

National Water Summit

Opening Plenary

Welcome, Mondli Gungubele, Exec Mayor Ekurhuleni

- Positive things challenges of climate change it has made humanity so sober up, to know that life is not just about human beings, also good state of our geographic, happiness of plants and animals
- Take opportunity to welcome you to city of aerotropolis, home of 200 water bodiest, best place to discuss issues of security of water supply and other matters
- August special significance consciousness of nation, time of year when we give more prominence to resilience and courageousness and steadfastness sof women, time to acknowledge tenacity and celebrate noble causes of women in politics and society at large
- Central significance in sustenance of humanity
- Footnote capitalising on our uniqueness, Ekurhuleni preferred destination water sport, investment opportunities and hospitality in general
- Need paradigm shift the way water management is role
- Water plays central role in development planning
- Need for efficient use and conservation of water resources, delivery of water and sanitation needs innovation interventions
- Skills, aging infrastructure, financials inadequacy, growing population
- Quality of water more sensitive communities, address challenges of this nature imperative at this conference
- WRM fundamental to all our development initiatives and plans
- We are aware that world economic forum recognised water security as primary risk to global economy
- Cannot allow situation to prevail
- Experts must help mitigate this threat
- Must accelerate to broaden quality and delivery of water service delivery to our people
- Wish that course of summit will find groundbreaking solutions around broadening access to water, research, state of country's water resources and any other important matter

Pravin Gordhan, Minister of COGTA

- Come a long way in terms of water supply from the below 50% to 90% range we find today
- As we meet quantitative benchmarks, expectations of people accordingly, quantitative and qualitative elements now important
- National, provincial and municipal cooperation needs to take a leap forward to different levels of quality, different level of cost effectiveness, and service
- We are advocating a 'back to basics' approach for Municipalities, which says that forget about fancy stuff, just make sure do basics right
- Basket of basic services, efficiently, without failures, respond within hours not days
- Secondly governance right, make right decisions, spend money,
- Ensure you comply with law
- Effective administration to be built, water and sanitation engineers, and competent staff,

- Ensure sound financial management
- Sixth area is service delivery
- COGTA work together with DWS we can ensure respond more quickly to crisis that we have, delivery of water everyone concerned about, public perception terms determines people perceive services of municipality as effective or not depending on quality of water that they get
- Introducing legislation if necessary to incentivise positive behaviour among municipality and other organisations
- Ten year infra plans on regional basis, give municipality certainty, investors certainty, way in which grants operate will also take into account ten year plans
- Implementation capability will have to be reviewed, money isn't a problem in SA, problem is how we spend the money
- No effective implementation capability we will waste money, we will not implement correctly, huge numbers in terms of investment required in bulk water and other services, that for now and future enough money in system if we use it wisely
- Collaboration among government agencies, cannot work in silos, need integrated environment in geographical area
- Number of grievances, departments parachuting programmes from the top
- Next 5 years need to coordinating planning and synchronising efforts
- Part of discipline every municipality 7% operational expenditure for maintenance purposes, will begin to move in right direction
- Can we play right kind of role in supporting economic growth and job creation
- If we get basics right, then business people can get onto business, expanding economy, investing more in economy, and creating jobs for huge numbers of unemployed and provide training
- Manner in which infra grants operate and whether with Treasury, DWS, can work together different grant funding mechanism, where grants go different, work with national development plan and objectives,
- Facilitate alignment and coordination infrastructure grants different source
- Get that all sections of society (collaboration) can make much bigger success as we build on 20 years of democracy

Nomvula Mokonyane, Minister of DWS

- Not so long ago millions went to cast their votes, chose party to hold high legacy of Nelson Mandela
- Notwithstanding shortfalls, ANC manifesto speaks about how to move SA forward, in terms of infrastructure, restoring dignity of SA through sanitation,
- Affirmation maturity of democracy, here with humility
- Assigned responsibility to lead, only 2 months in office
- People resolve, embrace NDP, give hope for future
- Decisive leadership assert authority across government, bring about radical socioeconomic transformation.
- Have to deal with issues Minister Pravin raised, demonstrate effectiveness, efficiency, accountability, accessibility, integrity of those serve, cooperation among all of us

