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**DEBATES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE THIRD**

**KWAZULU-NATAL LEGISLATURE**

**FIFTH SESSION**

**THIRD LEGISLATURE**

**WEDNESDAY, 18 FEBRUARY 2009**

**THE HOUSE MET AT THE 10:54 AT THE ROYAL SHOWGROUNDS,  
PIETERMARITZBURG.**

- 1. SILENT PRAYER OR MEDITATION, OR READING OF THE PRAYER IN  
SCHEDULE 2.**

**Umzwilili okhale kwanobonjana nasema**

**Bawuzwile bonke maqeda bakhexa**

**Kwaye kwjabha umfundisi omkhulu eLuthela kanye nebandla lakhe**

**The Great Premier of KwaZulu-Natali, uSibusiso umntaka Ndebele**

**Liberty for all South Africans**

**In the Republic of South Africa**

**Zashunqa izintuli e-Boarder gate, eSwazini**

**Bathi onogada bambone ebhekise amabombo kwelakaMthaniya**

**Kanti usebagile igoda uqobo**

**iNkosana yakokaMthembu**

**Iqhawe lamaqhawe**

**Ilanga eliphuma olwandle lazalisele**

[Zamamatheka izihlabathi zolwandle](#)

[Ngoba namhlanje kumamatheka ezaseNgcolosi](#)

[Coat-of-- arms](#)

[Siyabonga Dr Ndebele](#)

[Iqhawe lamaqhawe](#)

[The great Premier of KwaZulu-Natali](#)

The Speaker, Mr T W Mchunu, took the Chair and read the prayer.

**THE SPEAKER:** Hon members, we have completed our opening. I wish to take this opportunity of extending a courtesy to all members of the media who may want to take photographs. I will give them a few minutes to take photos, and when I say “a few minutes”, I mean not more than five minutes.

## **2. OBITUARIES AND OTHER CEREMONIAL MATTERS**

**THE SPEAKER:** In accordance with the programme, I need to make the following announcement in respect of obituaries. It has been a long time since this Legislature last met. During that time many people have left us and are now deceased. We do not have a list of all of them, but in the interests of this House and our democracy, I think it is important that we note their passing.

Firstly, we wish to note the passing away of one very remarkable lady, Mrs Helen Suzman, a one-time Member of Parliament and a renowned politician.

Secondly, another person who passed away just recently is Mr Jan van Eck who was also a former Member of Parliament and a politician.

Thirdly, we also need to mention Inkosi Mbogeleni Zondi whose brutal murder was condemned by all of us in this province. He was also known to be a descendant of Inkosi Bhambatha , [kaMancinza, wakwaZondi](#) who himself was one of the renowned leaders of an uprising against some colonial oppressive laws.

We also need to mention that there are two members attached to the Executive Council

who recently passed away while they were on a mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo. They are Mr Arno Hibbers (Office of the Premier) and Mr Ananias Machado (Trade and Investment). We think it is important that we do mention these people.

However, we are also aware of some of the members of our society who have died in various ways, including who have been killed in what is suspected to be politically motivated killings. I therefore request that we rise in recognition and in memory of all of those who have left us in the manner. **Ngicela sisukule ukuze sikwazi ukuhlonipha laba abasishiyile.**

*Whereupon Members observed a minute of silence.*

**THE SPEAKER:** May their souls rest in peace.

### **3. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER**

**THE SPEAKER:** This being the first normal sitting of the House, I need to announce that there has been a change in the membership of the Legislature as a result of resignations. I need to inform hon members of this House that the Speaker's Office received resignations from Mr T D Ntombela (IFP); Inkosi M Z Mthuli (NADECO) and Mr J M Sithole (ANC).

Subsequent to this, I have had to swear in new members to fill the posts that have become vacant. The hon Inkosi N B Shabalala has replaced Mr T D Ntombela. I did indicate yesterday that Inkosi Shabalala was here but we are now officially announcing it in the House. **Ngicela-ke iNkosi isukume bayibone namanye amalungu esishayamthetho.**

I also need to announce that I did swear in the hon member T J Dludla who has replaced Inkosi Mthuli on the NADECO side. **Ngiyacela baba uDludla usukume akubone amalungu esishayamthetho amanye [Laughter] Banjalo-ke, banjalo-ke baba uDludla, banjalo-ke, bathi awukasukumanga, angazike. Siyanamukela nonke, nobabili malungu ahloniphekile kwiSishayamthetho saKwaZulu-Natali.**

I need to put on record that I have spoken to the Chief Whip who has assured me that the matter of the filling in of the vacancy of Mr J M Sithole is receiving attention and that the Office of the Speaker will be notified in due course of what is going to happen to that

matter.

I further need to indicate that any further announcements will be made as we close this Legislature sitting, but as of now it is important ... Or maybe I need to announce this, because they have come a bit late. Whilst we are still under this item, I am reminded that on the day that Inkosi Zondi was killed, we also received news that **Inkosi yaseMakhuzeni, iNkosi uDlamini** of Bulwer had also passed on. We need to put that on record, as well.

There is also a note that has been brought to me to indicate that a retired inkosi, **Inkosi H Mkhize yaseMfeni, eMophela** also passed away during this period. Those are some of the sad incidents that we have had to deal with. **Sithi-ke kubo bonke laba njengoba sesibahloniphile, akwehlanga lungehliyo emindenini yabo, imindenini mayilale ngenxeba egameni lesiSishayamthetho saKwaZulu-Natali.**

#### **4. ANNOUNCEMENTS OR REPORTS BY THE PREMIER**

**THE SPEAKER:** Hon members, today's sitting has been called in order to afford an opportunity to the Premier of KwaZulu-Natal, the hon Dr S J Ndebele, to deliver the State of the Province address. I now present the hon Premier of KwaZulu-Natal to this House and the public. **Manzankosi, inkundla sekungeyakho-ke baba.**

**DR J S NDEBELE (Premier of KwaZulu-Natal):** Thank you, sir. Mr Speaker; Mr Deputy Speaker; hon members of the Provincial Executive Council, hon members of the Legislature; **abantwana baseNdlunkulu** and all **amakhosi onke esinawo namhlanje**; Your Worship the Mayor of uMgungundlovu; all mayors and councilors present; Your Excellencies; members of diplomatic corps; leaders of political parties; directors-general and Director-General of the Province of KwaZulu-Natal **Dr Kwazi Mbanjwa** and all heads of departments; distinguished guests; ladies and gentlemen; members of the media and people of KwaZulu-Natal, good morning to all of you, as well as those who are watching and listening to us on TV, radio and the public viewing areas at **eSayidi**, formerly Port Shepstone, Vryheid, Ladysmith and Richards Bay.

I begin today on a sombre note. One of the people who would have been critical in the drafting of the State of the Province address, Mr Arno Hibbers, a general manager in the Office of the Premier responsible for inter-governmental relations (IGR), died in a head-

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on collision with a truck in the province of Bas Congo in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) last Thursday, 12 February 2009.

We lost Arno, together with Mr Ananias Machado from Trade and Investment KwaZulu-Natal and a local driver from the DRC. Their mortal remains arrive today. They were part of a delegation made up of officials from the Office of the Premier, the Department of Local Government and Traditional Affairs, Trade and Investment KwaZulu-Natal and the Department of Agriculture.

They were on a nationally driven initiative to assist in the rebuilding and the reconstruction of the DRC, in line with the Bi-National Agreement and the re-establishing of governance structures framework. The trip was funded by United State Agency for International Development (USAID).

