

Vote of Thanks by KZN Health MEC on the occasion of Gala Dinner for the delegates of the Women in Partnership Against Aids held at Ocean Conference Centre in Durban

08 August 2007

My duty is the easiest tonight, as I have been tasked to thank all of you for having devoted your time to this noble cause.

Our most humble gratitude goes to our Programme Director, Mr Ceaser Molebatsi, for having directed the proceedings in a most respectful, intelligent, passionate and informed manner. He deserves applause for his ability to understand and respect izinto zomama.

Mr Molebatsi under your guidance we were able to reach consensus on all the issues tabled and most of all, we are going back to our respective homes and locations knowing exactly what to share and transmit.

Ladies and gentlemen, we could not have been here if it was not for the stewardship of our courageous and hard working Minister of Health, our Mama, Dr Manto Tshabalala-Msimang.

Minister, thank you for your unselfish and tireless efforts geared towards giving a better health to all our people.

Even today as we were theorising, taking resolutions as Wipaa, most of us here do not know that you were busy discussing with the representatives of various sections of the private health care industry, confronting them on their alleged inflation of private health care cost. All of us here know that you are doing all this because you care. We appreciate your unquenchable desire to see to the increase of access of affordable health care to all the citizens of this country. Thank you again.

To all the participants of this summit, we are saying, all the inputs and deliberations aired and discussed in these two days will beyond doubt, change and influence the way we carry ourselves outside of this fora.

Fellow delegates, conveners and invited guests, I am confident that this occasion is a celebration of our unity in action and a demonstration of our preparedness to be involved wherever we are called upon. The fact that you represent all levels of our social structures and many of you have travelled thousands of kilometres to be here, demonstrates that you care and are willing to change the cause of history.

I once again want to thank you and wish you a safe journey home.

Once again Happy Women's day!!

Thank you!