- Found fitting, summit platform to discuss game changes in radical way
- Among those service delivery challenges,
- Resolve water and san challenge, not just provision of money, but about capacity, efficiency of system, proper planning and planning within dedicated space, designed plan will make sure everybody becomes beneficiary and ensure quality service delivery
- Also believe that other area contribute radical economy transformation, effective use of water research info, new technology and embracing innovation in water and san family
- Realities cant wish away need, one size fits all like past is no longer valid, need to embrace others, only do that if we empower people with information and knowledge and expose to alternative contribute to better and hygienic living conditions
- One area required is role of the private sectors
- One of the things appreciate, former minister finance now being minister of COGTA
- Own procurement systems, localisations, beneficiation creation in delivery of services
- How make sure private sector invest in social infrastructure, SA can become country contributing to social trans, deracialisation of communities through better sanitation and water plan
- Community cooperation – don't want protests, through themselves try to find alternatives, or resists interventions, been excluded from sector
- I believe, have listened to people, one of game changers needed is participation of ordinary communities in sections, participation of disenfranchised, those who don't have relationship with those in authority, so that we are transparent, we have integrity and our systems can withstand scrutiny and can be
- Women in Mpumalanga defying government and laying their own pipes
- Must make sure people part of challenges and part of finding the solution
- Has to be consequences as well, why take 76 year old that scientists and engineers cannot find in 3 years?
- Transformation and deracialisation of society fast tracked through water and sanitation service delivery
- Have to do things differently
- Find solutions current challenges, collective wisdom needed to find solutions for ordinary people, especially women
- Why fetch water when Jozini dam
- Cant have dam supply Botswana but villages have shortages of water, but people see pipes taking water away
- Cannot have water in Gauteng, but Free State don't have acces to water, need game changers,
- SA belongs toall who live in it
- Among those affected are women and children. seven days after appointment 3 babies dying because of water contamination in Bloemhof, and 3 women – cannot guarantee have other children
- First time mothers, own neglect lost their three angels because of our inability to lead, manage, administer and appoint the right people to do the job
- Can't be business and usual, colleagues friends, have to embrace the spirit of oneness, water being life and sanitation being

- Forever indictment that SA can die because of consumption of bad water, learners can die because of lack of sanitation like Limpopo
- Need to be passionate, focused, effective with proper plans to go to our people
- Radical social transformation, solution to water and sanitation – have to revisit water ownership patterns and water use rights in SA
- Some concessions made in peaceful settlement, can we continue in that pattern, can individual resource used to perpetuate separate development and racial segregation
- Conservation, preservation and innovation towards
- Harmonise roles and responsibility of institutions and spheres of governments for individuals
- Water boards cannot celebrate huge turnover and finances look good when primary mandate to create capacity in government to deliver
- Need to put communities first in what we do and demonstrate that it is business unusual
- Other spheres of government, infuse life in
- Sanitation is more than independence,

Official speech – Water Minister

OPENING ADDRESS BY THE MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION MS NOMVULA MOKONYANE, ON THE OCCASION OF THE WATER AND SANITATION SUMMIT, BIRCHWOOD HOTEL AND CONFERENCE CENTRE, BOKSBURG

On behalf of both myself and the Deputy Minister, I wish to humbly express my gratitude to all of you for having honoured our invitation to this two day summit.

It is imperative to remind you that not so long ago, millions across the length and breadth of South Africa went out to cast their vote.

The different Political Parties through their Manifestos made communities to choose a party that is better positioned to hold high the legacy of Nelson Mandela. Notwithstanding the challenges and the shortfall of the past 20 years of democracy, the majority of South Africans endorsed the ANC election Manifesto.

This was also an affirmation of the maturity of our hard won democracy as we move South Africa forward hence we are here today, with humility, been assigned the responsibility as the 5th Administration to lead, for yet another five years. We are also inspired by our people's resolve to embrace the National Development Plan (NDP) which gives them hope for the future.