The specific experience and sought-after contribution of KwaZulu-Natal in the eyes of the continent is that our province has known conflict and war between African and African. Imperfections notwithstanding, KwaZulu-Natal has proceeded with singular determination to establish a post conflict society, a society relentlessly moving towards a common, prosperous and peaceful future.

This is of immense relevance, not only to the DRC, but to the re-emergent Zimbabwe as people begin to rebuild their fractured societies. After the debilitating African-African conflict, Arno Hibbers and Ananias Machado lie unburied in a cold mortuary. Their deaths, far from making us throw our hands in the air, should spur us on to greater effort. There was still so much for Arno and Ananias to contribute with their tremendous skills and commitment. Their deaths made me understand more sharply, as I have never understood before, the words of Macbeth when told of lady Macbeth's death, and I quote:

She should have died hereafter. There will have been a time for such a word. Tomorrow and tomorrow and tomorrow creeps in this petty pace from day to day to the last syllable of recorded time and all our yesterdays have lighted fools the way to dusty death.

Out! out! brief candle. Life is but a walking shadow, a poor player that struts and frets his hour on the stage and is heard no more. It's a tale told by an idiot full of sound and fury, signifying nothing.

Fortunately, for Arno Hibbers and Ananias Machado, their lives were of immense significance to those of us who were privileged to have worked with them, and to the Province of KwaZulu-Natal. Among us today are the survivors of the DRC crash which claimed the lives of our two officials, amongst them Dr **Nhlanhla Ndlovu** and **Adv Fikile Mbili**. We all thank God that you have been spared.

Mr Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we remember some of our public representatives who have departed. These include the following people who served this House with distinction: Mr Dumisane Makhaye; Inkosi M W Hlengwa; Mrs F X Gasa; Ms **Fikile Molefe**, Mr Sibusiso Ngidi, Mr John Aulsebrook, Mr A Grinker, Inkosi S H Gumede and the Rev C J Mtetwa, **uMntwana** GM Zulu, **uMntwana wakwaMenya**.

We also pay our respects to members of civil society who left an indelible mark in our province. Let us also acknowledge the pain suffered by several families who lost their loved ones during the spate of natural disasters in KwaZulu-Natal. We acted promptly to provide emergency relief to these families and helped people to rebuild their lives. Together with that, we have implemented interventionist programmes to prepare for future catastrophes.

In this regard I want to thank our artists, particularly those can be seen on *Generations* and *Isidingo* and others, who took time to come all the way from Johannesburg to visit these families. They came here to mobilise, as we are also mobilising, assistance to provide some relief.

On a positive note, we would like to pay tribute to our beloved Ladysmith Black Mambazo who, two weeks ago, won their third Grammy Award. Equally, we would like to pay tribute to members of our successful national cricket team, the Proteas, especially Hashim Amla who, through hard work, was able to cement his place in the team in their last international tour of Australia. They are our heroes.

I would also like to welcome amongst us one who was able to say: "It is a good day!" on 18 February 1999. Today he celebrating his 112<sup>th</sup> birthday: **uBaba uMuntukayise Mthethwa, baba Nyambose, okanye nathi lapha. Siyabonga kakhulu ukuba khona kwakho la. Sithi siyi leNdlu, lesi sishayamthetho, neKwaZulu-Natali, unwele olude, baba Nyambose!**

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In political discourse, there is what is referred to as the "South" question. Whether we are talking of the southern part of the United States (US), the southern part of Italy or the last country to be freed from apartheid colonialism in Southern Africa, the "South" question confronts us all the time.

In international affairs, it has now found institutional expression through the South-South Co-operation. After South Africa became free in 1994, there still remained the KwaZulu-Natal question.

Whether you were speaking of a peaceful transition in South Africa, the inevitable question was: What about KwaZulu-Natal? Whether you were talking about the unity of black people, Africans in particular, the question was: What about KwaZulu-Natal? Whether you were talking about legislation or a new legal system that recognised traditional leadership, again, the question would be: What about KwaZulu-Natal? Whether it was the creation of a non-racial society, the spotlight would be on the relationship between Africans and Indians - still in KwaZulu-Natal. Indeed, whether it was gender equality, the question would be: What about KwaZulu-Natal?

The question of the unity of African people had occupied the minds of the leadership of various people and organisations. The province had become a serious problem on the unity of Africans. It was in this province where Africans were seriously divided.

As the provincial government, the Executive Council, we have worked tirelessly towards firmly establishing peace in the province. Since 2004 we have moved from being a province of confrontation and political violence to a province of peace, democracy and prosperity. During the period 2004 to 2009, KwaZulu-Natal has experienced the longest period of peaceful co-existence in many years. It is this peace which has led to the entrenchment of democracy and, as a consequence, we have brought about unparalleled investment, tourism and delivery in the history of this province. This has been a group effort by the people of KwaZulu-Natal in all their political formations.

Five years later, we can confidently state that we have no outstanding issues in KwaZulu-Natal, other than the normal challenges of under-development. Indeed, as many have said, we have become a normal province.

It has been my honour to serve as Premier of KwaZulu-Natal from 2004 to 2009. I am humbled by the confidence placed by the people of our province in this government

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which is led by the African National Congress. Today my thoughts return to our first State of the Province address delivered to this House on 25 May 2004, when we said:

In the life of every society there comes a time when the door opens and lets in the future. That moment has arrived in KwaZulu-Natal.

It is 16 months to the 2010 FIFA World Cup. Last Saturday the Durban skies were lit with an architectural and engineering masterpiece, the R448 million arch at the Moses Mabhida Stadium. This stands proudly against the world's greatest wonders - the Statue of Liberty in New York, the Eiffel Tower in Paris and the Sydney Opera House in Australia. It was a sight to behold. A 107-metre arch was lit and will remain lit after the construction of the stadium is finalised and as we near kick off for June 2010.

It was not for the first time in 2004 that the people of KwaZulu-Natal voted, but it is for the first time that their vote has given them so much. In this regard, we will highlight how a few of our key programmes have managed to positively affect the lives of our people across the length and breadth of the province. KwaZulu-Natal has seen the biggest investment in infrastructure programmes in its entire history. These include the R2,2 billion Moses Mabhida Stadium; the R6,8 billion Dube Tradeport and King Shaka International Airport to be operationalised by the end of this year, and R259 million was made available for infrastructure development of stadia in four district municipalities and the metro (aMajuba, uGu, uMgungundlovu, uThungulu and eThekweni).

Since 2004 areas north of the uThukela River, which have been neglected for decades, have now been prioritised for development. These include the R350 million P700 corridor from Richards Bay to Ulundi which is under construction and reduces the distance between Ulundi and Richards Bay; the R300 million P577 road from Mtubatuba to Hlabisa and Nongoma, and the construction of the R260 million Nsezi Bridge on the John Ross Highway near Empangeni, which is 1,2 kilometres long - the longest bridge in South Africa - and which is scheduled to be completed in 2010.

Another example is Cornubia which is a public/private partnership and a 1 200 hectare greenfield site located in the Mount. Edgecombe area in the eThekweni Metro. The land is owned by the Tongaat Hullet Group. Through a partnership between the metro and Tongaat Hullet, the development of Cornubia will eventually involve a R4,6 billion investment in roads, bridges and housing infrastructure for over 100 000 people. During

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the construction phase some 96 000 short-term jobs will be created. This will translate to an envisaged 50 000 sustainable jobs in the medium and long term. The city stands to rake in over R250 million worth of revenue annually from a completed Cornubia.

