe ngumkhandlu

Masazi ukuthi uhulumeni unezinhloso ezinhle mayelana nokuxhumana nomphakathi, yingakho nje ephakamisa ukuthi akusekwe lezinsika.

Masiphinde sibhekisise izinto ezibangela ukungezwani neziba yizihibe ngokuphathelene nokuthuthukiswa kwemiphakathi. Kubalulekile ukuthi wonke umuntu oyilunga le Ward Committee azi ukuthi akukho mali ekhokhelwa lomsebenzi.

Umkhandlu ngokunibhekelela uzimisele ukukhokha izimali ezisetshenziwe uma amalunga ekhokhe izimali zawo ngokuhambela imihlangano okuvunyelwene ngayo. Umkhandlu futhi esabelweni sawo sezimali uzimisele ukuvula isikhwama esingasetshenziselwa ukuthuthukisa amalunga ekomiti.

Dissolution of the ward committee

Makwaziwe futhi ukuthi leli akulona ikomiti elingunaphakade. Uma sekuphele isikhathi okuvunyelwene ngaso, lelikomiti kufanele livume ukuhlakazeka. Kufanele futhi amalunga abe nolwazi lokuthi uma kungekho ukusebenzisana ngendlela, noma amalunga ekomiti engafuni ukuhlangana, ikomiti kufanele livume ukuhlakazwa.

Ngizophetha ngokuqinisa ukuthi umkhandlu uphethwe ngamakhansela, amalunga awavunyelwe ukulawulela amakhansela ukuthi avote kanjani umaenza umsebenzi wawo womkhandlu.

Nginethemba elikhulu lokuthi lesinyathelo sokuthulwa kwenu njengamalunga sizokwazi ukushitsha lendawo yase Mzumbe ukuthi ebe ngezinye ezizothuthuka kakhulu kulesifunda. The potential is there.

I cannot move away from this podium having not appealed to you to take charge of your health.

I am appealing to all men, all women, young and old, to take the time to use our services to ensure the continued improvement of their health.

Always bear in mind that in many cases early detection of health problems leads to improved chances of treatment.

The KwaZulu-Natal Health Department has vast resources, services and programmes to ensure the good health of all of you.

Know that our services are free to all those who cannot afford. Its our belief that lack of wealth must not mean lack of health.

Our department has a very focused programme of preventing maternal and infant deaths so that birth can remain the joyous occasion it is supposed to be.

Our programme of prevention of mother to child transmission of HIV is the largest in the world. Let us help you bring a healthy baby into the world. All women planning to have children should know their status before the pregnancy so that all factors can be considered.

Our department has sites throughout the province where you can access the Voluntary Testing and Counseling for HIV. Know your status and take charge of your health.

Njengaloku sisebenza nomphakathi, masiwangxuseni amadoda ukuthi anakekele, odle aphinde azithande izingane zawo.

Phambili ngempilo engcono kuwo wonke umuntu.

Viva Mkhandlu waseMzumbe.

Viva Meyu yethu.

Viva makhansela ethi esiziqokele wona.

Viva malunga eWard Committee