South Africans expect from this Administration decisive leadership that can assert authority across government, communities and private sector to bring about radical socio-economic transformation.

For us to bring about this radical socio-economic transformation in real terms, we have to deal with matters in a manner that demonstrates:

- Effectiveness;
- Efficiency;

- Accountability;
- Accessibility, and
- Co-operation amongst all of us.

Therefore, it is on this basis, that we found it befitting to host this summit as a platform to deal with key areas that require game changers in a radical way. And these are:

- Meeting the service delivery challenges;
- Water and Sanitation challenges;
- Water Research, Technology and Innovation;
- State of South Africa water resource;
- The role of the Private sector; and
- Community Participation.

Transformation and de-racialization of South Africa through the provision of Water and Sanitation should be fast-tracked. For us to contribute meaningfully to the realization of the NDP objectives and the electoral mandate, we have to do things differently. In finding solutions to the current challenges, this calls for our collective wisdom in changing the lives of women. In place like Kwa-Mhlaba Uyalingana, for an example, women should no longer share water with animals or walk barefooted and pregnant to fetch water in the river whilst there is Jozini dam next to their village.

As part of the drive towards radical socio-economic transformation, we need to ensure that solutions to water and sanitation challenges must be about opening the sector to those that have been dis-enfranchised. This will have to be done by providing skills development, economic empowerment as well access to quality water and dignified sanitation.

The game changers will firstly have to be about revisiting the water ownership patterns and water use rights in our country. Secondly, it is about educating and creating awareness amongst our communities on conservation, preservation and security of our scarce resource as well as innovation.

Furthermore, the game changers will have to harmonize the roles and responsibilities of institutions and all spheres of government in the best interest of the end-user both individually and collectively.

We can achieve this, only if we put communities first in what we do and demonstrate that it is business unusual.

As stated by His Excellency President Jacob Zuma, this department has a national obligation to ensure that we infuse life in the provision of quality water and restore the dignity of our people through sanitation.

We are here for the next two days to consolidate the work done in the last 20 years to bring about radical socio-economic transformation in service delivery. It is that partnership that is essential in moving South Africa forward. We all look forward to a sustainable relationship beyond these 2 days.

As we move South Africa forward let us remember the words of the founding father of our democracy, Nelson Mandela, in a document titled “Why Advocate for water, sanitation and hygiene?” where he said: “Sanitation is more important than independence.”

Our preoccupation should be about “Water is life and Sanitation is dignity.”

Ends

Closing Plenary

Feedback from Rapporteurs

Some discussion from the floor regards:

- a) The need for new legislation (especially when it took so long to implement first time round)
- b) Water allocation reform and the role of General Authorisations (led by Dr Barbara van Koppen)
- c) Also concerns from the floor that sanitation was largely left out of groups discussions. A separate workshop on sanitation issues is suggested
- d) Debate around inclusion of the word ‘innovative’ in the Declaration. ‘We should not wait for something to be innovative before we make it a cornerstone’
- e) Importance of water institutions highlighted. ‘we need effective water institutions to manage the resource from source to tap’
- f) What about community innovations? Should not forget rainwater harvesting, family wells and other community practices (i.e. indigenous knowledge) – emphasis on ‘people driven solutions’ rather than top down approach
- g)

Minister Mokonyane closing remarks

- Minister emphasis the need for ongoing discussion and dialogue on issues and progress made on issues raised at Summit
- Water Summit recommendations to lead DWS in its strategic planning
- Minister says she will invite stakeholders to attend strategic planning of DWS
- ‘we must kill this us and them, we must work together as a sector’
- She emphasises the need to move away from ‘business as usual’
- ‘As a water sector we need to interact continuously to find out whether we are on the right path or not’
- Emphasises the need to rebrand the DWS as an effective and efficient department with a culture of ethics and delivery

- Funding and lack of resources will no longer be considered an excuse for lack of service delivery (Warning to municipalities). We will use existing resources responsibility, and in a manner that has impact.
- Have to change financial management and admin for the better
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