The above investments amount to more than R21 billion “new money”, an amount totally unknown in this province before. This is in addition to various private sector investments in our major economic centres such as Durban, Pietermaritzburg and Richards Bay.

I now come to the Durban Point Waterfront development. Yesterday a favourable record of decision reached by the Department of Agriculture and Environmental Affairs for the construction of a small-craft harbour at the Durban Point Waterfront represents the culmination of a rigorous environmental impact assessment process, with extensive public participation over four years. We believe the vision approved by the department will address all the objectives originally envisaged for the precinct, and will provide an iconic tourist destination for this country.

The entire development will comprise approximately 575 000 of bulk square metres across a variety of usage types, including office, residential, retail and hotels. At present about 200 000 bulk square metres of this has been sold, representing virtually the entire stock of zoned land available prior to the record of decision. We foresee it becoming a safe, clean and vibrant environment where all citizens, irrespective of class or race, can enjoy the best of which Durban has to offer. In short, we expect it to be on par with leading harbour rejuvenation projects around the world.

It is foreseen that the Durban Point Waterfront, once completed, will attract investment capital in excess of R6 billion and create 6 000 to 8 000 direct new jobs during the construction phase, with a further 6 000 permanent jobs once fully operational. This excludes the thousands of indirect jobs created as a result of an investment project of this scale. A key feature of this public or private partnership has been the leveraging of the initial public sector investment in uShaka Marine World, with private sector investment already outstripping this initial R1 billion investment. Once complete, it is anticipated the entire development will increase the rates base of eThekweni by more than R100 million per year. This decision is consistent with and will further drive the provincial government's vision to position KwaZulu-Natal as one of the continent's major growth nodes.

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It was not the first time in 2004 that the people of KwaZulu-Natal voted, but it is the first time that their vote has given them so much.

In addition to reintegrating the province with the whole of South Africa, we have also actively elevated the province to the status of being a major actor on the international stage through our bilateral agreements with countries such as China, India, Spain, Japan and many others. What is emerging is a growing provincial economy. This has laid a solid foundation for a democratic and prosperous KwaZulu-Natal, but together we can do more.

One of the critical elements of a developmental state intervention is the state's capacity to deliver. The capacity lies in a competent and professional public service that has the ability to formulate and implement developmental policies. That is why, in our first State of the Province address in 2004, we stated -

There is no place for a public service that is obsequious, insolent or absent. For us to achieve our governance and development goals, we need a corps of competent and dedicated public servants who deliver quality services expeditiously.

As we say in KwaZulu-Natal: If you are not fired with enthusiasm, you will be fired with enthusiasm. This morning, as we are gathered in this House, 16 heads of departments reported for work, eight of whom are women and eight are men – 50/50. Except for Ms Jenny Gray in the Department of Transport some years ago, in 1998 and 1999, there had never been a woman as Head of Department in the province up to 2004.

We now have some 172 000 public servants integrated in terms of geography, race, gender, skills and competencies in the province. Additionally, there are province-based public servants working for national departments and some 34 295 officials from our 61 municipalities. We have a number of national departments which have provincial directors who are based in the Province of KwaZulu-Natal which makes for a more streamline service.

All these public servants are bound by the philosophy of *Batho Pele* - putting people first. This is a new ethos that we have infused in our officials with an aim of enhancing the quality and accessibility of government services and the improvement of efficiency and accountability to the recipients of public goods and services. **Ukwenza le nkolelo**

nenqubo yeBatho Pele ukuthi iqhubeke ngendlela efanele, lapha KwaZulu-Natali saqhubeka sabukela umgomo obizwa ngokuthi i-Citizens' Charter, okusho ukuthi umqulu loyo wezakhamuzi onikeza, ubonise amalungelo aso sonke isakhamuzi saKwaZulu-Natali ukuthi unelungelo, awenzelwa ufefe nomusa uma ngabe uya ehhovisi likahulumenu. Usuke uyothola usizo olufanele. Ngamandla akho lawo. Saphinda sase sithi abantu phela abazalwa befana, kusho ukuthi loyo ongakutholanga ukuqeqeshwa ngendlela efanele akube nekolishi elibizwa ngokuthi iKwaZulu-Natal Public Service Training Academy. Elilaphana ekolishi okwakuyikolishi lothisha, eduze kwase University of KwaZulu-Natal, eThekwini. Liyaqeqesha lelo kolishi, liqeqesha izisebenzi zikahulumeni ngendlela efanele, ukuthi kuphume isisebenzi sikahulumeni esizimisele ngempela ukwenza umsebenzi ngendlela efanele. Abantu bakithi kade babexhashazwa, begqhilazwa, akusonake isikhathi sokuthi baphinde futhi bayogqhilazwa iminyango kahulumeni.

The Premier's Service Excellence Awards continue to recognise the achievements of our public servants. Provincial priorities we adopted in 2004 are the following:

- Strengthening governance and service delivery
- Integrated investment in community infrastructure
- Promoting sustainable economic development and job creation
- Developing human capability
- Implementing a comprehensive provincial response to HIV and Aids
- Fighting poverty and protecting vulnerable groups in society.

Arising from these priorities, we have throughout the five years, set themes under which our programmatic response to the challenges of our people would be articulated. For example, in 2004, we said: **nanku umnyango uvuleka, asingene kulo mnyango siwusebenzise, silibambe leli thuba ukuthi kuthiwa cha kukhona isikhathi ababengekho ngaso khona, bakhona manje, nakhu okwenzekayo.**

In 2005 we committed ourselves to “building and creating a normalised society and a winning province”. **Umntu oseceleni ubuka nje ukuthi uma bethi bakha iprovinsi**

nje ejwayelekile basho ukuthini? Basho lokhu engikusho ekuqaleni ukuthi wawuthi noma ukhuluma ngani kuthiwe kodwa ke KwaZulu-Natali? Manje sesenza ukuthi kube yiprovinci enezinkinga ezifana nezinye izinkinga zamanye amaprovinci. Sihlushwe yi-crime noma sihlushwe ubumpofu, ukuntuleka kwemisebenzi njalo; njalo. Kodwa kungabikho inkinga nje okuthiwa eyaKwaZulu-Natali-ke leyo, yokuthi nje umuntu wakhona uke avuke ekuseni nje athi hheyi, kuthi anagishaye umuntu namhlanje! Isiphelile-ke leyonto, abasekho abantu abanjalo. Sekuyiprovinci nje e-normal.

In 2006 we committed ourselves to "social stability and economic growth". Sathi-ke i-peace akuyona isigcino, iyisisekelo sokuthi kuqhubeke umnotho udlondlobale, sikwazi ukuphendula le mibuzo yokuthi umnotho uyadlondlebala yebo, kodwa baphi abantu abamnyama kuwo? Sikwazi ukuyiphendula leyo mibuzo. Ngeke uyiphendule kunezinxushunxushu.

In 2007 we took the next step to "building the economy through partnerships". Ukuthi uhulumeni uzofaka isandla kodwa neprivate sector kubalulekile ukuthi sisifake isandla. Kubonakele-ke iza i-private sector ngamandla, enye ifaka ama-billions njalo; njalo. Kubalulekile nathi ukuthi singabi yithina esibaxoshayo abantu abazofaka imali.

In 2008 we committed ourselves to "meeting your aspirations through accelerated service delivery".

Ukuthi uma sewukhona emsebenzini musa nje uku occupy isi-space, ungawenzi umsebenzi, uvimbele abanye abantu abazokwenza umsebenzi. Manje ngo 2009 sithi isisekelo esiqinile sesakhekiwe KwaZulu-Natali ukuthi iKwaZulu-Natali idlondlebale, ikwazi ukuya phambili - "a solid foundation for a democratic and prosperous KwaZulu-Natal has been laid". Lokhu saqala ukukwenza ngokuthi into nje esimple njengokuthi ubani igama lakho, ubani isibongo sakho, yini i-address yakho.? Sibe ne address. Ungathi mhlambe uyongithola lapha, mhlambe uyongithola lapha. Incwadi mhlambe ithumele ngapha, mhlambe ithumele ngapha. Sibe ne address nje. Sesinayo-ke i-address, ilapha e 300 Langalibalele Street, khona la eMgungundlovu. Kukhona izinto ezincane, ongazithatha kancane, njengomuntu osuke esemjondolo, umbuze i-address, ucabange ukuthi uyakufihlela kanti ayikho ngempela i-address. Nathi besinjalo-ke.

The provincial coat-of-arms with the motto, *Masisukume Sakhe*, was adopted in 2004.

We have a fully representative provincial government which has addressed the issue of gender balance. The political leadership in government **kusele kancane, kusele kancane siyishaye u 50-50. Kunongqongqoshe besilisa abayi -6. kunongqongqoshe aba -4 besifazane.** Do not judge us by the heights we have not yet reached. Judge us by depths from which we came.

In order to facilitate integration and synergy in the workings of our government, we consolidated the cluster system, namely governance and administration; economic and social; and justice, crime prevention and security. This system has resulted in the delivery of services in a more integrated manner.

Fighting fraud and corruption , **ukulwisana nokukhwabanisa nenkohlakalo**

Fighting corruption is one of the most serious, serious, serious challenges facing government. Since 2004 a number of officials and members of the public have been arrested and convicted for offences related to fraud and corruption in the province. We have formed the provincial anti-corruption forum made up of government, the SA Police Service, public prosecutors, justice and civil society groups. We also work very well with the Public Service Commission in the province and at national level.

Our efforts are in line with what hon President Kgalema Motlanthe said, and I quote:

Our government has made the fight against corruption one of the core areas of focus. This is reflected, among others, in legislation, rules governing public servants and political office bearers alike, partnerships with civil society and the business community, as well as anti-corruption hotlines. It may as well be that the systems of preventing and punishing corruption are still inadequate, but from the point of view of government systems, we can draw solace from the fact that over 70 percent of cases of corruption reported in the media become public because government has detected them and is, in fact, acting against them.

**Inkohlakalo eningi 70% to 80% itholakala, ibhanyanywe ngaphakathi ezinhlakeni zikahulumeni noma la ephalamende, noma kuma portfolio committee, noma kwi scopa, noma kubantu njena. Ashaye ucingo athi hhayi bo nanku ugandaganda**

**uzokwakha umgwaqo, upakile la awenzi lutho, nampa bencela u-diesel khona la ezimotweni zikahulemeni! Abantu abaningi manje sebeyayibona lento ye corruption ukuthi akuyona into Insert isiZulu 12:54:44 ...** against government. It is against them. **Sebeyayinyakazela leyonto leyo and ngithike** - working together we can do more.

We have introduced anti-corruption hotlines and moved to improve accountability by conducting unannounced visits to various work stations of government departments. In carrying out our mandate to fight crime and corruption, we have held an anti-crime and anti-corruption summit on 13 and 14 October 2008 during which a declaration was signed by members, MECs, partners in the private sector and community-based stakeholders. We have laid a solid foundation to eliminate the incidence of fraud and corruption in our system, but corruption continues to be a corrosive cancer that must be fought vigorously by both government and civil society. Indeed, by working together we can do more.

The Premier's Co-ordinating Forum, which sees the Premier and the district and metro mayors meeting frequently to coordinate governance and service delivery in the province, is in place. To improve service delivery and promote relations between local government and local citizenry, all municipalities in KwaZulu-Natal have been encouraged to adopt a "Citizens' Charter" aligned to the Provincial Citizens' Charter. **Ukuthi nabo omasipala ngokwabo babe nama citizens' charter ngokwabo. Abantu bezokwazi ukuthi malungelo mani abangawabheka kulo masipala. Yimaphi ama-services abangawabheka, uma engatholakali, bayokhala kubani, bazwiwe ngubani, uma engafuni ukulalela loyo bedlulele kubani. I-citizen's Charter isho izinto ezinjengalezo-ke.**

Through "Project Consolidate", 30 weak municipalities are being assisted to improve their capacity to deliver the services efficiently, economically and effectively. The 30 "Project Consolidate" municipalities have been prioritised to receive technical support through the deployment of expertise to unblock service delivery challenges.

In 2005, for the first time since 1879, the status and dignity of His Majesty the King was restored through legislative recognition. In 2006 the Department of Local Government and Traditional Affairs established the provincial House of Traditional Leadership and 11 local Houses of Traditional Leadership.

For the first time women and youth were legally accommodated to participate in matters regarding traditional institutions in their areas. Various capacity-building programmes are assisting all participants in the traditional leadership system to perform their duties without hindrance. This is yet another example of building a solid foundation for a democratic and prosperous KwaZulu-Natal. However, together - with our elected local councillors, *amakhosi* and our people - we can do more.

We have not only established a representative government, but a government of mass participation. This means that the people do not only speak when they are spoken to, but participate in the formulation of policies and programmes of government. This they do through national, provincial and departmental *izimbizo* and other forums.

In the period 2004 to 2008, a total of 10 provincial and four presidential *izimbizo* were held. This has enhanced the mutual understanding of the duty-bearer versus the rights-bearer relationship between government and the citizens. **Lezi zimbizo lezi kuthi loyo ofanele enze umsebezi naloyo onelungelo lokuthola le nsizakalo, bahlangane, athi chabo akwenzeki kanjalo, uyakhuluma nje nina bongqongqoshe nawe ndunankulu anazi lapha ukuthi kwnzekani. Kunje, kunje, kunje. Umuntu abeke ezikabhoqo, zilungiseke. Uthole ukuthi ubungeke ukwazi lokho ukukwenza.**

There can be no valid argument against any measures to consult and involve our people in the process of improving their lives. Part of the *izimbizo* programme is taking government services and this very Legislature to the people.

Heritage, identity and social cohesion are at the foundation of re-instating the dignity of those ravaged by colonialism, apartheid and sexism which once characterised the landscape of our province. Over the past five years, we have positioned our presentation of the heritage of KwaZulu-Natal with a clear message that, through heritage renewal, we tell the story of the Zulu people and all other people of KwaZulu-Natal.

To enhance the implementation of heritage renewal, new legislation for the administration of *Amafa KwaZulu-Natal* was passed by this House in November 2008.

We have also embarked on, and succeeded in the following leading projects:

- **Ukukhumbula iNkosi uBhambatha ngo 1906 - 100 years**

- **Ukukhumbula isatyagraha** ... the inception of *satyagraha* here in KwaZulu-Natal in 1906. We did that in 2006
- **Ukubuyisa ubaba** uMabhida **lapho ayefihlwe khona okwesikhashana, eMaputo**
- Implementing the Choral Music Festival Heritage Project aimed at composing and recording our history through song
- The commemoration of Maqhamusela Khanyile, **wokuqala umuntu omnyama ukufela ukholo lapha kule provinsi**
- The commemoration of the death of Inkosi Albert Luthuli **iminyaka engama -40**
- **Ukukhumbula nokwenza idlinza** of Princess Mkabayi, **kaJama**
- The commemoration of Queen Nandi
- The commemoration of Inkosi Dinuzulu **ukuboshwa kwayo, ukuba yinkosi yokuqala eyasiwa enkantolo. Yagwethwa.**

#### **Usifuba zingungu, zingungubele**

#### **Mhlazane sabhoboka zophuma izindaba**

- Launch of the family tree "Know your Roots" project . **Kuthiwa zazi wena ngoba kube yinkinga kithi abantu abamnyama ukuthi uma uthi ubani ubaba, ubani umama, ubani umkhulu, ubani ugogo? Kuyaphela lapho kodwa sithi singabantu bengabade, ngakho-ke le ndaba yokuzazi wena ibalulekile....** who were imprisoned for their participation in the 1906 uprising
- Held a seminar to create a generic framework for commemoration on the Day of Reconciliation in 2008
- Finalised the construction of the R34 million multi-media centre at eMakhosini ... **lapha oLundi. Iyaphela manje R34 million.**
- The Heritage Legacy Project at the Moses Mabhida Stadium ... **izoba yingxenye ye-stadium so that i-stadium akusona nje esebhola kuphela.**

- Commenced with research and consultation to set up the Centre for Reconciliation and Dialogue at Coedmore Castle, Stainbank Farm in Durban. This farm is owned by the Province of KwaZulu-Natal and was donated by the Stainbank family. Here we will have the centre at this castle. There is a castle there. We will have this Centre for Reconciliation and Dialogue. This will strengthen our resolve to have a province at peace with itself and embrace the values of democracy.

This year we commemorate 130 years of the Anglo-Zulu War.

As we continue to entrench our values of a non-racial, non-sexist and democratic province, we need to continue to consistently work on improving the African-African and African-Indian relations in the province.

When the *Truro* and the *Belvedere* anchored in the Port of Durban from 16 November 1860, they introduced a working Indian community that helped shape the KwaZulu-Natal socio-economic landscape forever. Preparations are already underway for the year-long commemoration in 2010 of 150 years since the arrival of the Indian people in KwaZulu-Natal.

Through the African Renaissance, we continue to consolidate our identity and strengthen our relations with Africa and the diaspora through the KwaZulu-Natal *Ibandla* project.

Well-known constitutional and human rights lawyer Albie Sachs once said: "Human rights are the rights to be the same and the right to be different." The year 2008 marked the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the Citizen's Charter introduced a human rights-based approach to service delivery. In 2004 we strengthened and consolidated the human rights programme of government. On March 21 we will launch the local Human Rights Forums. Their core function is to carry out human rights education and provide a platform where human rights violations can be reported. For example, when the sugar cane serial murders occurred at Umzinto, we actively supported the affected families; when the rights of women to wear pants or other items of clothing were violated at Umlazi, we got the assailants arrested, firstly, then then we assisted the women victims at the Equality Court, and when the house of Zandile Mpanza was burnt, we assisted her to build another house.

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It was only in 2004 that a dedicated component for Children's Rights and the Rights of People with Disabilities was established in the province. In 2006 we established the Office on the Rights of Older Persons. **Baba Nyambose, umdaba 112 years. We salute you.**

Over the past four years the Office on the Status of Women has strengthened the co-ordination of the provincial gender machinery, advancing the rights of women and gender equality.

We are confident that we are a government that cares and defends the weak and vulnerable. We have laid a solid foundation for a democratic and caring society, but together we can do more.

According to the magazine, *Engineering News* of May 2008, the KwaZulu-Natal Gross Regional Product of R206,8 billion in 2006 and a 16,75% share of the total South Africa GDP.

According to Stats SA, the average economic annual growth for KwaZulu-Natal for the period 2004 to 2008 is 4,1%, as compared to 3,65% from 2001 to 2004. According to Stats SA, unemployment levels in KZN decreased from 28,7 % in September 2004 to 22% in 2008. The Lubombo region is currently enjoying the biggest and most prolonged tourism boom in its history.

Through a portfolio of economic development projects, co-ordinated by the Department of Public Works, 67 000 jobs have been created in the past five years. Through the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP), co-ordinated by the Department of Transport, KwaZulu-Natal has created 395 683 jobs. This amounted to the 39,5% of the 1 million jobs created countrywide during the period 2007/08. A total of 89 000 jobs have already been created in KwaZulu-Natal for the second quarter of the current financial year.

The Gijima SMME upliftment programme, co-ordinated by the Department of Economic Development and funded by the European Union (EU), is on track to reach its target of creating or saving 3 000 jobs as per the funding agreement. To date 1 667 sustainable jobs have been created, and a further 1 500 temporary jobs were created. These jobs have largely been in agriculture, creative industries, tourism and manufacturing. The

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programme has also exceeded its target of leveraging co-funding and has supported 193 projects, amounting to R141 million.

With regards to co-operatives in KwaZulu-Natal, 9 404 jobs have been created in the following sectors: catering; furniture; textiles; services (2005-2007). Some 1 200 agricultural co-operatives have been established in the province over the past five years. These co-operatives are being empowered to supply vegetables, poultry and beef to catering companies that service major public hospitals.

A total of 1 117 Zibambele Savings Clubs have been formed and they have saved approximately R12 million out of their meagre income. Our economy has not only been growing, it has been creating sustainable jobs. This has laid a solid foundation for a democratic and prosperous KwaZulu-Natal, but still, together we can do more.

We are reaching the target of 40 000 Zibambele contractors to maintain roads for the 2008/09 financial year. A total of 37 586 contractors have been appointed as at the end of January 2009. They are maintaining some 23 638 km of rural road network.

In 1996/97 this department identified a backlog of 11 475 km of community access roads, and to date 6 000 km have been constructed at a cost of R350 000 per kilometre.

The KwaZulu-Natal Executive Council resolved in July 2005 to pursue the concept of "corridor development" as a stimulus to economic growth in the province. Some R160 million has been made available to date.

Furthermore, 44 projects, including the eThekweni/uMhlathuze Corridor, the Battlefields Route Corridor (Umzinyathi), and the Umhlathuze/Ulundi/Vryheid (P700) have been packaged and approved by the Economic Cluster.

The Black Broad Based Economic Empowerment (BBBEE) implementation strategy clearly spells out strategic goals. The following critical BEE structures have already been established: the BEE Advisory Council; the BEE Complaints Handling Unit; the Association for BEE Verification Agencies, and the BEE Forums in small towns.

The Department of Transport has invested in excess of R2,257 billion in the African Renaissance Roads Upgrading Programme (ARRUP) through the awarding of contracts to Vuk'uzakhe contractors.

From the inception of the Land Reform Programme of the Department of Land Affairs, the Provincial Land Reform Office has transferred 602 projects, resulting in the transfer of 329 070 hectares to 106 000 beneficiaries.

Programmes such as land restitution, affirmative action and broad-based black economic empowerment have laid a solid foundation for a democratic and prosperous KwaZulu-Natal. Delivering on our social mandate

The entrenchment of democracy hinges upon the creation and implementation of programmes whose direct impact is to better the lives of our people. In this mode, we have been able to create an environment where our people are beginning to enjoy the fruits of democracy through enhanced service delivery. As a result of our efforts to improve service delivery, we can report that in 2009 the following has been achieved: Some 1,8 million households (81,6%) have access to water; 1 992 322 have access to sanitation services, and 1 597 399 households have access to electricity supply, as per RDP standards.

**Ubuze ukuthi abantu abawu 1.8 bayaphi uma sekuyisikhathi sethoyilethe, baphuza maphi amanzi, noma bakhanyisa ngani? Sithola ukuthi abantu abangenawo ugesi ba spenda kakhulu kwi energy bethenga amakhandlela noparaffin okudulayo kunogesi, ngakho-ke kucindezela kakhulu bona kanye abampofu.**

Access to social services is one of the critical building blocks that has laid a solid foundation for a democratic and prosperous province, but together we can do more.

In 2008 there were 2,7 million children attending public schools in the Province of KwaZulu-Natal – the biggest department in the country. The Department of Education has delivered 19 complete new schools from 2004 to 2009. **izikole ebezikade zingekho, zintsha sha.**

In addition, there are quantifiable improvements in the following areas:

- The number of schools with toilets rose from 5 379 in 2004 to 5 797 in 2008.
- The number of schools with electricity rose from 3 916 in 2004 to 4 767 in 2008.
- The number of schools with water rose from 4 947 in 2004 to 5 422 in 2008.
- The number of classrooms constructed rose from 1 153 in 2004 to 1 976 in 2008.

- The number of classrooms outstanding fell from 13 559 in 2004 to 7 451 in 2008.
- The average pupil to teacher ratio fell from 35 kids in front of one teacher in 2004 to 31:1 in 2008.
- The number of female school principals rose from 2 223 in 2004 to 2 322 in 2008, and
- A total of 3 342 or 52% of all schools in the province have been declared no-fee schools.

### **Akukhokhwa kulezo zikole, 52%.**

The no-fee schools policy, introduced in 2006, benefits learners in schools in the poorest areas, and also improves access to learning opportunities in indigent communities. Some 1,1 million pupils - or 43% of the learner population - are beneficiaries of the no-fee schools policy. Under the national school nutrition programme, some 55% of the learners in 3 760 schools are beneficiaries of the programme. Some 688 of the schools are supplied by targeted women co-operatives.

A total of 180 000 adult learners enrolled in the Masifundisane Adult Literacy Campaign during the 2007/08 financial year to learn to read, write and count. There are 6 000 facilitators working in 6 000 sites throughout the province. We are on track to eradicate illiteracy in KwaZulu-Natal.

Under nine Further Education and Training (FET) colleges, training sites have increased from 52 in 2004 to 73 in 2008. The majority of the new sites are in rural areas and three more are being set up in Inanda, Clermont and Nquthu, while two sites are in the pipeline for Howick and Bergville.

All of the above are indicative of a normalised schooling system and a learning society. Through education, we have laid a solid foundation for a democratic and prosperous KwaZulu-Natal, but still, together we can do more.

Since 2004, the Department of Sports and Recreation has expanded the sporting horizons of the people of KwaZulu-Natal through the following programmes: The School Sport Mass Participation programme; the Siyadlala Community mass participation programme and the National Youth Run. This is in addition to infrastructure development

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which saw 38 sports facilities being built between 2004 and 2009. These programmes are enhancing the resolve to build a healthy province. Last Saturday 38 schools were participating near kwaHlabisa , **kudlalwa nje, kudlalwa nje.**

The number of houses delivered in KwaZulu-Natal since 1996 is 501 000. Of this figure, the total number delivered between 2004 and 2008 is 300 000. The quality and the size of houses has improved with the housing subsidy improving from R25 000 to R54 000 per housing unit.

Since 2004 the government of KwaZulu-Natal has accelerated the restoration of the dignity of hostel dwellers by redeveloping and upgrading areas, benefiting 45 000 people. Through the Enhanced Extended Discount Benefit Scheme (EEDBS), the government is now able to transfer the former rental stock housing units to qualifying beneficiaries with a full subsidy amount of R54 250 per unit, an improvement from the subsidy of R7 500 before 2004. Some 120 000 houses have been transferred in the period.

The total number of houses built in areas exposed to various disasters between 2004 and 2008 now stands at 25 000. Through the Elimination and Prevention of Slums Act, all existing slums will now be eradicated by law, while the erection of new slums will be prevented. Middle income families can now benefit from the Rental Housing Scheme. The people's housing process ensures community participation and job creation in housing projects. Vulnerable groups, including those affected by HIV and Aids, benefit from the housing processes of government, as do the military veterans. There has been an increased focus on rural housing since 2004.

Let us look at health in our province. There are 577 primary health care clinics, including local municipality clinics as well as 27 gateway clinics. Some 81 of the clinics offer a 24-hour, service while 203 clinics offer on-call services. More than 65 million clients visited the clinics, and of these more than 13 million were children under five years of age.

We have 405 mobile clinics which service a total of 2 392 points monthly throughout the province. We have 17 fully functional community health centres and 41 district hospitals. More than 205 000 HIV and Aids patients - double the target set by the department - have been put on anti-retroviral treatment since the start of the programme in 2004. The

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prevention of mother-to-child transmission programme is available in 100% of hospitals and 98% of clinics and community health centres.

In April 2008, in line with recent scientific discoveries, AZT (Azidothymidine) was added to the package; dual therapy for both the mother and child. Consequently, in August 2008, six months post the introduction of AZT, the prevalence has been reduced to 12% in KwaZulu-Natal, less than the national average of 15%.

The Provincial Council on Aids is fully functioning in the province with representation from civil society, Members of the Executive Council, mayors of district municipalities and the eThekweni municipality.

The Department of Health, to a very large extent, has been able to reduce the negatives related to tuberculosis. For example, case finding has been strengthened at clinic level and the treatment interruption rate has come down significantly. Presently the smear conversion rate has improved significantly.

The incidence of malaria is under one per 1 000 people, recording a case fatality rate of 0,8%. A successful indoor residual spraying programme was completed in the areas of risk for malaria transmission, achieving coverage of 85%. This achievement exceeds by far the Millennium Development Goal to halve malaria morbidity and mortality by 2010.

Having a healthy and productive population is an important building block. We have laid a solid foundation for a democratic and prosperous KwaZulu-Natal.

Our social grant beneficiaries rose from 2,1 million in 2005 to over 3,2 million in 2008. The Department of Social Development is in the process of intensifying its efforts to bring government services closer to the people, especially those people living in rural areas.

The department has built six development centres at a total cost of R62,6 million. These are the Tulwane One-Stop Development Centre (R14,2 million in Inkandla Municipality); Mamba One-Stop Development Centre (R12,8 million in Umlalazi Municipality); Mbonomuhle One-Stop Development Centre (R6,2 million in Nongoma Municipality); Prophet Isaiah Shembe One-Stop Development Centre (R14 million in eThekweni Municipality); Mboza One-Stop Development Centre (R7,5 million in Mhlabuyalingana

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Municipality), and the Inkosi Mbongeleni Zondi One-Stop Development Centre (R7,5 million in Msinga Municipality) which was opened on Saturday.

These centres enable government to offer various services and programmes under one roof. Assistance offered at these centres include services for the children (early childhood development), services for the elderly, services for orphans and applications for all types of social grants. People are able to apply for foster care grants, disability grants, old-age pension, child support grants, etc. They are also able to apply for birth certificates, identity documents, marriage certificates and death certificates. The Department of Health, the SA Police Service and the Department of Labour are also part of the programme.

In the past few months, the province was hit by severe disasters in the form of heavy storms, floods, veld fires, thunderstorms and lightning. A total amount of R49 million was spent by the department on various services associated with these disasters. The areas mostly affected by the disasters included [Nkandla](#), [uMsinga](#), [uMzinto](#), [Ndwedwe](#), [KwaMakhutha](#), [Amanzimtoti](#), [Molweni](#), [Mgungundlovu](#) and the surrounding areas, [KwaXimba](#), [Maqongqo](#), [kwaNongoma](#) and [Mondlo](#) in Vryheid.

As far as food security is concerned, the mushroom project has proved significantly more viable. The mushroom projects at Cedara and KwaDindi have been extremely successful. The mushroom base currently being constructed at Cedara is in its final phases of completion. The project uses agricultural waste ([bagasse](#), cotton seed, and saw dust, etc.) as a substrate for the production of nutritious high-value juncao mushrooms.

Once completed, the Cedara mushroom base will support research and training for the entire Southern African Development Community (SADC) region. This base will also support at least 10 satellite bases, each generating in excess of R10 million per annum, as well as creating 400 permanent jobs.

The current success at the KwaDindi site offers tremendous hope for the HIV and Aids infected and affected households, as these oyster mushrooms are very high in protein, which helps in maintaining body mass and the mineral selenium which boosts the immune system. In the current financial year, a total of 100 000 food production starter packs made up of small implements, seeds and fertiliser will be distributed to the poorest

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of the poor in our province. Each pack, which is valued at R500, will provide food for a family of seven people and can produce an average of three tons of produce/food per annum. This will go a long way in fighting food insecurity in the province, as well as promoting agricultural gardens. Over the past four years, the Department of Agriculture and Environmental Affairs has directly assisted some 55 000 farmers to plough and plant 19 000 hectares of maize and dry beans.

We will recall that during March 2007 our shores were battered by extremely high waves. An action plan was immediately developed to mitigate against the impact of these extreme events which we expect to occur more frequently in the future. Research has been conducted to determine the set-back line which will have a direct impact on the planning of development along our coast.

Of great concern to development in the province has been the perceived hurdle of carrying out environmental impact assessments (EIA). It is really pleasing to note that the province has addressed the substantial backlog it had in finalising development applications. Presently, close to 70% of the applications are finalised by our district offices within the legislated time frames and over 90% are finalised within 30 days after the stipulated timeframe. Equally, the backlog of appeals to the records of decision has been cleared. This was achieved by the appointment of an appeals panel by the MEC for Agriculture and Environmental Affairs to assist in assessing the appeals. It must be noted that KwaZulu-Natal is the only province to have taken the proactive step in the appointment of an appeals panel.

Mr Speaker, we stand here today confident when we say our government has, indeed, delivered on our social mandate. We have laid a solid foundation for a democratic and prosperous KwaZulu-Natal.

Crime and criminality is a scourge that continues to bedevil our communities. The recent callous murder of Inkosi Mbongeleni Zondi and others is a case in point. Our people are living in fear of criminals. While most citizens are working hard towards building a peaceful and prosperous KwaZulu-Natal, criminals, who are a minority, are spending their time planning the destruction of lives and property. However, we are confident that, together, we can turn the tide against crime and we are certainly achieving some success in this regard.

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During 2008 we trained and deployed 1 100 social crime prevention volunteers in our communities. We established a partnership with the United Kingdom Manchester police department in respect of their training to be the eyes and ears of law enforcement agencies. Our province boasted the lowest festive season crime results over the December 2008 to January 2009 period.

The United Nations' International Youth Crime Prevention and Cities Summit was held in June 2008. Through this, our working relationship with UN Headquarters in Africa was expanded and strengthened. This ensures that our future leaders are active participants in growing our democracy and in the fight against crime. The MEC's Community Safety Awards for Police Excellence are an investment in the pride, confidence and trust placed by the people of the province in the SA Police Service.

Two years ago I announced the inception of a new nation-building programme, the much-acclaimed Communities-in-Dialogue programme. Through this programme, communities throughout the province were brought together for peace and safety, including preparations for the peaceful integration of displaced foreigners. This project has been immensely successful with long-term positive results.

The national crime prevention strategy recognises that effective crime prevention is the joint responsibility of local government and the Department of Community Safety and Liaison. After the successful launch of the *Guidelines on the Integration of Safety Plans into Integrated Development Plans* by the Department of Community Safety and Liaison in August 2007, district and local municipalities were visited and received orientation on the guidelines. Safety plans have since been incorporated in the IDPs of 91% of district municipalities and 82% of local municipalities. To assist traditional leaders in fulfilling their statutory responsibilities, a total of 572 traditional leaders have been trained by the department on social crime prevention.

I am very excited to announce a new programme addressing the plight of the military veterans as a vulnerable group in our country. The groundwork was already done in December 2008 when the Department of Community Safety and Liaison hosted a Veterans Summit. The project will enable veterans to assume their rightful role in promoting their safety and that of fellow citizens.

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Despite all these achievements, the KwaZulu-Natal Justice, Crime Prevention and Security Cluster and our communities need to forge even closer relationships to address crime on the front line. By focusing on our priorities and giving expression to our shared vision, we will not only improve our Criminal Justice System, but ensure the full realisation of the human rights of our people. Indeed, it is time for all of us to reclaim our streets from the criminals. We say: Together we can do more.

KwaZulu-Natal has established three partnerships in China. Relations with Belgium have been strengthened since 2004. In 2005 co-operation with India was established through the signing of a memorandum of understanding with the province of Punjab. KwaZulu-Natal is currently working on strengthening relations with Baden-Württemberg in areas such as social development, education, sports and recreation, the 2010 FIFA World Cup and tourism. Relations built with Maputo and other neighbouring states have been strengthened, particularly in the areas of commerce, health and co-operation between security services.

The focus for the next five years will be to build on the firm foundation laid over the past five years. This will be achieved by pursuing three main objectives: Firstly, by continuing to strengthen relations that have been enshrined in formal co-operative agreements with a specific focus on value-adding programmes that directly contribute to our growth and development efforts; secondly, by supporting the national foreign policy direction, in this regard playing a pivotal role in African Renaissance and strengthening African Renaissance efforts on the African continent and, thirdly, by continuing to expand the drive of economic diplomacy that South Africa has commenced since 2006.

KwaZulu-Natal is now fully integrated back into the South African governance framework and has firmly positioned itself on the international stage. These engagements have a solid foundation for a democratic and prosperous KwaZulu-Natal.

In 2008 we were honoured when the Office of the Premier won the 2008 Southern African Institute of Government Auditors (SAIGA) Annual Public Sector Reporting Awards. We received this award for the best annual report in KwaZulu-Natal for the financial reporting year ended 31 March 2007, and we were adjudicated amongst all national and provincial government departments in South Africa. This prestigious award was introduced in the public sector to recognise the pursuit of excellence in annual reports published by provincial and national government departments.

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In January 2009 the KwaZulu-Natal provincial government launched the Moses Kotane Institute. Moses Kotane was an icon in the liberation struggle and was a product of the ANC, the Communist Party and the people of South Africa. The Institute will focus on mathematics, science and information communication technology, which are disciplines that not too many Black people pursue. As government, we are fully aware of the enormous challenges that our youth face, most of which are a legacy of the apartheid system.

In 2004 we reactivated the KwaZulu-Natal Youth Commission and have continued to prioritise young people in various programmes in the province. These include the promotion of youth-owned businesses, skills development, preferential procurement, internships and learnerships and the provision of bursaries. We also support youth participating in arts, culture, sports and recreation. As a province we are supporting initiatives aimed at establishing the National Youth Development Agency.

We are inviting the private sector to participate in issues concerning youth. We ask that you make contributions to the National Youth Service programme, as well as increase your intake of young people in learnership programmes. A larger NYS will link government and the private sector's industrial development strategy with key youth development programmes and help advance youth skills development.

Our population statistics show that our province is a youthful one. Those up to the age of four years constitute 10% of the population, and 36% are people between the ages of five to 19 years. Furthermore, 9% are between 20 and 24 years old; 8,3% are between the ages of 25 and 29 years, and 6,7% who are between 30 and 34 years old. This means that some 70% of our population of KwaZulu-Natal is below the age of 35. Of the adult population, 53% are women and 47% men.

This is important for development planning in governance, economic and social programmes, and we as government are confident that we have laid a solid foundation for our youth to participate fully in a democratic and prosperous KwaZulu-Natal.

On 12 February 2009 we issued a proclamation, after consultation with the President and the Electoral Commission, calling an election for the provincial Legislature of KwaZulu-Natal in terms of Section 108(2) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, read with Section 18 of the Electoral Act, 1998. The election will be held on 22

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April 2009. Our Constitution provides that the President declares the election date for the National Assembly, but each provincial Premier declares elections for the province.

I want to reiterate that a solid foundation for a peaceful and democratic KwaZulu-Natal has been laid. [Masisukume Sakhe!](#) We have experienced the longest spell of peace, democracy and development in years. Our province has entered, and has entrenched itself within the mainstream of the South African political, social, cultural and sporting life. In 2004 the people of KwaZulu-Natal voted for this government because they were longing for normality and prosperity. The next five years will see the further strengthening of these aspirations of the people of this province. Indeed, why stop now?

Let me conclude by thanking Mabusane, my wife, as well as my children, [Nombuso, Zwelonke and Thandabantu](#), for their unstinting support that they have given me over the past 21 years. Without that support life out there would have been impossible. The support that I have received from my colleagues in the Executive Council, particularly my relationship with the Leader of Government Business, Dr Zweli Mkhize, has been incredible. The cordiality and the freedom with which we express ourselves in our meetings, have created not only a good Executive Council, but also a thinking government.

Mr Speaker, you and your office, together with the Whips, have always gone the extra mile. May you also do the same for those who will follow. The respect that I have received from all the party leaders and members of this House from all political parties truly demonstrates that a solid foundation has been laid for a democratic and prosperous KwaZulu-Natal.

To the Director-General, [Dr Kwazi Mbanjwa](#), all Heads of Departments and each and every one of the 172 000 public servants in the province, you are the ones who have made KwaZulu-Natal a truly prosperous and attractive province in which more and more people feel this is the best province in which to bring up their children. May you continue your selfless dedication to all our people. As you know, after 15 years in this Legislature, I decided in January 2008 that I was not going to make myself available in the province for the next term

It has been a wonderful journey. It has been an enriching journey, and I will eternally be grateful to all of you. Thank you.

**THE SPEAKER: Siyabonga.. sibonga kakhulu Ndunankulu ngenkulumo enohlonze, eyenza ukuthi kuthi-ke ngosuku lwakusasa bese siyibeka siyenze ibe yinkulumompikiswano. Egameni lethu la ehhovisni likaSomlomo, siyafisa ukubonga la mazwi akho okusibonga ngicabanga ukuthi bonke ...**

All members of this House of goodwill are encouraged and wish to sincerely thank you. Thank you, Mr Premier.

We have heard the Premier's State of the Province address. It is now incumbent upon me to make further announcements and allow the Secretary to make further announcements before we adjourn the sitting.

The first announcement that I need to make is that many members of the public and some members of the House have received headphones for interpretation purposes. The problem is that yesterday two of those sets were not returned. We are requesting that if you have been given headphones, please return them. They are a problem to replace and as you leave the Chamber, please leave us with the headphones that have been given to you.

**Uma kukhona phakathi kwenu onikezwe lezi zinto zokulalela uma ngabe kutolikwa, siyacela ukuthi uzishiye, ziyahlupha uma sekufanele ukuthi zibuyiselwe lezo zinto, nisishiyele zona. Siyacela kakhulu bakwethu.**

Members of the Portfolio Committee on Health are requested to remain behind immediately after adjournment for a special meeting to adopt the KwaZulu-Natal Health Bill, 2008. Please, members of the Portfolio Committee on Health, you are requested to remain behind.

I do want to acknowledge those members of the public who have ensured that we are here with them again today, but I also wish to give recognition to the important presence here amongst us of the Speaker of the Mpumalanga Legislature, Y N Phosa. **Esibongakakhulu ukuthi ufikile wasivakashela uma sivula namhlanje. Siyabonga kakhulu mama uPhosa ngokuthi ukwazi ukuthi ufike, uzoba kanye nathi kulolu suku. Umama uPhosa uyena-ke lo ohleli laphana, ofake izingubo ezibomvu, ngizomcela nje asukume, bamubone abantu baKwaZulu-Natali, mama uPhosa. [Applause.] Siyabonga kakhulu, siyabonga kakhulu mama uPhosa. Angeke ngiqhubeke ngokubala ukuthi umama uPhosa iyini nani nani okunye ,, but people**

who know you, know who you are. **Besimamukele-ke uMnu Snell** from the Eastern Cape **besimamukelile izolo**. Obviously, **isiZulu ubaba uMasimula** our Deputy Provincial Commissioner, thank you very much for being with us. The rest of those who are here are Mr R Govender (CFO), as well as Dr Mkhize from the Office of the Premier. Dr Mkhize is the Acting Director-General ... Deputy Director-General. **Kubo bonke abanye abasivakashele, kuhlanganisa noMeya, owayeyi member yethu la, ubaba uBhamjee**. Your Worship, uBaba uBhamjee. [Laughter] **Ayahlupha amehlo ami baba uMbanjwa, ngithi ngifunda ngapha ebe eya kuwena**. That includes also Director-General, uBaba uMbanjwa **no Mrs Mbanjwa, umama uNdebele**, First Lady **nomama uMnchunu**. **Siyabonga kakhulu kini nonke ukuthi nifikile**, but we also want to thank the members of the public. Many of you were around yesterday and you have come back again today. Thank you very much. This is your government. It's your Premier. It is very important to hear what he says, and therefore we do thank you.

**Siyanibonga kakhulu bantu bakithi abafikile namhlanje, bakwazi ukuthi babe nathi. Abanye benu bebefikile kwanayizolo. Izolo bengike ngacela ukuthi indlela esiye siyisebenzise uma siphuma layindlini kuye kube yindlela enokuhlonipha ne order. Iye yenze kodwa ukuthi abanye bangaqali baphume ngaphambi kokuthi kube khona abaphumayo. Bengizocela nanamhlanje ukuthi sikuhloniphe lokho. Silinde nje, kuphume labo abaphumayo njenge order yakhona. Ngizocela ukuthi laba besishayamthetho bangilekelele laphaya ukuvala umnyango, bangilekelele futhi ukuthi bangikhuzele laphaya, ukuze abantu bahlale phansi. Abanye benza umhlolo nje, ngithi ngiyikhuluma lento bebe besukuma kuyimanje, befuna ukuphuma kuyimanje.**

Please, can we respect that? Members of staff who are at the back there, please assist me by ensuring that this protocol is respected by ensuring that no-one exists before us. We will wait for the procession of the Speaker, the Premier and the Leader of Government Business. That announcement is going to be made just now by the Secretary. Secretary, may I give you an opportunity to make that announcement, after which I will adjourn the House.

*The Secretary of the Legislature, Ms N Naidoo, made announcements with regard to protocol.*

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you, [Nobala](#). Thank you very much. [Applause] That is in acknowledgement of your successful efforts.

*The House was adjourned at 12:32.*